

New York State Federation of Lake Associations, Inc.

Meeting of the Board of Directors
May 2, 2024
Fort William Henry, Lake George, NY



Present

Tarki Heath, President
Greg Boyer, Treasurer
Janet Andersen, Secretary
Ina Cholst (arr. 4:20)
Donald Cook

Jan Douglass
Walter Dutcher (arr.4:25)
John Jablonski
Betsy Landre
Dean Long

Theresa Mayhew
Bernie Thoma
Laurel Wolfe

Absent

Matthew Albright
Bill Harman, Vice Pres.

John Murad
Eric Randall

Rebecca Schneider
Mark Teece

Also in Attendance

David Carr, NYSFOLA

Nancy Mueller, NYSFOLA

- 1. Call to order.** President Tarki Heath called the meeting to order at 3:31 pm and confirmed that we had a quorum of the board. She thanked everyone for attending. Board documents were available via Dropbox.
- 2. Approval of minutes.** The board thanked Nancy Mueller for stepping in to take the minutes. John Jablonski moved and Terri Mayhew seconded to approve the amended minutes of March 8, 2024; the motion carried.
- 3. Conference 2024.** Executive Director Dave Carr said that the sold-out conference was moving fairly smoothly, thanked Nancy Mueller and all those who had helped with transportation and set-up that day. He reported that two speakers had cancelled because of illness. Staff at the hotel has been helpful, and we have a contractual agreement to be here next year. (April 30 – May 2, 2025). Laurel Wolfe moved and John Jablonski seconded that Nancy Mueller send a gift card to the person who prepared the programs, the motion passed.
- 4. Office Report.** Dave Carr reported progress in setting up the office. He thanked Tarki Heath and Dean Long who were helping with the transition. He has been learning QuickBooks and doing most of the bookkeeping support for the organization. Dave said that conference preparation had been the primary activity recently. After the conference, the strategic plan will take priority. He will search for a consultant to help with the plan but may have to spend more than currently budgeted. Easels were set up at the conference to start gathering strategic plan information from members. Tarki reminded the board members that board development was also going to proceed and board members were each asked to fill out assessment forms.
- 5. CSLAP.** Nancy Mueller said that DEC had approved the 2023 reports and they had been added very quickly to the dashboard. She has sent out a note to volunteers about preparing for the upcoming season, which will have 197 sites on 183 lakes. Training will kick off at the conference, and Alene Onion and Nancy have divided up the training regionally. UFI has boxes ready to ship. Alene has sent requests to visit lakes and hopes to visit 20. After CSLAP sampling gets rolling, we need to develop an approach for those lakes who want to do 8 session sampling in 2025 and beyond, including UFI in the discussions.
- 6. Treasurer's Report.** Greg Boyer started the discussion with a transition report. He has gained access to Quickbooks and distributed QB reports for 2023 and 1Q 2024 to the board. He now has successful access to Key Bank accounts, along with Nancy and Dave. Dave has recreated some of the automatic links to Quickbooks. Greg is making progress on credit cards, and next up will be to transition Vanguard and the payroll system and hopes to have that done by September. He is also working on sales tax. Regarding financials, he said that the organization is in good shape: it had cash come in at year end and the beginning of the year, and the expenses are distributed year round. NYSFOLA has about \$700K of cash transactions

annually. Of the \$62K of profits in 2023, about \$31K came from the investment account. Laurel Wolfe moved and Terri Mayhew seconded that the board should accept the treasurer's report and the motion carried.

7. **Investments.** Greg Boyer continued with the Investment committee report. He said that NYSFOLA had \$640K invested conservatively. He has talked to outside investment advisors and active managers but our organization is too small for most to consider. He would like to make \$40K annually from our investments. Several board members expressed a preference for index funds and conservative investments. Greg will continue to evaluate alternate investment approaches. The board agreed that the vision statement to be developed in the strategic plan and strategic funding requirements should inform our investments.
8. **Finances.** Dave Carr reviewed the budget that had been prepared by the finance committee with the board. After discussion, the investment returns were increased so that the budget is breakeven for the year. Laurel Wolfe moved and Don Cook seconded that the amended budget be approved, and the motion carried.
9. **Next meeting:** Because of the many open items, including CSLAP 2025 and strategic planning, we agreed to schedule an additional meeting, and will meet **July 18 at 10 am** via zoom.
10. **New business.** Laurel Wolfe nominated Julia DiGiovanni, an employee at Sleepy Hollow, as a board director, reminding the board that she will move out of state and thus off the board in July 2025. Tarki Heath recommended that the board follow the Nominating Committee process to consider new board members, but expressed support and indicated that board meetings are open and the Julia could attend to understand the issues without being on the board.
Nancy Muller reported that many calls had come in on various items do not require a DEC permit, including sonic treatment of algae, aqua thrusters, enzymes and bacteria. The board was generally supportive of the idea of continuing education through webinars, including one on this subject, to supplement the conference.
11. **Adjournment.** Bernie Thoma moved and Terri Mayhew seconded that the meeting should adjourn at 5:15 pm, and the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Andersen

Janet Andersen, Secretary, NYSFOLA