

Call meeting to order

Call to order 10:10 - board members present Don Hopper, Chris Cram, Nancy Zeiser, Brian Drain, Debbie Drain, Dick Stahl, Jed Potocar, Don Shearer, Jim Hogan, Al Zeina. Ellen Wright excused.

-Introduction of board members - Don Hopper Pres., Chris Cram VP, Nancy Zeiser Sec., Brian Drain Treas., Dick Stahl, Jed Potocar, Debbie Drain, Ellen Wright, Don Shearer, Jim Hogan, Al Zeina. Sue Bradt and Kookie Warden recently resigned. We sincerely Thank them for their service on the board.

-We will try to keep this meeting as short yet informative as possible. If we miss something you want to talk about please do so when we have comments at the end.

-Most likely more people are familiar with Zoom now than ever before. Just a few reminders about Zoom: Please stay muted during the general meeting.

In the top right hand corner you can choose between speaker view or gallery view.

To ask a question or comment during the meeting, unmute, state your name, and share.

17 families joined in on ZOOM.

Elections

We do have to hold elections which are usually held at our BBQ & Annual meeting. Debbie Drain will now speak on nominations and voting procedure. Debbie listed the nominees :Officers: Don Hopper -president, Chris Cram-vice president, Nancy Zeiser -secretary, Brian Drain -treasurer, Board members: Jed Potocar, Jim(Walt) Hogan, Al Zeina, John DonVito. She asked if there were any other nominations. No responses. She announced that an email will be sent to all members so they can cast their vote. Voting will be open until noon, Sunday, June 28, 2020.

Speaker

Today we welcome Town Supervisor and fellow member Scott Horton. Scott has been coming to West Caroga Lake since he was 5 yrs. Old. From 1955 to 1971 he spent his summers here and moved here permanently in 2005.

SCOTT: He came to office January 1, 2020 with an ambitious plan, but Covid 19 put a damper on some of his ideas.

Town Pride: The shed at town hall and gymnasium have been painted. A new sign was placed in front of the town highway garage by the town highway workers. PLRT Commission was instituted. No planning for summer due to Covid 19. Events for winter will be planned. Golf course is in beautiful shape and revenue stream is close to last year.

Town Expenses: Improvement plans. The bill from the October 31, 2019 storm has the town working with FEMA to recoup expenses. New street lights planned, being more efficient and will save up to \$400,000. Replacement of computers has been done. A new sign was rebuilt by Volunteers.

Environment: He stated that road salt amount in East Caroga was an issue. Sewer Study and Economic meeting was held. The town contributed \$10,000 toward the study. The town scraped down and remilled the top layer on South Shore road and will put out bids on paving for South Shore West and East for next year if funds are available.

Questions: 1. Jim Hogan asked for no parking signs on the west side of East Shore Road. Scott said the town can pass a local no parking law. He is willing to meet with residents, Association members or concerned citizens or draft a resolution to pass a local no parking law and have a public hearing. He pointed out that such a law could impact winter events and parking.

2. Jim Hogan also asked about a rumor that Balboa Development was building a campsite behind the Post Office and kept control of the beach by the former Sherman's building. Scott replied that due to the planning board having no input in splitting the donated land into parcels, the property has not been subdivided legally. Also at issue is the fire door at the main building belonging to CAC that exits onto the beach property.

3. Jim Hogan asked what the time frame on developing a sewer system might be. Scott said 5-6 years. There is a long way to go to plan a successful project for the town, both economically and environmentally. It is a limited plan for specific high density areas like the business area, the grove area, possibly the avenues.

4 Joyce Barrett expressed concern about the sewer plan. Years ago when it was discussed the plan was to eject treated water from the sewer plant into Mead creek and her concern was that phosphorus can't be removed by treatment and it would kill vegetation in the lake. Scott explained that DEC and the Wheelerville School would be interested in connecting to the potential system and that the treated water and plant would be located near the outlet.

5. Jim Hogan asked what is happening with the Masterplan. The 10 year old plan needs to be updated. DEC wants a new salt storage shed built. Included in this plan is a new town barn near the cell tower, both within 3 years. The sewer plan is in 5-6 years. Also, part of the plan is the construction of a new town hall, and restructure the old building as a recreation center. Nathan Littaur wants to build a new building for their clinic/care center.

6. Jed Potocar asked about the status of the new Dollar General. Scott said in 3 months or so it plans to be completed. There was a problem drilling the well.

7. Deborah Price asked about virus safety issues if there is a town wide garage sale. Scott replied as of now, it is on, and hopes that proper precautions are taken by all. Joyce Barrett spoke of her concern that she sees many people without protective masks on.

8. Don Shearer questioned if there was going to be another cell tower built, Scott replied no.

Business Meeting

General info

911 signs

-We always mention that everyone should have a 911 sign to help responders locate you if you call for help. They are \$15 and the Fire Co. will put them up for you. Order at the Town Hall.

Invasive animals and plants - Identified in Fulton County

-Hemlock Woolly Adelgid-White ovisacs can be easily identified on the undersides of hemlock branch tips from late fall to early summer.

-Emerald Ash Borer-D-shaped holes in bark, S-shaped larval galleries, branches and shoots that grow from the base of the tree, and excessive woodpecker activity.

-Eurasian Milfoil-In our lake, worse in East Caroga. Picture in your newsletter,

-Curlyleaf Pondweed-small patch found in East Caroga. Divers identified it and removed what they saw.

BE SURE YOU HAVE YOUR NET WITH YOU AND SCOOP OUT ANY PLANTS YOU SEE FLOATING IN WEST AND EAST CAROGA.

NETS ARE STILL AVAILABLE

Welcome Bags

-If you know of anyone new to the area please contact us

I remember when

-I would like to start a new section in the newsletter called "I remember when". Please send your short recollection like "I remember when you could step out of the second story windows on top of the actual snow, not drifted snow".

Treasurer's report - Brian Drain

June 2019-June 2020. As of June 26,2020 our current income is \$9050.Total Expenses \$5475. 235 members, 14 new members. 2/3 of 2020-2021 dues paid so far. Operating income is \$3575. Current total account balances are \$10,960.

Water testing

CSLAP(Citizens Statewide Lake Assessment Program)

-Done under the New York State Federation of Lake Associations (NYSFOLA)

-They use samples collected 8 times from June to September and test for clarity, chemical contents, and trends in over 200 lakes in NY. It is a minimum of a five year commitment. We are in year two so we do not have much recent data to compare to. The last time we participated was 1997-2001.

Compared to these reports:

West Caroga continues to be mesoligotrophic, or moderately unproductive, based on moderate water clarity and algae levels, and low phosphorus levels.

Most nitrogen is soluble, indicating a potential for more algae growth.

pH is near neutral

Chlorophyll a was higher (algae)

Water quality was normal

Color readings increased slightly

Surface water temperature decreased slightly

Water quality assessments have improved slightly

Compared to other nearby lakes we have higher water clarity, and lower chlorophyll a, phosphorus, conductivity, calcium, and chloride levels.

-No algae blooms

-Chemical levels are consistently below recreational levels of concern.

-The Priority waterbody list rates West Caroga as "fully supports all uses".

-Calcium levels indicate a high vulnerability for new invasives.

CEC(Chemicals of Emerging Concern)

-We participated in this study from Syracuse University, funded by the Natural Science Foundation, in 2019. Of the 300+ chemicals screened for 12 were detected in the two surface water samples we sent in. The samples are measured in nanograms per liter(ng/L) or parts per trillion, very small amounts.

-Chemicals detected in both samples were related to:

Insect repellents

Sunscreen

Fragrances in perfumes, soaps, etc.

Herbicides

Nerve pain/antidepressants

PROBABLY ATTRIBUTED TO RUNOFF AND RECREATION USE

-Caffeine was detected in 1 of the 2 samples. The study indicated that caffeine is 1 of 2 indicator compounds of possible sewage impact..

ALAP(Adirondack Lake Assessment Program)

We received ALAP reports from 2017 and 2018 samples. The program is run by Paul Smith's College. We are not charged for this. The data is similar, but not exact, to the CSLAP report.

-ALAP rates the lake as oligotrophic, bordering on mesotrophic, meaning relatively low nutrient content which translates to high transparency, low algae, low organic material in sediments, sparse aquatic plant growth and abundant dissolved oxygen throughout the year. This lake will support cold water fishery like trout.

-pH is relatively neutral

-Sodium and Chloride levels indicate the chemistry of the lake is moderately influenced by road salt, which is also indicated in the CSLAP report.

All in all our lake is in good shape.

The best way to help keep the water at its best is to:

Maintain your septic system

Reduce fertilizer use

Grow a buffer of plants next to the lake shore

Reduce shoreline erosion and runoff into the lake

Be aware of and remove any milfoil or any plant material you see in the water, around your dock, or on the shore.

Visiting boats need to be inspected for invasives

Fish stocking update

Fish Stocking: Jed Potocar. The committee decided to stock \$1000 worth of fish. \$500 of largemouth bass were stocked so far. \$500 of trout will be stocked in the fall. State stocked splake. He stated winter ice fishing was good.

Activities

THE BOAT PARADE IS ON!!!

Saturday, July 4, 2020 at 4pm

Theme: 1776 Meets 2020

Assemble near Sherman's Beach and have your picture taken. Make sure that you have a sign with your name on it to show the photographers.

New this year are cash prizes in 3 categories (please note: You DO NOT have to follow the theme to win "Best in Parade" or "Most Creative"):

Best in Parade

Most Creative

Best of Theme

First Place in each category: \$100

Second Place in each category: \$50

Third Place in each category: \$25 Small prizes for all participants

Prizes will be given out back at the starting point of the parade (near Sherman's). Please be sure to swing back around to collect your prize!

2020 has been a crazy year and due to restrictions you might have been involved in a car parade or two...

LET'S MAKE THIS YEAR'S BOAT PARADE THE BIGGEST EVER. COME ON OUT, MAKE SOME NOISE, AND HAVE SOME FUN!

Annual July 4th WCLA Flare Lighting

July 4th at 9:30pm, after the boat parade

To get your flare go to one of the 4 PICK UP SPOTS:

Ellen Wright 160 South Shore Road

Don Hopper 156 South Shore Road

Al Zeina 183 East Shore Road

Walt "Jim" Hogan 196 East Shore Road

If you are not able to get to a pick-up spot please contact Ellen Wright at 518-835-8543 or Don Hopper at 518-835-4293 and we can make other arrangements.

WE WILL BE AT THE CHAPEL FOR 1 HOUR AFTER THE MEETING WITH FLARES AND NETS. COME PICK YOURS UP. YOU COULD EVEN PAY DUES IF YOU STILL NEED TO.

The town says the town-wide yard sale is on!

Saturday, July 25th

WCLA will once again be participating in the town-wide yard sale on Saturday, July 25th. We need you, our members, to donate items for the sale.

Please be sure any donations are clean and in working order.

Donations may be dropped off at the Hopper Camp, 156 S. Shore Rd., West Caroga Lake **after July 1st**. We will also need tables for the sale, so if you have one you are willing to let us borrow for the sale weekend, that would be greatly appreciated.

Our sale will be set up at the Hogan's camp on East Shore Road. All the money we raise goes to support the West Caroga Lake Association.

QUESTIONS, CONCERNS, FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

Kyle Price: CAC Concert Live Stream UTUBE and Facebook at 5PM July 3

Al Zeina: Cornhole tournament has been cancelled for the summer of 2020.

In closing

- remember to check your email and follow the link to the ballot for voting.
- Now more than ever, as everything opens up, please support our advertisers
- Meeting minutes and info will be posted on our website.
- Hopefully a recording of the meeting will also be posted.

Above all please be safe. Follow current restrictions as well as possible and let's all stay healthy so we can enjoy our wonderful lake.

The board thanks you for attending this meeting.

Motion to adjourn

Motion to adjourn Jed Potocar. Seconded by Al Zeina

Meeting adjourned at 11:23 AM

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Zeiser Secretary