



SLPID APPROVED MINUTES  
NYS PAUSE – SLPID Garage  
June 18, 2020, 2:00 pm

A meeting of the Saratoga Lake Protection and Improvement District was held on June 18, 2020 at 2pm at the SLPID Garage due to COVID-19 NYS “Pause”.

SLPID Commissioners: Tom Carrangi, Cristina Connolly, Karl Hardcastle, Kathy Simmonds, Walter Supley. Assistant Treasurer: Michael VanPatten. Weed Harvesting Supervisor, Lonnie Van Buren, Lake Consultants: Tracey Clothier, Dean Long.

**Call to Order:** The monthly meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm at the town of Saratoga (SLPID Garage) by Chair, Cristina Connolly. Chairperson Connolly sent an email on 6/17 stating this would be her last SLPID meeting as Commissioner, County At Large. Letter of Resignation will be sent to Saratoga County of Supervisors for the resignation. Karl questioned Cristina’s role at today’s meeting. She stated this would be her last meeting as chair. The Agenda was presented for review. Dean Long presented COVID attendance sheet and questions to all present, which all verbally agreed to no symptoms.

**Public Comments:**

For the record, no public comment, no email comments received.

**Secretary’s Report: (Debbie Curto)**

Public notice published for meeting. (with time and location change)

A review of the May minutes presented, Kathy Simmonds suggested changing resolution #24 to Lake Administrator, rather than Administrator, no other changes presented Cristina Connolly MADE A MOTION to accept the minutes as noted, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kathy Simmonds, MOTION CARRIED.

Secretary made request for purchase of 2 computers and 2 printers as well as Microsoft Office for both Secretary and Lake Administrator. Secretary presented best pricing from Amazon, Best Buy and Staples for laptop and printer. Kathy Simmonds questioned if we were able to purchase on state contract. Dean Long thought it would be on AMD or CDW.com website. Secretary will do additional research. Dean will do additional research as well. Walter Supley MADE A MOTION TO authorize Secretary to purchase laptops and printers, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Karl Hardcastle. MOTION CARRIED.

Charge accounts were set up at Allerdice and Napa for Weed Harvesting Supervisor. A new credit card was set up for Weed Harvesting Supervisor, Lonnie Van Buren. Credit card was cancelled for Bob Hahn.

Secretary reviewed listing from Vista Print with Sarah of Creative Advantage for upcoming postcard mailing. 34 discrepancies were found. Master list is 2020 SLPID district tax roll.

Created nametags for all lake stewards and delivered to boat launch.

Telephone from Bob Hahn was transferred to Lonnie Van Buren. Additional order was placed for new telephone line and I-phone for new employees.

Thank you letter sent to Ralph Pascucci for allowing SLPID to keep gauge on his property.

Cristina Connolly MADE A MOTION to approve Secretary’s Report, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Karl Hardcastle, MOTION CARRIED.

The following documents/exhibits used at the meeting:

1. Agenda
2. Draft Minutes
3. Public Notice

**Assistant Treasurer’s Report: (Mike VanPatten)**

Register report and statement of revenue and expenditures were distributed to Commissioners via email prior to meeting for review. Cristina Connolly MADE A MOTION TO pay bills in the amount of \$169,941.62 which includes \$788.81 presented at meeting by Walter Supley (Creative Advantage mailing; Pro-Advantage \$739.81 and Smash Balloon \$49.00) 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kathy Simmonds, MOTION CARRIED. Cristina Connolly MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT the Assistant treasurer’s report 2<sup>nd</sup> by Walter Supley, MOTION CARRIED.

The following documents/exhibits used at the meeting: (submitted via email because of COVID-19)

1. Financial Statements: Balance Sheet, Income Statement.
2. Monthly Bank Reconciliations
3. Weekly Payroll Reports
4. Monthly Vendor and Invoices

**Lake Level Report: (Tom Carrangi)**

203.21

## **CSLAP Report: (Karl Hardcastle)**

### **Weed Harvesting Report (Lonnie VanBuren)**

All equipment is in operation. Anchors have been built and are in the water. Town of Malta put in the harvesters. The team is working on the GPS, sonar units are fully installed. Dean will place the SD cards for recording data. The harvesters are ready for cutting. Lonnie asked Dean what area they need to stay away from. Dean stated they are not to cut in the southend (140 acres were treated in that area). Franklin Beach is also a no cut zone (small area) Lonnie was at Riley Cove to Stony Point and found some weeds. Weeds are low. (towards Silver Beach – low area of weeds). Karl inquired about publishing a schedule of where the harvesters will be cutting. The weed harvester schedule typically is done on a clockwise circulation. Dean suggested going counter clockwise for each of the eight sections. Karl mentioned people generally call for schedule.

Mike questioned when Bob Hahn will be returning (for payroll setup). Lonnie will determine in the next week or so. Lonnie will notify Mike.

Dean and Lonnie met regarding replacing hand tools and battery operated grinder. Lonnie has been using his own personal equipment. He will need to replace the equipment and upgrade. Kathy Simmonds reminded Dean SLPID approved the purchase of tools at the last meeting. Karl suggested Rigid brand, as they have a lifetime guarantee. Kathy requested a list of the equipment. (shopping list)

Equipment Bids (transport barge with backhoe attachment) went out in May. Questions due on June 10<sup>th</sup>. Currently 4 vendors are looking at bid packet. Bids are due on July 10<sup>th</sup>. At that point, we will decide if we can accept any, no commitments to any bidder. We will need to go to referendum vote if we chose to take any action. Karl commented it is a novel piece of equipment. He questioned the speed of the barge. Answer was 7-10 mph. Dean said we have many alternatives if we chose not to accept the bids. Karl questioned if we could use the new piece of equipment for hydro raking. Another advantage of purchasing the new equipment is we will be able to use it for hydro raking. Mike questioned what the approximate cost of new equipment would be. Dean is estimating less than \$200,000.00. We will have options to consider.

Hydro raking – we have contracted to hydro rake 2<sup>nd</sup> week of July (depending on growth) with Solitude to combat the water chestnuts. Lonnie questioned whether SLPID would be providing our staff and equipment to the vendor. Dean indicated SLPID would be providing support. Mike VanPatten asked about staffing issues. We may need additional support staff. Lonnie indicated we are in need of dumping sites for the weeds. Discussion ensued for sites we used in the past and potentially contacting the surrounding towns to see if they could use any of the weeds. Lonnie stressed the dumpsite cannot be far from the lake for transportation. Sue Bele may take some. Cristina mentioned we were told last year that we could dump at Meager's farm (Malta Garden) by Bob Hahn. Lonnie will reach out to Bob for confirmation. Walter mentioned if Lonnie has reached out to any of the towns. Lonnie stated, City does not want any. Karl mentioned he did speak with Town Supervisor of Stillwater. Cristina reached out last year to all municipalities primarily because of the chemicals. None were interested. State Parks may have an area, but distant is a big factor.

Lake Treatment – 2 have been completed. Restrictions on Percelacor should come off this week. Waiting for all clear restriction to be lifted. No major glitches with applications. Some complaints residents were that signs were not up on time. Dean confirmed all signs were posted on day of treatment.

Buoys – Two are at (1200 foot distance from bridge 5 mph zone). Complaints near bridge crowding at 550 Union. SLPID did comment. DEC thought there was enough space. We did miss comment on Saratoga Lake Marina. They have expanded their docks beyond the piers (trolley bridge) which was prior from old operation. City could have looked at it as existing.

## **CSLAP: (Karl Hardcastle)**

2 samples have been taken. Karl questioned if Dean was aware of the Satellite Project and asked for a better understanding of what the project is. Basically it was taken the samples at the same time. Karl has been following the guidelines. Karl indicated there was 18 ft visibility – lake was calm and no rain. Meter has been working. First sample for E-Coli and was sent out. Cristina listed the areas she has been taken weekly samples. Karl has the data and can load online to make available on our website.

### **Communications Report: (Walter Supley)**

Post card mailing has been gone out. Sarah will send out to Debbie documentation for input on website. Debbie indicated only information for minutes were given. Kathy questioned whether minutes were posted by Sarah and why it was password protected. Walter indicated they should all be online.

Tracey Clothier indicated there are several reports on our website.

**Newsletter** – Tracey stated we should consider a newsletter, June August, Fall Winter, Spring. Tracey questioned if SLA will continue to produce a newsletter. Debbie stated that Julie and Sharon will be retiring. Debbie questioned if the 2 newsletters should be combined as one. Cristina did not like that idea. SLA is more of a community related newsletter, where SLPID is targeted at treatment, wellbeing of the lake. Newsletters will continue to be separate publications as they are targeted differently. Tracey praised Walter and his staff at Creative Advantage for this expertise with production of the newsletter.

**Boat Counts** - Tom Carringi questioned if we could continue to do a boat count this year. He also stated some residents have been complaining about the number of boats on a dock. We will do a static count as well. The past couple of years the numbers have been flat. Consensus was, yes we would continue. Dean would like additional counts near the bridge. Cristina indicated she knows someone with a drone. Dean stated it would be good to understand the crowding aspect at the bridge. Someone standing at bridge for a couple hours (similar to traffic count). Include counting the kayaks – are they any conflicts. Dean also indicated we do a static boat count. Cristina could work with Lake Stewards to complete the task.

**Lake Stewardship: (Cristina Connolly)**

The state boat launch is very busy – 2-3 parking attendants from NYS Parks and Recreation have been assigned to assist with parking. The stewards are busy using boat wash stations. Marine patrol has a visible presence on the lake. They have been giving warnings for speeding, and have encountered a couple of BWI. The signs posted by SLPID have been helpful and well received by the Marine Patrol. The launch has been closing at noon due to capacity. It has also been much busier during the week. (One of the lake stewards) Anastasia is leaving her position. Cristina has been interviewing. Once the decision has been made, Mike will add to payroll.

DiDonna’s Marina has also been very busy. They are charging \$30 for launching. A lake steward is stationed at the launch on the weekends. DiDonna is doing fishing tournaments on Thursdays. Cristina questioned whether we should have a lake steward on site for that. Karl stated it is a local tournament.

Karl questioned how many boat washes are completed by our stewards on a weekly basis. Cristina did not know, but would reach out and send Karl an email. Tracey indicated this is valuable information for future grants. Cristina indicated all information is input on the tablets. A subscription is available for a fee of \$100 and then we could readily access the information without having to wait a week for the data.

**Old Business:**

RESOLUTION #-2025

Motion by: Kathy Simmonds

2<sup>nd</sup> by: Walter Supley

BE IT RESOLVED that Patrick (?) be hired as Weed Harvester at the hourly rate of \$20.

*Discussion:*

Mike VanPatten indicated he has completed all the required paperwork for payroll.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

RESOLUTION #-2026

Motion by: Kathy Simmonds

2<sup>nd</sup> by: Walter Supley

BE IT RESOLVED that hourly rate for Bob Hahn, Weed Harvester, be set at the rate of \$25 per hour.

*Discussion:*

Cristina Connolly abstained.

MOTION PASSED

RESOLUTION #-2027

Motion by: Kathy Simmonds

2<sup>nd</sup> by: Walter Supley

BE IT RESOLVED that Cristina Connolly be appointed as Lake Administrator at the hourly rate of \$37.5, with an evaluation after a four-month period.

*Discussion:*

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

**New Business:**

Cristina Connolly submitted letter of resignation for her position as Commissioner, County at Large and SLPID Chair.

Pat Tzu, residing at 648 Crescent Ave (city of Saratoga Springs) stood and introduced herself and expressed an interest in being nominated as Commissioner, County At Large. Pat is retired and is ready and able to volunteer any services. She has been regularly attending the SLPID meetings.

Karl Hardcastle expressed an interest in becoming a County At Large Commissioner. Karl indicated he has a replacement in mind for his current position as Commissioner, Town of Stillwater. Jesse (?) is a pharmacist, lives on the lake and would be interested in serving on the board. Kathy Simmonds stated she would like the opportunity to meet Jesse as she has not attended any of the monthly meetings.

Board Secretary explained process of nominating and the annual meeting where the nominations are presented as well as the budget to the public.

Walter Supley MADE A MOTION to nominate Karl Hardcastle County At Large Commissioner, 2nd by Tom Carrangi.

Cristina questioned if we were able to nominate at this meeting. Dean and Kathy reviewed the legislation. Kathy questioned why Karl is interested in the County At Large position while he is currently Commissioner, Town of Stillwater. He expressed interest in the Chair position. Explanation was given that County At Large is not always Chairperson; any of the Commissioners can be nominated as Chair.

Role Call: Tom Carrangi: Yes Walter Supley: Yes Kathy Simmonds: NO. (Approval of this motion limits potential commissioners to the town of Stillwater only whereas if the commissioner at large position remains open all interested parties could be considered) MOTION CARRIED.

Pat Tzu spoke again and expressed she is able to serve on the board and has a keen interest in the lake and its community. Walter does not want to stifle Pat’s interest. Pat asked what the difference is between County At Large position and Stillwater. Basically nothing. Dean and Debbie explained the positions. Mike stated we need to fill County position.

Karl accepted the recommendation for County At Large position. Karl would like to nominate Jess. Secretary explained the nominee would have to accept the nomination and she was not present.

Secretary called for nominations of Chair. Dean recommended the board gets reconstituted and the Chair be nominated next month. Board Secretary will act as Chair until position is assumed. Tom Carrangi questioned the role of the Chair and preferred the Chair be someone with experience.

**2021 Budget Review:**

The 2021 budget was presented for review. Walter questioned the Professional Services. It was explained this was for Board Secretary and Lake Administrator. Walter does not think it is enough. Kathy did not see any line item for new equipment. Mike explained we have a restricted fund with a balance of \$400,000 for capital assets. (fixed asset) Kathy questioned costs for gauge, it being less this year. Kathy also questioned the outside services column should be moved. Outside services include Dean Long and Tracey Clothier. Kathy suggested it moved to another column. Mike suggested leaving it where is, as it pertained to Lake Treatments. Result was it to be left as is. The max we can increase the budget is \$25,000. Mike stated we must stay within the tax cap. Dean questioned the Legal and Professional Budget. Mike stated it was for his services as assistant treasurer (\$18,500) and Attorney services. The budget will be finalized at the July meeting and be presented to the Public in August. Board Secretary questioned if we could request additional monies from the town. Mike explained we have a 5 year contract with the municipalities. We are in year 3 of the contracts. Karl expressed concern over new residents from the developments complaining they are paying for SLPID taxes and feel they are not in the district. Dean explained the state sets the parameters and it is not the same as the sewer district. Mike asked Tracey if she thought we would get any grants for 2021. Not this point, she does not. Consensus was to increase admin salaries to \$75K, weed control \$100k, and create Operating funds as source of income.

SLA (Saratoga Lake Association) is organizing a Saratoga Lake State of Lake Forum and would like SLPID to attend. They are looking for governmental organizations and businesses to participate. Karl expressed he would like to be involved and report on CSLAP. SLA has also asked Cristina to attend their monthly meetings. They were interested in obtaining oxygen meters, participate in CSLAP and doing a Pledge campaign. It appears this could be a duplicate of efforts.

With no other business presented, Walter Supley MADE A MOTION to Adjourn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tom Carrangi. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Deborah Curto  
SLPID Recording Secretary