

RAINBOW LAKE ASSOCIATION MEETING

JULY 8, 2023

There were 54 people present representing 33 camps.

President Susan Whitehurst welcomed everyone and started the meeting with a moment of silence for those who passed this year.

Then everyone introduced themselves.

Minutes of the August 2023 meeting had been emailed to members prior to the meeting. Todd Kahn made a motion to accept the minutes with a second from Tom Sansone.

Treasurer's Report – Peter Geertz reported that our membership numbers are down substantially from this time last year. Last year there were 144 members as of June 30th and this year there were 116 members.

Peter also reported that there was \$19,937.45 in the general fund and \$97,117.23 in the reserve fund as of June 30th, 2023.

Nominating Committee – Jon Allen presented Michael Brickman and Bruce Zetter as the committee's choice to fill the 2 open positions for the 2024-2026 term. Jon then asked if there were any nominations from the floor. There were none. Cathy Unruh made a motion to accept the slate as presented with a second from Mickey McIntire.

Jon also reminded the membership that this is probably the last term the Treasurer and Secretary will be serving on the board. Please contact Jon Allen if you are interested in either of these positions.

Buck Pond Stewards – Nora Teter informed us that there is 7 days of coverage at the boat launch. She is looking for volunteers to cover Fridays from 4-6pm. Nora will be sending out information on where this year's boat washing stations are in the area. The basics for cleaning your boat is clean, drain, and dry.

Education for Membership – Susan Whitehurst informed us that Tom Collins, Outreach Program Manager of AWI, will do a 30-minute presentation on Aquatic Invasive Species at our August meeting.

Volunteer Invasive Species Monitoring – Mike Brickman stated that prevention is key to keeping Eurasian Milfoil out of Rainbow Lake. There are 65 lakes already infected including Fish Creek. You can learn more about invasives at <https://adkinvasives.com>. If you are interested in volunteering for an aquatic invasives survey please contact Mike.

Professional Invasive Species Monitoring – Peter Geertz informed us that this is the third year of a 3-year contract with Ezra Schwartzberg doing the professional invasive species monitoring. Peter indicated that Ezra's prices have increased compared to the last 3-year contract. Peter will ask Ezra for a proposal for a new 3-year contract to include 2 years of partial surveys and the option for the 3rd year to either be a complete or partial survey.

Rainbow Lake Water Protection District Board of Commissioners – Roger Gorham, chairs the Rainbow Lake Water Protection District Board of Commissioners. Roger gave a brief history of dams in the Adirondacks along with the set up of the Water Protection District. The dam was built in 1948 and was purchased by the Rainbow Lake Association in 1986. From there the Rainbow Lake Water Protection District Board of Commissioners was set up with the authority given by Franklin County to levy a tax to maintain the dam. In 2019 the dam was improved. Steven Smith does 2 inspections a year which was set up by the engineer who designed the dam improvement. The dam is working very well. The only current issue is there are some trees on the opposite side of the dam (state land) that look like they should come down. They are looking into obtaining the permits required to get this done.

Roger thanked Ralph Bennett for his years of service as a commissioner. Ralph will be retiring when his term is up in July. Gary Leitsch has been approved by the county to replace Ralph.

The Adirondack Center for Loon Conservation – Linda Gorham, an RLA member and on the board of the Adirondack Center for Loon Conservation, recognized the Rainbow Lake Association as a Loon Friendly Lake. She presented us with a Loon Friendly Lake Certificate and a thank you note for all the association does to protect the loons.

On July 15th there will be a Loon Census taken by volunteers on the lake. It will also be the 2nd annual Lake Clean Up Day. Volunteers will pick up any debris,

fishing line, and tackle in the lake. If you find anything please report it to Pam Timbie. Please remember to stay clear of nesting loons.

Professional Water Quality – Joe Deignan informed us that this was the 26th consecutive year for water quality testing. The Water Quality Report is on the RLA website, www.rainbowlakeassn.org. Joe told us that the concern years ago was acid rain. Turns out there wasn't acid rain in our lake. The other concern was pollution from septic systems. None was ever found.

Picnic – Sue Fallone will contact Bob & Martha Tebbutt to see if they will host the picnic again this year. Sue will contact last year's picnic committee and if anyone else would like to volunteer, please contact Sue.

RLA Clothing – John Whitehurst took clothing orders this morning. Bear Essentials never got back to John on doing the clothing order. John found a place in his home community in Maryland. Clothing will be available for pick-up at our August meeting.

Peter Geertz made a motion to adjourn with a second by Alyse Holstein.

Respectfully submitted,

Ilene Geertz

RLA Secretary