

**Gregg Lake Association
Spring Meeting Minutes
May 28, 2022**

Held at the home of Marcia & Steve Ullman (112 Gregg Lake Rd)

Attendees:

Marcia & Steve Ullman, Denise & Paul Scott, Michelle & George Caughey, Jan Boyle, Marlene & Jerry Schultz, Ruth Benedict, Mary Dillon, Linda & Steve Noone, Linda & Bob Southall, Joan Gorga, Linda & Tim Morehouse, Jeanne & Earl Shumway, Patrick Pezzati, Bev & Ben Renda

President Denise Scott called the meeting to order at 10:11 AM

Welcome

Recording Secretary George Caughey read Aug 28, 2021 GLA minutes, which were approved.

Treasurer: in his absence, Denise Scott read Ken Akins' emailed GLA financial report. The balance at the start of the August 2021 GLA meeting was \$1404.47. Since then, GLA received \$350.06 in deposits (\$25 supporting costs of the August meeting and the remainder in dues payments as personal checks + online payments) and paid out \$326.95 in debits (\$26.95 to cover costs of the August GLA meeting and \$300 NH Lakes Association dues.) Bottom line as of the Spring 2022 meeting is a positive balance of \$1427.58.

Corresponding Secretary Ruth Benedict reported no bounce-backs in email communications with GLA members & that annual dues remain \$25/household if paid by personal check & \$25 + \$1.90 service fee if paid via website (preferred). Dues can be remitted online at http://www.gregglakeassociation.com/store/p5/Pay_your_dues%21.html.

Old Business

Police monitoring : No major issues were noted over the winter per Antrim's Police Dept. GLA members were encouraged to complete the Dept.'s Vacant Property form before leaving for extended periods so that officers can contact owners regarding observed problems.

Parks & Rec Dept: Antrim Rec Director Celeste Lunetta submitted a statement read by Denise Scott. Re: the Gregg Lake Beach Park Improvement Plan, she wrote that "we accomplished our Master Plan for improvements which centers on accessibility, sustainability, and commitment to the environment and the natural beauty." Details are at <https://www.antrimnh.org/parks-recreation/pages/gregg-lake-beach-park-improvement-plan>. She reported that the price of season parking passes for those not residing or owning property in Antrim increased to \$100. Daily parking passes for non-residents/non-taxpayers are \$10. For beach parking, GLA members lacking a car sticker identifying Antrim residents/property owners can acquire one at Town Hall. This sticker also is used for the Transfer Station. A 2nd kayak/canoe rack (built by GLA member Tim Morehouse) at the beach has available spots (\$150, May-October). The beach will be staffed weekends starting Memorial Day & daily starting 3rd week of June, with full staffing

through 3rd week of August. Staff back from last year include Keenan, Rosie, Austin, Max, Reid, Laramie, Annabelle & Erich & new Lake Host/beach attendants Emily & Julia Donovan, with swim lessons again offered in July & August. She seeks payroll donations or volunteers for the Lake Host program. To donate money, select Gregg Lake Association/Antrim Rec Dept at <https://nhlakes.app.neoncrm.com/np/clients/nhlakes/survey.jsp?surveyId=15&=&>. To donate volunteer time contact Celeste at antrimrecdir@tds.net or GLA member Michelle Caughey at ghc@sbcglobal.net. Training is online & you will be paired with experienced Hosts. The Lake Host program particularly needs volunteers 5-7 PM Sun-Thu & 6-8 AM Sat-Sun. Finally, *Antrim in the Evening* is scheduling “great Wednesday programs,” with collaborations between Rec Dept, community members, & Antrim Community Board, & encourages GLA attendance.

Public Beach & Water: Joan Gorga reported that the Gregg Lake Beach Park Improvement Project has grown into a ~\$330K venture. Funds are being sought by Antrim Parks & Rec Commission from the federal Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), which requires a 50% match in terms of time, materials, and dollars from the town and other sources. Copies of preliminary plans, including renderings of structures by architect Michael Petrovic and site/landscape modifications by landscape designers Willa Caughey & Kathi Wasserloos, were circulated at the GLA meeting. Details of the 3-phase Master Plan are posted on the town web site. Phase 1 includes proposals to replace the 1960’s-era bathhouse, construct vault toilets, improve accessibility to structures, paths, beach and play areas following ADA/ABA standards, revegetate selected areas to limit erosion and increase natural habit and shade, and construct informational kiosks and interpretive signs. Phases 2 & 3 focus on parking and boat launch areas, respectively. Meanwhile, VLAP (Volunteer Lake Assessment Program) will continue to monitor water quality through summer months and try to re-engage Antrim’s Teen Center in this effort. Last summer, after record midsummer increases in phosphorus (likely due to sequestration behind beaver dams in the watershed), levels eventually fell after record summer rainfall, consistent with “flushing out.” As related by Joan Gorga & George Caughey & confirmed by the NH Harmful Algal Bloom program (des.hab@des.nh.gov), the lake experienced a bloom of likely *Microcystis* cyanobacteria in early November, resulting in advice to avoid affected areas due to possible toxins. Cyanobacteria can signify excessive nutrients in the lake. Several other lakes in the region were similarly affected. Joan shared a summary of NH DES-recommended actions for Gregg Lake based on 2021 VLAP water quality data. The full report is at <https://www.des.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt341/files/documents/2021-gregg-antrim.pdf>.

GLA Website Update: Ruth Benedict reported that she received online training in GLA website management and that the site is active, including ability to receive GLA dues online. Betsy Landis has offered to maintain the website and will work with Ruth to understand the process.

New Business

Harbor Camps: Founder Nick Teich announced that he will co-direct the camps this summer with Umut Dursun (association with the camp for several years) after which the reins will be handed to Umut. Nick will become Director Emeritus & help found Fairwinds Family Camp in Maine. New facilities at Gregg Lake built over the fall and winter are ready for campers this

summer. For details and updates see <https://harborcamps.org> and <https://mailchi.mp/harborcamps/note-about-future-changes-as-camp-soars-into-2022>.

Soak Up the Rain, a voluntary program managed by NH Dept of Environmental Services plans a return visit to Gregg Lake & Antrim June 28th. A brochure was distributed at the GLA meeting. Previous participants found it to be beneficial. The program provides info about how properties create stormwater pollution & how to prevent it with rain gardens, infiltration trenches, & other practices. It provides non-punitive evaluations of personal property & advice re: best practices. Some inspection slots are available. For more info, contact lisa.loosigian@des.nh.gov or robert.livingston@des.nh.gov.

Loons: For the 3rd year in a row, common loons are nesting at the lake. Both boards at the dam again were put up simultaneously, allowing the lake to rise prior to nest construction rather than flooding a nest under construction. After inaction by the town, private citizens also removed a beaver dam rebuilt under the causeway bridge to allow loons passage to & from the nest & feeding sites in the Lake. FYI: the NH Loon Preservation Committee will present a program on loons at the James Tuttle library June 16th 6:30 PM.

GLA promotional flyer: The brochure prepared by Marlene Shultz & Ruth Benedict was distributed to new homeowners & mailboxes near the Lake, including White Birch Point. Additionally, Tim & Linda Morehouse staffed a booth & distributed the brochures at the town Fishing Derby this May.

GLA member list: Marlene & others noted that a list of member names and contact info made available to other members on a voluntary basis was useful in the past and could be again. Discussion centered on the best way to do this. Such a list could be on the GLA website, which, however, is not password-protected and thus may raise privacy concerns. As an alternative, Patrick Pezzati suggested a Google sheet with voluntary provision and updating of contact information. These possibilities will be explored and then discussed at the August meeting.

Antrim Wind Energy/TransAlta: The NH Site Evaluation Committee (SEC) investigation of complaints of excessive turbine noise continues. Noise-measuring standards & methods remain points of contention in assessment of compliance with contractual limits.

Nominating Committee: Mary Dillon, Vice President, will oversee the process of nominating GLA officers for next year. Contact Mary if interested in serving on the committee or being considered for an officer position. The committee will present a slate of officers to be voted on at the Annual meeting in August.

Knotweed: Joan Gorga & George Caughey noted infestations of knotweed at two sites near the lake. Given the legendary invasiveness of this plant in New England, GLA members were advised to learn how to recognize and destroy it, with efforts early in infestation more likely to succeed than later. Mowing is ineffective and may help spread the bamboo-like weed. For

advice on recognition & eradication in NH see <https://www.agriculture.nh.gov/publications-forms/documents/japanese-knotweed.pdf>.

Memorials: Steve Ullman shared his plans to propose to rename the dam at Gregg Lake in honor of Ben Pratt, with installation of a sign & memorial bench, & related plans to honor Steve Sawyer. Ben & Steve, both recently deceased, were friends of Gregg Lake & made numerous contributions to life in and outside of Antrim. Contact Steve Ullman about details, including opportunities to defray the costs of any memorials.

Next meetings:

- 1) 2022 Annual Meeting: August 27th 12 noon at the Town Beach Pavilion

- 2) 2023 Spring Meeting May 27th 10 AM at home of Jeanne & Earl Shumway (187 Gregg Lake Rd); this proposed location was seconded & enthusiastically endorsed.

President Scott adjourned the meeting at 11:32 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
George Caughey
Recording Secretary