

Gilford Islands Association (GIA) 29th Summer Meeting July 22, 2019

MINUTES:

The Gilford Islands Association's summer meeting was held in the NH Marine Patrol Building at Glendale at 6:00 PM, on July 22, 2019.

Officers and board members present were: Jim MacBride (Welch), President; Charlie Fairman (Camp), Vice President; Sue Colbert (Welch), Secretary; Heidi Kephart (Welch) Treasurer; Nancy Birge (Mark), Director At-large; Ansje Burdick (Timber), Director At-large; Robin Folsom (Round), Director At-large; and Roger Marquis (Jolly), Director At-large.

Twenty-five members attended the meeting, representing nine islands: Birch, Breezy, Camp, Jolly, Lockes, Mark, Round, Timber, and Welch. The day and evening of the meeting was very rainy.

In the first part of the meeting, Harry Vogel, Director of the Loon Preservation Committee (LPC) provided our members with an insightful presentation on the impact of climate change on the loon population and on the lake and the continuing impact of mercury.

Loons start breeding around the age of 5 and generally only produce a few eggs each year. The National Weather Service statistics show that NH's June and July temperatures have increased by 2 degrees F and the average rainfall has increased by 2 inches for the same period. Higher temperatures can cause stress on the nesting loons and higher rainfall can cause more flooding of nests. In addition, concentrations of contaminants in the water and food sources can affect the overall health of loons.

Following the presentation, the first order of business was to approve the minutes from July 2018 annual meeting and the spring 2019 meeting. Tom Mullen moved to accept the minutes and Steve Birge seconded the motion. The minutes were approved without comment.

The next order of business was to fill the expiring board seats. The president presented a slate of officers that encompassed the incumbents running for their current positions. There were no other nominations from the floor. Steve Birge moved to accept the proposed slate and Tom Mullen seconded the motion. The motion carried. Charlie Fairman, Vice President, Sue Colbert, Secretary, Nancy Birge and Pete Derby, Directors At-large retain their seats for another two-year term.

Heidi Kephart, Treasurer, presented the year-end 2018 financial statement for approval. The final report showed a final balance of \$16,124.59 with 145 members. She also reported that we have 136 members so far for 2019. The financial report was approved. Heidi also reported the GIA checking account is now a non-profit account where there is some interest paid on the balance and multiple deposits are free.

Members have to vote yearly to approve the annual dues amount. Jim MacBride recommended we keep the amount at the current level of twenty-five dollars for 2019. Ken Walker so moved and Heidi Kephart seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

GIA gives annual contributions to other non-profit groups that are dedicated to preserving the lake environment. The board recommended a total of \$1,725, the same amount as in 2018. The amount is broken down as follows:

Glendale Cove Association (milfoil)	\$475
Lake Winnepesaukee Association	\$500
NH Lakes	\$300
Loon Preservation	\$200
Lakes Region Conservation Trust	\$150
NH Audubon	\$100

Nancy Birge moved to accept the recommended levels and Ansje Burdick seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The new Gilford Islands website is up and running. You need only go to gilfordislands.org to find it and no logon is required. Our website was fortunate to be selected by NH Lakes as a test case for their new website development mentoring program for their local partner associations. Erin Graichen of NH Lakes worked with Sue Colbert to migrate our information from our old, soon to be closed website, to our newly designed one. Erin has been very helpful to this process.

The site runs on a WIX platform. The cost for the first year of the new website is \$0 because of our not-for-profit status. Our old site would have cost us \$399. The board proposes that our association give NH Lakes an additional \$300 donation for this year only, for their invaluable help. Steve Birge moved to do so and Andy Opel seconded the motion. The motion passed without discussion.

We have been looking for a suitable memorial for Shirley Burns, one of our founding members. Her family requested in her obituary that donations be made to our association in lieu of flowers. As a result we received over 1,182 dollars.

Gilford has started a memorial garden in the upper level of the back parking lot at Glendale. The board proposed that GIA donate \$500 to the Town of Gilford to start a section of the garden in memory of Shirley Burns. Marion Ekholm moved to accept the board's proposal and Heidi Kephart seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Jim MacBride introduced a discussion of whether or not there was an interest in another Mt. Washington cruise this summer. The consensus was that next summer would be a good time to have another cruise. Andy Opel volunteered to contact the Mount Washington office to see if they will take reservations for next summer for Friday, July 17 or July 24 2020.

Richard Holdaway suggested we petition the state to create a buffer zone around docks where uninvited boats would have to stay outside of the zone. This is a complex issue and there was no motion to explore it further.

Laura Jean Holdaway brought a picture album of aerial photos of the islands taken by her father. She has many more that were not printed. She offered to share any of the photos if anyone wanted a copy. She

will copy them for you if you provide a thumb drive.

Her email is ljh4cpax@gmail.com and her cell phone number is 860-338-3154.

Some Lockes Island homeowners would like to see a no wake zone extended from buoy 53, marking the Lockes and Pig Islands channel, to the lighted buoy 26, west of Belknap Point. Homeowners have complained about big boats going fast through that area are creating large wakes and causing damage to some properties. Also, there was discussion regarding these big wakes rolling into the Glendale docks and causing docking problems. The Lockes Island Association (LIA) will present this issue to its members. If LIA votes to petition the state for a no wake zone, our association would support their efforts.

Proposed meeting dates for 2020 are: Spring meeting March 7, 2020 and the annual meeting July 27, 2020, if we stick with the 4th Monday.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50.