

New York State Federation of Lake Associations, Inc.

Meeting of the Board of Directors
December 8, 2020



Videoconference Meeting Via Team because of the Covid-19

Present

Tarki Heath, President
Bill Harman, Vice Pres.
Walter Dutcher, Treasurer
Janet Andersen, Secretary
Matthew Albright
Donald Cook

Jim Cunningham
Jan Douglass
Rich Henderson
Dean Long
Theresa Mayhew (until noon)
John Murad

Rebecca Schneider
Robert Thill
Kristen Wilde
Laurel Wolfe

Absent

Gene Bolster

Also in Attendance

Nancy Mueller, Manager

Ina Cholst, member

1. **Call to Order.** President Tarki Heath called the meeting to order at 10:09 am.
2. **Minutes of the April 30, 2020 Meeting.** Bob Thill moved and Don Cook seconded to approve the board meeting minutes distributed by Jan Andersen as amended, and the motion carried.
3. **Treasurer's Report.** Walter Dutcher referred to the previously distributed financial statements, and said our situation was typical for the fall with invoices from UFI and vouchers to DEC. The current financial situation and DEC contract outlook supports adding planned lakes to the CSLAP program. Jan Andersen moved and Laurel Wolfe seconded that the report be approved and the motion carried. Walter said he would get bank paperwork necessary to update the signatures on the checking account as approved by the board in September.
4. **Finance Committee Investment Report.** Rich Henderson said he did not yet have on-line access to the funds so estimated the account direction. The board reviewed the draft financial policies and asked the finance committee to refine them for board review in March. Dean Long and Laurel Wolfe were added to the Finance committee, and a potential member is CSLAP volunteer Peter Chieco. Bob Thill reported on his investigation of an honesty bond. Laurel Wolfe moved and Rebecca Schneider seconded that Bob Thill be authorized to spend up to \$350 to obtain an honesty bond, and the motion carried.
5. **Office Report.** Nancy Mueller reviewed the previously distributed office report. Waterworks was published and mailed in October. CSLAP field data was finalized and shared, and paperwork for 2021 lakes has been distributed. Nancy participated in the Western Region conference. Other office work is proceeding as normal.
6. **CSLAP report.** Nancy Mueller reported that the final 2020 data from UFI was expected shortly, and Stephanie June would start working on the reports. She thanked Lou Feeney for getting the data to the NALMS secchi-dip in project. The 2021 paperwork was sent out, with a potential for 18 additional lakes over 2020. No changes are expected to CSLAP on the Finger Lakes.
7. **Regional meetings.** Jan Andersen moved and Bob Thill seconded that NYSFOLA would support the four regional conferences and authorize \$250 per conference if needed, and the motion carried.

8. **NYSFOLA conference.** Tarki Heath and Nancy Mueller reported on their work planning for a virtual 2021 conference. Platforms are expensive. Tarki approached Syracuse U. who agreed to provide a Zoom platform for the conference. It will be Thursday and Friday, April 29 & 30, titled Looking at Lake Ecology. Work is underway on agenda, sponsors, exhibitors.
9. **Board nominations process.** As requested in September, Jan Andersen had distributed guidelines for adding new board members together with Don Cook's document on expectations. Laurel Wolfe moved, and Terri Mayhew seconded the approval of the documents as amended in the meeting, and the motion carried. Jan will circulate the current list of committees and members. Rebecca Schneider has a potential new academic member and the board encouraged that person to learn more about NYSFOLA. Current bylaws do not call for the president to be from a lake association.
10. **Science Review Committee update.** Rebecca Schneider reviewed the history and multiple goals. Today the concept is to provide professional development for grad students and to help them translate their findings to be helpful to lake associations. She had drafted an invitation to be sent to selected NY universities. We agreed to put abstracts on the website with titles in Waterworks, and to post Rebecca's video on guidelines. Don Cook, Tarki Heath, and Nancy Mueller will work on the logistics of submissions and reviews.
11. **Gift.** Bill Harman confirmed he had a student working on the approved project and Matt Albright confirmed the payment had been received.
12. **Next meeting:** The next board meeting will be on March 9, 2021 at 10 am, via teams.
13. **Executive session:** The board agreed to go into executive session at 12:10pm, and came out of executive session at 12:45pm.
14. **Compensation.** Robert Thill moved and Rich Henderson seconded that in recognition of Nancy Mueller's management through the pandemic that she be awarded a bonus of \$750 for the year 2020, and that she be granted a raise of 2% of her salary starting in 2021, and the motion carried. In addition, the board agreed to create a Benefits and Compensation Committee consisting of Tarki Heath, Jim Cunningham, Laurel Wolfe, and John Murad. The board also asked John to draft a contract of employment between Nancy Mueller and the board.
15. **Adjournment.** Jan Andersen moved, and Bob Thill seconded to adjourn at 12:50, and the motion carried with good wishes for the holiday season and a happy new year.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Andersen

Janet Andersen, Secretary, NYS FOLA