

**Lake Abanakee Civic Association**

PO Box 406

Indian Lake, NY 12842

[www.lakeabanakee.org](http://www.lakeabanakee.org)

Minutes for 2020 Annual meeting held on Sunday, August 16, via Zoom.

We had seventeen groups joined virtually. I estimate thirty plus people participated.

Meeting agenda was briefly reviewed with attendees.

**Annual Meeting Agenda - 2:00PM - 2:45PM**

- |                          |                           |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Elections, LACA Board | Bob McNamara              |
| 2. Financial Report      | Sharon Lieberman          |
| 3. Town Changes          | Barbara Smorgans Marshall |
| 4. Lake Health items:    |                           |
| A. Loon census:          | Bronna Romanoff           |
| B. Invasive species:     | Sally Cockburn            |
| C. Water Quality Report: | Jerry Lieberman           |
| 5. Community Service:    |                           |
| A. Scholarship Award:    | Leila Lewis               |
| 6. Open Topics           | Bob McNamara              |

**1. Board elections:** Bob McNamara

There is significant turnover in 2020 as the terms of four directors will expire on August 31, 2020. In addition, the position of VP is open.

Terms ending are;

Directors: Barbara Smorgens Marshall, Susan Ritchie-Ahrens, Bronna Romanoff, John Warren.

Outreach to members hasn't identified any new nominees. Therefore, the current Board members have agreed to continue. In addition, John Warren has agreed to be nominated for the VP position.

I mentioned to nominate John Warren as VP. Seconded by Jerry Lieberman. Anyone objecting was asked to raise their hand. No objections recorded.

I also mentioned that the three directors whose term were expiring should be renominated. Seconded by Jerry Lieberman.

Again, anyone objecting should raise their hand. No objections recorded.

New Board going forward:

Officers: Bob McNamara – President, John Warren – VP, Kim LaScala – Secretary, Sharon Lieberman – Treasurer.

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

There is one open Director position.

**2. Financial Report:** Sharon Lieberman

August 16, 2020: Period: 8/1/2019 – 7/31/2020

Beginning balance \$2136.72

Income

Dues 1075.00

Interest .95

Total income \$1075.95

Expenses

Advertising 48.30 Meeting notice

PO Box fee 56.00

Scholarship 500.00

Total expenses \$604.30

Balance as of 7/31/2020: \$2608.37

**3. Town Changes:** Barbara Smorgans Marshall

Barbara was unable to present via Zoom. Here are her prepared comments.

### **“Commons Project”**

Sally Stanton is chair of the advisory committee and provided me with some updates.

As one result of the town’s Comprehensive Plan grant funding was obtained to purchase the Townsend Property. (The old garage next to the IL restaurant.)

The property includes 7.7 acres and mostly runs behind Main Streets current businesses and goes from the post office to the old Tops building.

There is an advisory committee which meets monthly to help identify reuse opportunities for the property. A grant was obtained to hire the Chazen Company to facilitate a design process.

In November of last year an open house session was held for townspeople to give their “wishlists”. They had 55 participants and some written comments. Some ideas were for commercial development, housing and the most popular was for a community center.

The advisory committee anticipates a private/public partnership with the goal of not spending any tax dollars.

To date Cathy & Janes Restaurant has been removed. Regarding the Townsend

garage, two environmental reviews have been done and have come in quite positive.

They won’t know exactly what they’ll find until demolition begins but the environmental reviews look promising.

### Adirondack Lake Dam Construction

Sally also informed me that the Adirondack Lake dam construction has received environmental approval and construction will most likely start next year. There will be a walkway over the dam so now downtown and Byron Park will be linked for pedestrians.

### Chamber

The Chamber of Commerce was temporarily relocated to Byron Park this summer.

When Stewarts moves to their new location the Chamber offices will move into the old Stewarts.

If anyone has further questions you can contact Sally

### **Next are some updates from the ILCDC:**

Indian Lake Community Development Corporation is a non-profit organization dedicated to commercial and residential revitalization and growth in the town of Indian Lake.

Their president is Brenda Valentine.

Brenda has prepared some of the highlights of the past year.

### COVID 19

Established partnership with BM Center to create and distribute 2 "Available Services" bulk mailer documents during the Spring. The purpose of the mailers was to inform residents of available business, religious and town services, programs and facilities during the pandemic.

Also free face mask program with the North Country Crafters, Adirondack Lake Center for the Arts. Masks were made and were available for free at Pine's. Over 200 free masks have been given out.

### New Businesses

They offer ribbon cutting services for new businesses and create press releases. The ceremony at Steamboat Landing was attended by 28 people.

### Businesses in Transition

They have reached out to local businesses to inform them of Adirondack North Country Associations Business in Transition program. One business is working with the ANCA to transition their business to a family member.

### 2020 Census

With the town they created a 9 week community outreach plan to help inform and encourage completion of the census survey.

### USDA Home Ownership Program

A no-down-payment mortgage program. So far 5 local homes have been purchased through this program.

You can find more information at [ilcdc.wordpress.com](http://ilcdc.wordpress.com). or call Brenda directly. She would like to encourage membership for full time and part-time residents. \$20.

## **4. 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. This year I surveyed from Big Brook to dam. And Bob did south of Big Brook causeway.

Our count this year was six adult loons. Three chicks. (Previous year count was; four adults and no chicks.)

All the sightings were in the center section between Big Brook causeway and Rte 28 causeway. In looking at prior year reports Lake Abanakee has an average reporting of 5.2 adults and .7 chicks.

### Invasive species – Sally Cockburn

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. You can find the dates for training on our website: [www.lakeabanakee.org](http://www.lakeabanakee.org). So come join us.

Through 2019 monitoring no aquatic invasive species have been found. We are currently monitoring for 2020, which will complete in late September. So far no invasive species have been found.

Indian Lake has reported an invasive aquatic animal, the spiny water flea. But that shouldn't affect our lake as they need deeper water to thrive.

#### Water report – Jerry Lieberman

We've been reporting on water quality 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 Adirondack Lake Alliance Program (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. Starting in 2019 we began relying on Hamilton County testing program to understand water quality conditions in Lake Abanakee. Testing is conducted five times during the summer months.

During one of the water sampling sessions Bronna Romanoff asked them about the green algae blooms in the vicinity. They took a sample of the algae for testing. It turned out to be the non-toxic variety. Just regular green slime due to nutrients in the lake.

Lakes are classified by the level of nutrients. The state of Lake Abanakee is Mesotrophic, which means it has a medium amount of nutrients, such as phosphorous and nitrogen.

For 2019 there are no major changes to water quality. No significant change in phosphate or chlorophyll levels.

PH acidic, was .8, phosphorous was 5.5, chlorophyll was 2.9, chloride (salt) was 3.9. In comparing our numbers to Lake Adirondack, ours were lower. But Lake Adirondack's numbers also fall in the "good" range.

Links to water reports are on our web site. [www.lakeabanakee.org](http://www.lakeabanakee.org). Or you can visit the Hamilton County Soil and Conservation Department's website.

#### **5. Scholarship award:** Sharon Lieberman

This years' winner is; Elizabeth Mahoney

Eliza will attend SUNY Purchase to pursue a bachelors degree in play writing and screenwriting. She was the Salutatorian of the class.

#### **6. Open topics:** Bob McNamara

During our 2019 annual meeting the guest speaker, Dan Kelting - Director Adirondack Watershed Institute, offered to accept applications for the well testing program. Several members signed up. All those that applied should have received the report results by now. If you haven't please contact me.

#### **Close meeting:**

Mentioned ring of fire (farewell to summer) gave dates for those interested in participating. Saturday

Sept 5th,  
at dusk. Sunday, Sept 6th is the rain date.