

**Lake Abanakee Civic Association**  
**PO Box 406**  
**Indian Lake, NY 12842**  
[www.lakeabanakee.org](http://www.lakeabanakee.org)

**Minutes for 2019 Annual meeting held on Sunday, August 11 at Byron Park Pavilion in Indian Lake. Approximately 22 people attended.**

**Annual Meeting Agenda - 2:30 - 4:30pm**

New dam Repairs	Brian Wells, IL Town Supervisor
Adirondack Road Salt	Dr. Dan Kelting, Exec Director AWI
Elections, LACA Board	Bob McNamara
Financial Report	Sharon Lieberman
Lake Health items:	
1.Loan census:	Bronna Romanoff
2.Invasive species monitoring:	Sally Cockburn
3.Water Quality Report:	Jerry Lieberman
Community Service: Scholarship Award -	Leila Lewis
Open Topics	Audience discussion

**Introduction/welcome – Bob McNamara**

Approval of minutes & finance report from 2018. This action needs to be delayed as the information has not been distributed to members as yet. I expect to post the information on our web site in the near future.

**New Dam Repairs – Brian Wells**

Brian was unable to attend. Here is an email summary that he provided after the meeting, regarding the dam repairs.

Good Afternoon Bob

Please convey my apologizes again to the association. I really don't mind speaking at the picnic.

1. materials for patching have been on a back order as the company that supplies the grout only orders as needed. This has been a delay. The materials where to be shipped to the Indian Lake site Aug. 12th re-cleaning of the voids and form placement was to be ongoing during this week. The diving contractor was expecting to start placing concrete Aug.15th . Optimistically the diver was hoping to be done by the second week of Sept.
  2. This work will be inspected by an independent engineering firm and evaluated.
  3. There will be no sign off of the project until both the Town ,State and ACOE are satisfied with the finished results.
  4. The Town with it's attorneys will start the process of financial compensation. As I have said I am not looking to put anyone out of business but the Town is not going to financially responsible for others mistakes and poor quality control.
  5. When this is completed I will be asking the board for elevations on the spillway to be taken and recorded.
  6. This will be used for an electronic monitoring system . ( Not for Gate control) but for water levels . We will be looking into what is available and other usages. We hope this along with the records being keep by our gate operators will help maintain a more constant and acceptable lake level for all parties.
- If there anymore questions feel free to email them to me. Again I sincerely apologize for missing the meeting.

Thank You  
Brian E Wells

If anyone does send questions to Brian, please copy me on his response so I can update the minutes.

## **Adirondack Road Salt                      Dr. Dan Kelting, Exec Director AWI**

Dr. Kelting spoke about the effects of State and Local policy on using road salt to clear roads after winter storms. Over seven million tons of salt has been spread over the past forty years. This impacts our lakes through surface runoff and our drinking water through seepage into ground water.

Most lakes, including Lake Abanakee, salt measures about three parts per million, which is normal. Lake Abanakee is protected by a large watershed area of approximately 48,000 acres. So surface runoff is not a problem.

The major impact of road salting is to wells, used for drinking water. Dr. Kelting provided a lot of detailed information regarding the testing conducted by the Adirondack Watershed Institute (AWI), how other states deal with the issue of clearing roads, and some possible solutions. The following links cover the details of his talk.

The first two links are articles discussing the AWI tests and results.

Spreading road salt contamination

<https://www.adirondackexplorer.org/stories/road-salt-well-contamination>

The cost of driving 55 mph in snow and ice

<https://www.adirondackdailyenterprise.com/news/local-news/2019/02/the-cost-of-driving-55-mph-in-snow-and-ice/>

This article describes one homeowners' experience with road salt contamination.

Adirondack residents dealing with road-salt contaminated wells

<https://www.adirondackexplorer.org/stories/road-salt-wells>

This link provides information on Dr Dan Kelting.

Dan Kelting - Paul Smith's College

<https://www.adkwatershed.org/dan-kelting>

The AWI is still conducting well testing for affects of road salt. He took names and email addresses at the meeting of those interested in having their well tested.

## **Board elections – Bob McNamara**

There is significant turnover in 2019 as the terms of three officers and five directors will expire on August 31, 2019. Terms ending are;

Officers: Bob McNamara (president), Ed LaScala (VP), Kim LaScala (secretary).

Directors: Frank McNamara, Pat McNamara, Barbara Smorgens, Barbara Migdalen, Susan Ritchie-Ahrens.

Outreach to members hasn't identified anyone interested in joining the Board. Therefore, the current Board members have agreed to continue.

Member Len Carbonara made a motion to renominate the entire slate. Motion was seconded by Ed LaScala. Vote was unanimous to reelect entire slate.

Current Board:

Officers: Bob McNamara – President, Ed LaScala – VP, Kim LaScala – Secretary, Sharon Lieberman –

Treasurer.

Directors: Frank McNamara, Pat McNamara, Barbara Smorgens, Barbara Migdalen, Susan Ritchie-Ahrens, Bronna Romanoff, John Warren.

## Financial Report

Sharon Lieberman

August 11, 2019: Period: 8/1/2018 – 7/31/2019

Beginning balance \$1944.27

### Income

Dues	1222.00	
Interest	.69	
Total income		\$1222.69

### Expenses

Advertising	48.30	Meeting notice
Environmental	200.00	Water Testing
Memberships	50.00	Adirondack Lake Alliance
Picnic supplies	17.00	
PO Box fee	54.00	
Scholarship	500.00	Bryce Hutchins
Website	161.17	
Total expenses		\$1030.47

Overall total \$2136.49

## Lake Health items:

### Loon census – Bronna Romanoff

Census conducted for the past twenty years. Third Saturday in July. From 8AM to 9AM. Throughout the Adirondacks two hundred lakes are monitored.

Our count this year was two adult loons. No chicks. (Previous year count was; four adults and three chicks.)

While the following information wasn't included in the loon census we do know there are two chicks on the lake. They just weren't seen during the census.

### Invasive species – Bob McNamara (Sally was unable to attend meeting)

Been monitoring the lake since 2006. We now have six volunteers that split up the shoreline. We could use more help. It's a fun way to get out on the water. Training is conducted each June. So come join us.

Through 2018 monitoring no aquatic invasive species have been found. We are currently monitoring for 2019, which will complete in late September. So far no invasive species have been found.

### Water report – Bob McNamara ( Jerry was unable to attend meeting)

We pay ALAP (Adirondack Lakes Assessment Program) \$200 for water testing. We do three samples each summer. We've been doing this since 2005. Prior to that Hamilton County was doing testing from 1998 to 2003. There were differences in testing and analysis so we did our own via ALAP.

For the last several years Hamilton County now has the water samples analyzed by Adirondack Watershed Institute located at Paul Smith's College. This is the same lab that ALAP uses. We are looking at the resulting data to see if we should stop doing our own testing. And rely on Hamilton County to test Lake Abanakee.

For 2018 there are no major changes to water quality. No significant change in phosphate or chlorophyll levels.

Links to water reports are on our web site. [www.lakeabanakee.org](http://www.lakeabanakee.org)

**Scholarship award** – Leila Lewis

This year's winner is Bryce Hutchins. He's planning to study forestry.

**Open Topics – Group discussion**

There was a request to become more involved with Town wide issues. And not just focus on Lake Abanakee issues. Suggestion was made to have Sally Stanton come talk to us about the work of the IL long range planning group.

We then discussed ways to increase membership. While attendance at this year's meeting was low, 22 people, the prior few years had seen 40 to 55 people at the annual meeting. And dues paying members range from 45 to 55 over the past few years. With 175 properties on the lake how do we reach more people.

Suggestions ranged from; join Chamber of Commerce, take a booth at Moose Festival and sell memberships, possibly Lake Abanakee patches and do a mailing to all property owners on and near Lake Abanakee. Some in attendance were concerned about selling memberships to non-property owners. (I checked the By Laws after the meeting and in order to vote one must be a property owner.)

The Board took the to-do to determine what actions to take to increase membership.

Mentioned ring of fire (farewell to summer) gave dates for those interested in participating. Saturday Aug 31, between 8:30pm and 9:00pm. Sunday, 9/1 would be rain date.

End of meeting.

Post meeting update: The Board decided that a mailing to property owners would be most effective in increasing membership.