



**SLPID Meeting Minutes
Malta Town Hall
August 18, 2022, at 3:00 p.m.**

Call to Order: Chair Kathy Simmonds, 3:01 p.m.

Roll Call Commissioners present: Simmonds, Mazzotti, Baker, Carringi

Staff present: Lonnie, Weed Harvesting Supervisor. Cristina Connolly, Lake District Administrator.

Public present: Dan Buckley, Karl Hardcastle.

Public Comment: limited to three minutes. Not intended for commissioners or staff to answer questions or speak, only to listen. The Board of Commissioners will not take action on an item presented during the public comment period.

Mr. Hardcastle gave SLPID subscription publications from NYSFOLA to Chair Simmonds and then said he is continuing to take samples until September. Mr. Hardcastle then asked why there are added buoys in the lake. Chair Simmonds said yes, they are for the thermistor strings that Cristina and Dean are working on and that there is a GPS device we are working on to track the lake flow. Chair Simmonds said both of those items are in Cristina's report to the board, and you will hear more about them.

Chair Simmonds said all commissioners are present, and we will begin the meeting.

PRESENTATIONS:

Secretary Report (SLPID Chair)

***Present June 2022 minutes.**

No Comments.

Motion to accept June 2022 minutes

First: Baker Second: Mazzotti All Commissioners present voted: YEAH

Treasurer report (Commissioner Mazzotti)

Commissioner Mazzotti reported the monthly financial report. There was no change in income in July except for the \$16.96 received in interest income. Expenses: Year to date (January to July), expenses totaled \$176,254.30. The remaining budget for expenses for the year is \$250,655.70. Assets: Total assets at the end of July are \$1,170,381.82. This is a decrease from June 2022 of \$46,405.75.

There were no further questions from the board.

Motion to accept the July treasurer's report

First: Baker Second: Simmonds All Commissioners present voted: YEAH

Motion to accept the July bills. Invoices were emailed to the commissioners.

First: Simmonds Second: Baker All Commissioners present voted: YEAH

***Lake Administrator report: (Cristina Connolly)**

Safety – No accidents to report.

The August 6 outreach event at the City Waterfront Park went very well. Cristina forwarded photos to the board. She interacted with about 70 – 80 people. Adirondack Watershed Institute came down from Paul Smiths and helped. It was great partnering with them and validating that what Cristina has been doing for outreach is on the same page as what they do and offer. Next season, Cristina will go on weekends here and there for a couple of hours at a time to have more of a presence at the park and will schedule a steward to be there on weekends. There is a different type of lake user at the City park compared to the boat launch, which is more family-oriented and with kayakers who travel between lakes.

Cristina will be ordering tablecloths with the SLPID logo for future events and will create a trifold on what SLPID is and does. She has a previous trifold she made on stormwater run-off for SLPID that would be good to have as a handout for events as well.

Cristina is scheduling HOA events for Dean and her to conduct at the end of August and beginning of September to connect with the property owners and get feedback to bring to the County meeting on an overlay district.

She attended the Town of Malta Planning Board meeting regarding the South Shore development and emailed the summary to the board. Cristina will continue to go to future Town Board meetings on the development and communication with the developers and town officials.

The Sheriff's marine patrol reviewed the buoy map and locations. Sheriff Zurlo will sign off on it, and that project will be finished.

The docked and onshore boat count has been completed. The numbers need to be put together for the final report.

The Weedoo was used for two out of the four days removing all the water chestnuts— Lonnie can report further on that.

Dean came last week and this week to help set the thermistor strings. Next Monday, Dean will come with Cristina and go back out in the morning to check on them.

Dean and Cristina did a couple of rake tosses when they were setting the thermistors and could not find milfoil. However, they did see a few floating fragments.

She has launched the GPS unit several times. It gets hung up on the shoreline. Dean made Cristina a large PVC tube capped off to try out. She will continue to launch it from different areas and out into the lake from the creek at different times and in different weather conditions while documenting the weather conditions.

Cristina spoke with Larry Eichler, Larry will be conducting the lake survey next week or the week after.

The weed beds still do not seem as dense as in previous years. Again, could be the weather many cloudy days, and cool evenings.

The Overlay district meeting at the County is scheduled for Tuesday, September 27.

Cristina took the Town of Malta out for a boat ride with two of the Town planners to view the shoreline for the overlay discussion. The regional engineer for DOT and Sheriff Zurlo will be attending the overlay meeting. State Parks is waiting on permission to attend, and DEC has declined.

Cristina said Tracey called the Hudson River Greenway on the upcoming grant, and they suggested Tracey write a grant for SLPID to develop an overlay district for the four communities. It falls under the categories of regional planning and comprehensive planning. We will need one municipality to support the grant, and all four municipalities will have to do a Resolution in support of filing the grant. A match in the amount of the grant is required. This will be on the agenda for the overlay discussion.

At the county meeting, there will be a discussion on dock and boat regulations as requested by the Supervisors. Cristina copied past SLPID draft dock and boat guidelines for the SLPID commissioners to have and see the history on this topic.

Commissioner Carrangi asked if nothing ever happened with these? Cristina said they are draft guidelines and never adopted as regulations. The Supervisors have requested discussing these as regulations instead of guidelines, and that is why it is being brought up again.

Commissioner Baker said he thinks regulations are a good idea and needed. However, he does not feel property owners should be charged a fee. His sons keep their boats at his dock, and personally, he does not own a boat and should not be charged if his family keeps boats on his dock.

Commissioner Carrangi said what he is hearing is that the lake is ready for this. People are fighting all over with docks.

Commissioner Baker mentioned we also need to look at the boats. There are too many boats and too many boats mooring in front of private properties all day on weekends. Some properties have 15-20 boats all day in front of their homes. He feels we need to look into this as well.

Cristina said she will make sure Commissioner Bakers' comments are heard at the overlay district meeting.

Commissioner Carrangi said a lady came to him who bought a home on Airbnb, and she does not plan on living there but to rent out dock space and the house. Her Realtor said she can do this and make up the money for buying the place. She is buying twenty docks from him to rent out spaces for twenty boats. The realtor asked where people are going to the bathroom and where are they going to park. Commissioner Carrangi said the woman said she didn't care.

It is the insurance renewal time of year. Cristina will be reviewing the insurance policies with NYMIR.

The five-year Municipality agreement is on the City agenda next month.

Cristina emailed the commissioners a Hannaford tag donation program that SLPID was accepted into. It may not be a lot of money generated, but it could be good press for SLPID. The SLPID board agreed and said to move forward with it.

Suggestions for the BioBase mapping are on either taking a course or hiring one of the lake management companies. Dean asked if he could call the Lake Management companies to discuss it further.

Cristina said that in September, she will be away with the Northeast Aquatic Plant Management Society for the educational event in Taconic. Chair Simmonds said Commissioner Mazzotti will also be away. The Commissioners decided they will skip a September meeting.

***Weed Harvesting Report (Lonnie)**

Since the last meeting, the weed load count was 201, bringing the Total weed loads to date to 365. The Weedoo harvested water chestnuts for two days on July 25 and 26 at the mouth of the Kaydeross Creek and Manning Cove area. In two days, a total of 13 loads of water chestnuts were removed.

As Cristina mentioned, the water testing buoys were placed.

There were breakdowns on H1. A broken knife connector plate and blower hose. The hose was replaced, and the plate was welded. They are now better than new.

The machines moved to Riley Cove on August 11.

The harvesters are on their third trip around the lake.

One of the truck drivers completed his boater safety course and is now a more valuable employee who is there to fill in as a harvesting operator when needed.

Mr. Hardcastle asked what hours and days the guys are working.

Mr. Hardcastle then asked if there is a lot of eelgrass. Yes.

Mr. Hardcastle asked if that is the long stringy grass. Lonnie said no, that is different and has been cleaned up on the south end.

Lonnie said there is milfoil on the south side of Snake Hill. Cristina took note and will tell Larry Eichler for his upcoming lake assessment.

***Water Quality Report (Read by Administrator)**

Dean will continue to contact Carl at the Saratoga County Emergency Management Department regarding the possibility of a Fish Creek remediation plan.

The temperature monitoring strings are set. Dean and Cristina went out twice to set them up and will be checking them in the coming weeks. We want both strings to stay in place until October. In October, we will switch the monitoring strings for a setup for the winter months. In the winter, we will have 8-10 temperature recorders and one dissolve oxygen recorder set in the deep-water north site that is 100 feet deep. The dissolved oxygen probe oxygen sensor has a 6-month life, so hopefully, we can pick it up in April. Both monitoring sites will need winter buoys.

The Weedoo finished in two days harvesting water chestnuts. We could consider an herbicide treatment of Clearcast to eliminate the remaining plants next year. This was done in the past. It is a hand spray operation so that individual plants are targeted. A schedule of two applications could be proposed. In the coming weeks, water chestnut re-sprouting or re-surfacing will continue.

Dean and Cristina looked at the Franklin Beach area and found only a few fragments of Eurasian watermilfoil.

Chair Simmonds asked what did the Weedoo miss? Cristina said the Weedoo did not miss anything; it did a great job. There will probably be a few that will continue to pop up. Cristina commented that she went and checked yesterday and didn't see any new ones yet. She will continue to go out and check, pull any, and take photos if needed.

Chair Simmonds asked will there be enough to make it worthwhile to even treat. Not sure yet. We will have to see as time goes on.

Commissioner Baker said that he can speak with Carl Zeilman on the Fish Creek remediation plan.

***Lake Level (Commissioner Carringi)**

Discussion: Lake level is 202.70

***RESOLUTIONS**

RESOLUTION #37-2022

WHEREAS The SLPID commissioners agree to accept the 2023 proposed budget as the official 2023 Budget.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Commissioners direct the action of the Lake District Administrator to make official and file with Saratoga County the proposed 2023 Budget, and this action be incorporated in the minutes of the District.

First: Baker Second: Mazzotti All Commissioners present voted: YEAH

Discussion: None.

Motion to set the next SLPID meeting on October 20, 2022, at 3:00 p.m. at the Malta Town Hall Board Room.

First: Simmonds Second: Baker All Commissioners present voted: YEAH

New business: Dan Buckley commented that he has been in contact with Jim Demasi of SLA to get the word out for property owner assessments and asked Cristina if she knew about this. Cristina said yes, she is planning to have a conversation with Dr. Demasi over the weekend or early next week on this. Mr. Buckley said they are hoping to have sign-ups to start them in September. Also, he wrote another article for the SLA newsletter.

Old business: None

Motion to Adjourn meeting at 3:26 p.m.

First: Simmonds Second: Mazzotti All Commissioners present voted: YEAH

The next SLPID meeting will be held on October 20, 2022, at 3:00 p.m. at Malta Town Hall.