

New York State Federation of Lake Associations, Inc.

Meeting of the Board of Directors
March 29, 2019



The Lincklaen House Cazenovia, NY

Present

Donald Cook, President
Walter Dutcher, Treasurer
Janet Andersen, Secretary

Matthew Albright
Gene Bolster
Tarki Heath

John Murad (by phone)
Rebecca Schneider (noon arrival)
Laurel Wolfe

Absent

Bill Harman, Vice President
Dan Cunningham
Jim Cunningham
Jan Douglass

Rich Henderson
John Jablonski
Dean Long
Theresa Mayhew

John Slater (resigned)
Robert Thill
Kristen Wilde

Also in Attendance

Nancy Mueller, Manager
Owen Zaengle, Assistant Manager

Stephanie June, DEC
Scott Kishbaugh, DEC

- 1. Call to Order.** President Don Cook called the meeting to order at 10:15 am. He introduced Owen Zaengle. The participants then introduced themselves.
- 2. Minutes of the September 2018 Meeting.** Tarki Heath moved and Laurel Wolfe seconded to approve the September board meeting minutes and the motion carried. Board members certified compliance with the conflict of interest policy and reviewed the anti-harassment policy approved by the executive committee in October. Jan reported that Nancy took the required harassment training in 2018 and 2019, and Owen took it in 2019. Members reviewed the contact list for updates: Jan will distribute it.
- 3. Treasury Report.** Walt reviewed his previously distributed report and said that our cash had increased from the same time last year, driven by the CSLAP program and investments. While a sizable (\$329K) UFI bill remains outstanding, it has an offsetting DEC voucher that has not been paid. This is a busy season for Walt with CSLAP and conference payments. Many of the conference payments are coming in online, with a 3% Paypal fee. Part of the \$55 registration fee is to cover that expense. Jan Andersen moved, and Tarki Heath seconded to accept the Treasurer's report, and the motion carried. The board expressed their appreciation to Walt for his time and dedication in the Treasurer's role.
- 4. Office Report.** Nancy reported that the CSLAP paperwork had gone out earlier this year, which resulted in less overlap with the conference preparation. The conference was seeing good interest from attendees, sponsors, and exhibitors. Some new exhibitors are participating. The call for abstracts worked well and will be repeated. Lots of interest in dams, and a discussion of DeRuyter's dam ensued.
- 5. Website Report.** Nancy reported the new website was up and running, Mail Chimp is installed. She asked for more content. Walter asked about the other organizations we were paying and Nancy will follow up with Don. We discussed linking to student presentations and Matt suggested contacting Molly for watershed plans that could be linked or inserted.
- 6. CSLAP Report.** Stephanie June reported that in 2018, CSLAP had 176 participating sites for one of the largest data sets ever. Use of the online data entry platform grew from 35 to 46%, with the office putting in fewer reports in 2018 than in 2017. Scott Kishbaugh gave some perspective on the growth of the program. With FOLA and lake associations, Boyer, and some HUB, spending is now in the range of \$800K,

and the bulk of the DEC money being state, not federal funds. He felt that the proposed EPA cuts of 31%, if implemented, would have a smaller impact on CSLAP than past sequestration cuts. Signing the contract amendment was part of the 5 year DEC commitment to 2021. He felt that after recent growth, the program would be relatively stable in the near future, although some changes would continue. Stephanie reviewed some of the 2019 changes in bottle handling and updated forms. A webinar was suggested to review changes with current CSLAP volunteers. Chloride samples will increase from 3 to 4 sessions with both surface and deep samples, although the impact of chloride at some low levels is uncertain. Interns are likely to implement sampling blanks where they visit. The recognition of the value of ELAP certified data is growing. Some sites will try to coordinate their sampling with satellite flyovers to ground truth the satellite observations. The goal will be to use satellite data for chlorophyll *a* values for large bodies of water or for unsampled waters. Stephanie also said they hoped to get 3 interns this year, and they would visit other regions. Scott said that the HAB notification system would change as the 2018 model was unsustainable, and a new team will take over notification. Stephanie described the Regional Monitoring Network and the board agreed to delegate the decision on participation to the CSLAP committee.

7. **HAB initiative.** Stephanie reviewed the pilots. Ultrasonic did not seem to be very effective. Concurrently testing at Cornell to identify fish impacts which will be used for permitting. DEC permitting discussion of efficacy vs environmental impact ensued, with DEC stating that in general they opined on environmental impact. On hydrogen peroxide, two lakes did not see much benefit, and the third had a good year and wants to continue using. On nutrient inactivation, two lakes are currently in a comment period for permits, and hope to have treatment in April before the growing season begins. This will start a two year monitoring program. Stephanie also discussed statistical analysis which highlights some possible drivers of HAB blooms, including total P levels, polymictic lakes, lakes with zebra mussels, fetch lengths, and more.

Recess at noon for lunch: meeting **reconvened** at 1pm. Rebecca Schneider joined the meeting.

8. **Science Advisory Board (SAB).** Rebecca Schneider reviewed the summary previously distributed and asked for inputs. A possibility was to take positions on proposed federal or state regulations. Scott reviewed some of the history, where the prior SAB had advised on conference topics and wrote white papers. He suggested that one way to involve people and distribute information would be an electronic newsletter, with submitted documents reviewed by SAB members, not at the level of a peer review. This could include literature searches. FOLA might offer access to membership. Rebecca also asked about liability and we agreed to inquire whether our D&O policy would cover the SAB role. We agreed that Rebecca could do a short survey to identify interest in academic and government circles.
9. **Conference worksheet.** Nancy asked people to volunteer using the form. She will ask that the conference contact carry a cell phone. Stephanie will set up a sharepoint to enable people to fill this out online.
10. **Nominating Committee.** Don Cook reported that John Slater had resigned from the board, and Don welcomed new members on the committee. He also stated that John Jablonski had decided not to run for reelection, and he was reaching out to a candidate. Don Cook moved, and Rebecca Schneider seconded, that the board should nominate Matt Albright, Kristen Wilde, and Laurel Wolfe for re-election by the members, and the motion carried. We deferred setting the officer slate until the May meeting.
11. **Regional conference.** Jan Andersen moved, and Rebecca Schneider seconded, that FOLA should allocate \$250 for each of 5 conferences, including ILRC, and would officially sponsor the Lower Hudson, CNY, Greene/ Columbia, and Western Regional conferences, and the motion carried.
12. **Next meeting.** The next meeting will be at 3pm on Thursday, May 2, at Fort William Henry.
13. **Adjournment.** Laurel Wolfe moved to adjourn at 2:30 pm, Walt Dutcher seconded, the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Andersen

Janet Andersen, Secretary, NYS FOLA