

Gregg Lake Association

Spring Meeting Minutes

May 23, 2020

Held online, as a Zoom meeting, due to Covid-19 issues

In attendance: Denise and Paul Scott, Janice Boyle, Ruth Benedict, Charlene Stephens, Ken Akins, Earle and Jeanne Shumway, Linda and Steve Noone, Mary Dillon, Bob Southall, Tammie Blanchette, Marlene and Jerry Schultz, John Reinstein, Nancy Gertner, Martha and David Osler, Joan Gorga of Gregg Lake Watershed Management Plan Committee, Celeste Lunetta of Antrim Recreation Department, Kelly Rigg, Joann Kloss, Elizabeth Landis, Marcia and Steve Ullman, Dominic Ciccone, Ursula Perivier, Helen Perivier, Michelle Coughney, Nick Teich of Harbor Camps

Vice President Denise Scott called the meeting to order at 10:05am.

Recording Secretary:

The minutes of the 2019 Annual Meeting were accepted as amended.

Treasurer's Report:

Spring	Report	2020			
		Gregg	Lake	Association	
Date	Deposit	Checks	Balance		
08/24/19	XXXXX		\$ 1,943.17	Balance @ August 2019 Meeting	
08/12/19	\$25.02	\$0.00	\$ 1,968.19	Dues Deposit Thru Web Page	
08/30/19	\$125.00	\$0.00	\$ 2,093.19	Dues Deposit	
09/05/19	\$25.02	\$0.00	\$ 2,118.21	Dues Deposit Thru Web Page	
09/20/19	\$25.02	\$0.00	\$ 2,143.23	Dues Deposit Thru Web Page	
10/24/19	\$0.00	\$180.00	\$ 1,963.23	Treasurer State water testing	
10/30/19	\$25.02	\$0.00	\$ 1,988.25	Dues Deposit Thru Web Page	
03/11/20	\$25.02	\$0.00	\$ 2,013.27	Dues Deposit Thru Web Page	
04/29/20	\$25.02	\$0.00	\$ 2,038.29	Dues Deposit Thru Web Page	
05/20/19	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$ 1,738.29	NH Lakes Association Dues	
05/20/19			\$ 1,738.29	Balance @ May 2020 Meeting	
		Treasurer		Ken Akins	
				Kenneth D. Akins	
Total	Deposit	Checks			
	\$275.12	\$480.00			

The annual association dues of \$25 per household can be paid to Ken Akins via kdjsakins@mcttelecom.com or online through the GLA website: http://www.gregglakeassociation.com/store/p5/Pay_your_dues%21.html

A small fee of \$1.90 is charged when paying online.

Corresponding Secretary:

Charlene Stephens asked that all members add her email to their contacts so that all GLA emails from her will be delivered and not bounced back. Please be sure to contact her if update is needed to your member contact information.

Charlene will be updating the GLA website (www.gregglakeassociation.com) by adding a page dedicated to Steve Sawyer who spent years of his early life at Gregg Lake and went on to be a steward of nature worldwide.

Charlene Stephens, Corresponding Secretary, can be reached at charstephens2@gmail.com or through the 'Contact Us' link at the GLA website.

Old Business

Antrim Police Department Reminder: Janice spoke with Police Chief Scott Lester and learned that there were no issues with vacant properties at Gregg Lake this past winter. He added that the police observed more traffic than usual along Gregg Lake Road due to the newly installed wind turbines.

New Business

Camp Aranu'tiq Camp Schedule: Nick Teich (nick@harborcamps.org) shared the very difficult decision to cancel all camp sessions for the 2020 season, due to Covid 19 concerns. Caretaker, Steve Jaeger will be on site all summer, as well as several staff. New 'No Trespassing' signs have been added to the camp property due to dangerous, unauthorized use of camp equipment. Nick welcomes GLA members to learn more about the camp and his role there at the website: www.harborcamps.org.

Lake Host Training/Recreation Department: Celeste Lunetta, Director of the Antrim Recreation Department, thanked the members of the GLA for their strong support of the Lake Host Program last summer. Because of that, the volunteer hours needed for receiving grant money were met. She also thanked Michelle Coughy for mobilizing the Lake Host Schedule, which contributed to a smooth operation all season. The 2020 Lake Host Program opened early this year due to increased usage of the boat launch because of Covid 19. The Lake Host Program is in need of additional volunteers. Training is now a convenient 1.5 hour online session. Please contact Celeste or Michelle to take the online class and get onto the 2020 Summer/Fall schedule.

This year, the Lake Host Program has hired four paid hosts. Celeste informed us of a new initiative which allows individuals to donate to the fund that pays our hired Gregg Lake Hosts. As of this meeting, one lake resident has donated \$1,000, which has allowed Celeste to double the grant payroll. A link to this public appeal will be sent out via the Gregg Lake Association website and email, asking for support of the Lake Hosts at Gregg Lake specifically.

Looking forward, the Rec Department would like to be able to reward all Lake Host Volunteers upon their second year of serving by purchasing each of them a Lake Host Sweatshirt (\$35). This year there are seven returning hosts (\$245). Contributions to this new Lake Host support can be made by contacting Celeste at antrimrecdir@tds.net or 603-588-3121.

Celeste updated the membership on how the Gregg Lake Beach will open this year with precautions due to the coronavirus. The town beach is not included in the Governor's Stay At Home Guidelines for State Parks and Attractions. Opening safely is under the jurisdiction of our Select Board, Police Department and Health Officer (Marshall Gale). Currently, swimming is not prohibited but there are no ropes or floating dock. Also, the Bathhouse/Bathrooms are *closed*, there is no disinfecting of equipment on a regular basis, groups of more than 10 are not allowed, and 6 feet of Social Distancing is recommended. There is one porta potty at the boat launch, with perhaps, another coming. Rec Department Staff are helping to monitor these measures and will be contacting police if needed, in order to maintain safe operation of the beach and grassy point. Parking spaces have been painted, clearly delineating the Pet and Boat access area.

Rec Department Volunteers and Staff must wear masks while talking in close proximity to visitors. After the official last day of public school (May 29) Beach Staff will be working to maintain safety at the Town Beach, although they will not be Life Guarding until the beach is officially open (when swimming ropes, dock and Life Guard Tower are back in place). Hopefully, swimming lessons may be able to begin for the youngest swimmers in Parent Child in July with Levels 1, 2, and 3 starting in August.

Gregg Lake Water Testing: Joan Gorga reported that water testing last year yielded results consistent with previous years.

Lake temperatures: Temps at all depths were consistent with previous years. There is no concern.

Dissolved Oxygen: Dissolved oxygen was again extremely low in the deepest parts of the lake. Decaying matter that has fallen to the lowest places USES oxygen in the process of decomposition. This is a concern.

Phosphorous: Phosphorus is close to the threshold for an oligotrophic lake. Levels have slightly increased in the upper thermal layer and greatly increased in the bottom layer this year. This is a concern.

Chlorophyll-a: Chlorophyll-a levels have been creeping up, indicating increased amounts of algae suspended in the water column. This is a concern.

It is an on-going concern that the big boats on Gregg Lake stir up the bottom to depths of 20 feet and create suspended sediment/turbidity. Members are encouraged to call Antrim Police (603-588-6613) and Marine Patrol (1-877-642-9700) if they see boats on the lake with motors larger than 150 hp.

There will be less testing of Gregg Lake this year, due to Covid 19. In addition, there will be no bacteria testing at beaches this summer because the state will not accept samples for analysis, also due to Covid 19 concerns.

There is the possibility that a new state testing site may be opened at the Harris Center in the future, allowing for easier and more convenient submission of samples and faster results.

Gregg Lake Watershed Management Plan Update: Joan Gorga, Project Manager, shared that after extensive watershed research, data analysis and tabulation the committee has completed their study of the Gregg Lake watershed and proposed an Action Plan. Members are encouraged

to read the completed project on the website: <http://glwmp.antrimlimrik.org> or on the Gregg Lake Association website: <http://www.gregglakeassociation.com>.

The Watershed Management Plan outlines aggressive action needed at multiple sites identified as sources of phosphorus and sediment in the lake water. Included proposed actions are:

- Erosion control through stabilization of banks along the Gregg Lake Road causeway
- Erosion control through lowering of water level of the lake
- Mitigation of issues that result from added sand on private beaches
- Mitigation of erosion due to activity and low vegetation at the Town Beach and Boat Ramp, as well as on private properties
- Mitigation of run off from Brimstone Corner, White Birch Point Road and Holt Hill Road
- Beaver management

Joan explained that the grant application to NH DES for remediation of hot spots did not materialize. The GLA had voted at the 2019 Annual Meeting a \$1,000 pledge of support to that effort, but it did not get used.

Charlene Stevens gave a summary of a Select Board Meeting held February 24, 2020, which was called to discuss the proposal to lower the lake water level. There were concerns expressed about the future level of support from the town Select Board in completing the Action Plans from the report.

Denise Scott shared that the NH Lakes, in Concord, has a great website with valuable information, including information on a Lake Smart Webinar series that they are hosting for 4 sessions. Learn more at <https://nhlakes.org/lake-friendly-living-webinar-series/>

From Zoom Chat:

From Charlene Stephens:

Everyone has the ability to email the town to ask them to *make a priority* of the maintenance of the roads around Gregg Lake - Craig, Brimstone Corner, White Birch Point - to preserve the health of the Lake. If it is of concern to you, please send them an email and ask for a schedule of when and what maintenance will be done. Squeaky wheel...

You can email antrimbiz@tds.net and be sure to state you'd *like your message to get to the Selectmen and Road Agent/Manager, Jim Plourde*.

Jim's own email: antrimhwy@tds.net.

Appointment of Nominating Committee: Denise Scott asked for volunteers to serve on the Nominating Committee which will develop a slate of officers, to be voted on at the Annual Meeting in August. She can be reached at dmscott44@tds.net at any time or by phone in Antrim at 603-588-3291 after June 5.

Members' Forum:

Marcia Ullman noted that a tree came down along Gregg Lake Road this winter and blocked any exit for year-round residents of the lake area. Although the town responded well, and the tree

was cleared quickly, it became clear that, due to no maintenance of Craig Road during the winter months, residents were stuck. She plans to write a letter to the Select Board asking that Craig Road receive town maintenance year-round so that no one is in jeopardy during this type of unexpected event.

Marlene Schultz commented that there have been at least three significant losses within the Gregg Lake summer residents. Fred "Woody" Woodworth (at ninety-nine!), Norman Brown and Dolly Robinson have all passed away since our last meeting. A moment of silence was observed. Denise Scott shared that Chris Koehler broke a hip this winter, has gotten a replacement and is doing well.

Bob Southall shared that many years ago a meeting was held successfully with a member of the NH State Legislature to address creating a limit to the size of boat motors on Gregg Lake. That meeting resulted in the current boat power limit of 150hp. He suggested that perhaps the current issues could be addressed in the same way going forward.

Reminder of Annual Meeting for 2020: The GLA Annual Meeting will be held **August 29, 2020** at 12 Noon at the GLA Picnic Pavilion at Gregg Lake Beach, assuming Covid 19 protocols allow in-person gatherings at that time.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:07pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Ruth Benedict
Recording Secretary

Oligotrophic: An oligotrophic lake or water body is one which has a relatively low productivity due to the low nutrient content in the lake. The waters of these lakes are usually quite clear due to the limited growth of algae in the lake. The waters of such lakes are of high-drinking quality.