

Minutes of the 78th Lake Groton Association Annual Meeting Saturday, August 31st, 2024

Preamble: A meeting of the membership is required at this time by the bylaws of the association for the purpose of electing the trustees. This meeting is also qualified to act on such business that may be brought before it. A quorum of 20 active members are required.

1. Call to Order and Quorum Confirmation

Richard Guy, President, presided over the meeting. At approximately 10:10 a.m. Dick asked for confirmation that there were at least 20 members in attendance to meet the by-law requirement. Since attendance exceeded the minimum, Dick called the meeting to order.

Dick thanked Rusty Reader for his years of service as the former LGA president as Dick forgot to thank him at the 2023 meeting.

2. State Park Update

Jess Esposito stood in for Nick Caputo to give the state park update. Jess said there was extensive flood damage again this year, though the clean-up response was faster. 2023 closure was 2 weeks, 2024 was 1 week. Stillwater attendance was down 6% (presumably due to flooding) but Big Deer was up 12% as it is higher ground.

3. Introduction of New Camp Owners and Association members

On behalf of the Welcoming Committee, Dwaine Smith reported on the following new camp owners and welcomed them to the association:

- Justin & Carrie Rice purchased the Lord camp (northwest shore)
- Wayne & Becky Bushey purchased the Glen Randall camp (northwest shore)
- Amber & Toby Alexander (and their spouses) are taking over the camp from their parents, Joe and Mary Alexander, and have joined the association (northeast shore)
- Debbie & Dean Chase purchased Santello camp (North end)

Notice - Assessors will be going around taking pictures from a boat.

News - Jess Esposito (and husband) are purchasing the **Forest Country Store**. They are planning on running it as a store, but also exploring additional food options.

They will reopen the dumpster for campers. Congratulations!

4. Moment of Silence for deceased members

Dick read the names of members who died during the past year and asked for a moment in their honor:

- Gloria Brimblecombe

- Ralph Cerone
- Theo Ricker (111 years 11 months)
- Philip Guare
- Glen Randall
- Lottie Winchester

5. Volunteer Thank You

Dick referred to the numerous volunteers who were listed on the agenda and asked members to join him in thanking the volunteers for their time and expertise.

6. LGA Email Address Request

Please provide your email addresses to grotonlga1947@gmail.com

Reminder: email addresses are kept confidential.

7. Special Presentation

Rob Ringen showed us the beautiful July 4th Boat Parade Trophy which he made and was won by the Guy Camp summer of 2024. There were 20 boats in the parade this year!

Dennis Casey received a standing ovation for demonstrating such a fast response when he came upon a snowmobiling accident victim on the railroad bed last winter. Dennis first rolled the victim onto his side and then ran up to route 232 and flagged down a car to drive north, and another to drive south, asking both to call 911. Emergency services arrived and airlifted the man to Dartmouth. His critical state included a broken jaw, TBI, leg, humorous, sternum, rotator cuff and spinal injuries. A full recovery can be attributed to Superhero Dennis Casey's quick thinking which saved this gentleman's life.

Boulder beach now has a defibrillator at the concession stand. Next year Stillwater will have one. Both Dick Guy and Stuart Russo-Savage have them in their vehicles as well.

8. Approval of 2024 Minutes

Minutes of the September 2nd, 2023 77th Annual Lake Groton Association Meeting were unanimously approved with two amendments:

- Clarity is at 2 – 2 ½ meters (down from 45 5 meters last year) likely due to so much rain and runoff.
- ~~There are two new tests: caffeine and septic runoff.~~ There is one new test: Caffeine to test for septic runoff.

9. Financial Report

Susan Pelkey Smith, Treasurer, gave the Treasurer's Report and referred to the handout. As of 8/20/2024, LGA had a total of \$21,326.50. The Treasurer's Report was unanimously accepted.

10. Financial Recommendations from the Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees recommend approval of the following:

- \$250 donation to Groton Fast Squad
- \$250 donation to Groton Fire Department
- \$200 donation to Loon Recovery Program
- Dues of \$40 for the following year

The attendees approved to increase both the Groton Fast Squad and Groton Fire Department donations to \$300.00 with a one-time donation to Groton Emergency Services of \$1,000 to offset the cost of the defibrillators. The above recommendations were unanimously approved.

The attendees approved to set the LGA dues to \$50.00 for the 2025 season.

11. Groton Highway Department

The Association would like to thank the Town of Groton Highway department (of which Harold Hatch was present) for their immediate response to flood damage. Harold thanked us for their support and understanding.

12. Nomination and Election of Two Trustees

Janet Page was elected back as a trustee
Susan Pelkey Smith was elected back as a trustee

Thank you !

13. Committee Reports

Goose Report: Peter Lyon reported that 6 nesting pairs this year produced no chicks. Bob Ricker reports that about 95 geese landed on the pond to which he promptly scared off using his boat. Peter explained this is a somewhat unique event, these were yearlings looking for a place to feed. He thanked Bob for his prompt action in sending them off to another location. Thank you Peter for controlling the geese!

Lay Monitoring Report: Bob Ricker reported that he took 6 samples this summer, the results will be available in late February/March. The flood runoff is not helping water clarity. Test results will be available on the following website:

dec.vermont.gov/watershed/lakes-ponds/monitor/lay-monitoring.com

Thank you Bob for your time!

The State of VT does water quality testing weekly and they will alert Dick Guy should they ever have negative results.

Loon Report: Barb Zander read the loon report on behalf of Darlene Sprague who is retiring this year. There are two nesting platforms, with the pair at the south end successfully hatching a chick. An eagle went into and got stuck in the north end platform

prompting the move of the north end platform. Next spring a better north end location will be determined. We will miss you Darlene!

Bladderwort: Allen Goodine reports that they have not taken the bladderwort boat out in two years. It seems to still be on the decline. Decision was made to keep the boat out of the water. Help will be needed to cover and uncover it.

Fire Department: Kevin McDonnell spoke about the fire pump. He advises the association to call the fire department in the event of a fire; there aren't many around the lake who know how to run the fire pump. Additionally, there is road access to all of the camp properties around the lake. Jon Desilets stated that the LGA owns the fire pump, we can decide what to do with it. A motion was made and passed to discontinue the use of the LGA fire pump.

Chicken Pie Supper: Help needed to peel and cut potatoes and squash on Friday evening, October 4th, at the Groton Community Kitchen (down stairs of the community building) starting at 6pm. All encouraged to help!

14. New Business

How do we increase LGA membership?
Adam Martin volunteered to help with this.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Janet Page". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the text "Respectfully submitted,".

Janet Page, trustee and clerk