

Hello to property owners in the ADK Lake Aquatic Weed Control Tax District,

We are your representatives on the committee. The Tax District is designed for controlling the growth of aquatic weeds, relocation of bogs, and monitoring the overall health of the lake.

Our present priority is dealing with bogs that impact residents' use of the lake. We are in the process of contracting someone who can move the bogs back into the bog corral.

We are also working on identifying the best way to encourage plant growth and reduce the grass carp for a healthier lake. We will use the results from a survey to be done this summer to plan the best course of action.

As we find solutions to these problems, we can turn our attention to other concerns. The Indian Lake Town Website has information about our lake under the Newsletter category. We had hoped to invite you to an informal get together this summer, but COVID19 may prevent that. We will keep you informed by email and through the town website under Newsletter.

Please contact us with your concerns.

Sincerely, your Lake Committee June 15, 2020

Adirondack Lake Weed Control Committee
February 24, 2018

Hello,

I am happy to report that the meeting of the Adirondack Lake Weed Control District on February 21st was a great success! Some 45 people attended including Brian Wells, IL Town Supervisor and Brian Farrell, Weed Control Committee Chairman.

As you read through our minutes feel free to send back any comments or questions that you may have on what was discussed. Please remember that this was an informational meeting, not meant to change or correct any issues. We hope that in the near future the committee will meet and begin the process of keeping our lake healthy and available to all. As information becomes available it will be passed along.

From now on all correspondence will be by email or online. **(For anyone who was not at the meeting, please send us your email address so we can keep you updated in the future.)** The town has agreed to let us post any future correspondence on the town website. It will be found on the Home Page, in the right hand column, under "Newsletters". The town internet address is: www.townofindianlake.org . If you do not have access to a computer (no email) let us know and we will send a hard copy to you via USPS.

Finally, please send any questions or comments to: adklakecommittee@gmail.com

Sincerely,
Sharon Rowe
Rita Rozboril

**Adirondack Lake Weed Control District
Informational Meeting
February 21, 2018**

MINUTES

Attending:

- Brian Farrell, Weed Control Committee Chairman
- Brian Wells, Indian Lake Town Supervisor
- Approx. 45 Weed Control District property owners

Agenda:

- Opening Remarks Warren Tunkel
 - History of Adirondack Lake Shari Rowe
 - Weed Control Committee Overview Rita Rozboril & Brian Farrell
 - Bog Removal Ed Ford & Brian Farrell
 - Annual DEC and Hamilton County Soil & Water Control Adirondack Lake Aquatic Vegetation Survey Review Warren Tunkel & Brian Farrell
 - Dam Project Update Brian Wells
 - Closing Statements / Next Steps Shari Rowe
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Goals of Meeting:

- Broadening the Weed Control Committee with new members
- Enlisting volunteers to help with bog management
- Compiling a list of issues and concerns to be addressed
- Enhanced communication: keeping all Adirondack Lake property owners informed via email and postings on the Town of Indian Lake website

History of Adirondack Lake:

- Originally Pinney Pond
- Formed by a stone dam built in 1910 to become Lake Byron
- Dam rebuilt in the 1930s by the Civilian Conservation Corp and renamed Lake Adirondack
- Encompasses 200 acres; the lake water flushes about every 10 months
- Rooted aquatic plant growth has been a complaint since the late 1960s, with a variety of methods employed to control the weeds.
- Then (1960s): excessive weeds / Today: too few weeds

Weed Control Committee Overview:

- Formed in 1982 with the primary goal of addressing the Lake's 67% weed infestation
- Five WCC volunteers appointed by the Town Board
 - Brian Farrell, Chairman
 - Ernie Pollman (Adirondack Lake Rd)
 - Dick Wooley (Adirondack Lake Rd)

- Mickey Merwin (Bennett Rd)
- George Anderson (Bennett Rd)
- Funded by the Weed Control Tax
 - Contributors:
 - Lakefront property owners
 - Property owners with Deeded Lake Rights (taxed at ¼ of the rate of 100' of lake frontage) => to be confirmed
 - Town contributes \$3,000/yr
 - Balance: \$89,700.55
 - Intended use of funds:
 - Weed management
 - Bog removal expenses, including boat maintenance and rope
 - Mudflat bog removal
- Various attempts to manage weeds have included:
 - Lake water drawdowns of from 3 to 9 feet (to freeze weeds)
 - Mechanical harvesting
 - Aquatic herbicide 2,4-D
 - Lime application
 - Aquashade (shading dye), which yielded the nickname "Lake Ty-D-Bol"
 - Grass Carp (5,500 total from 1996-2012)
- WCC coordinated a 2017 Adirondack Lake Aquatic Plant survey by a biologist
- Upcoming: 2018 Fish survey (via netting) to confirm bass and pike populations and rationale for applying for a DEC stocking permit

Bog Relocation / Removal:

- Points of contact:
 - Brian Farrell (518-321-7310)
 - Ernie Pollman (518-648-0199)
- Bog boat information:
 - Property of the Weed Control District
 - Registered & insured by the Town of Indian Lake
 - Operated by Brian Farrell with the assistance of volunteers
 - Fuel & maintenance refunded by the Town (from WC tax fund)
 - Docking location TBD for 2018 (Brian Farrell's property?)

Annual Weed Control Survey Review:

The DEC and HCSWCD conduct an annual Adirondack Lake Plant Survey

- Primary reasons for survey: Studying existing plant life is necessary to deal with Invasive species, helpful for weed control assessments and essential to determining the viability and justification required by law for DEC & APA to issue Bass, Trout, Pike, Walleye and Grass Carp stocking permits.
 - Benefits to Weed Control Committee: monitoring carp and percentage of weed coverage
 - There are no plans to add more Grass Carp in the near future
 - The August 2017 DEC/HCSWC Survey found overall plant density since first stocking has dropped by more than 95%
 - The biologist performing the 2017 Aquatic Plant Survey reported "10% plant life with new growth evident"

- There is no charge for the DEC/HCSWCD survey
- Follow-up questions & concerns on this topic:
 - Get a recommendation from the DEC (or other) as to the ideal balance of weed density control needed to support, maintain and reproduce a robust Bass and Northern Pike fishery and other wildlife, while also keeping Adirondack Lake friendly for recreational activities (boating, swimming)
 - In addition to completing surveys, request recommendations for improvement from the various organizations and biologists
 - Share results of surveys with the Weed Control tax payers
 - Add additional volunteers to the Weed Control Committee

Dam Report:


- Engineering assessment = complete
- Project is in the Request for Qualifications stage
- DEC provided a schedule (currently behind)
- Funding has been secured
- Rebuild will include a full wall replacement; size of new spillway TBD
- A temporary cofferdam with sheet pilings will be in place during construction
- Walkway (part of Comprehensive Plan) is not included in the initial rebuild

Next Steps:

- Communication:
 - Shari Rowe is collecting names and contact info from willing volunteers
 - Meeting notes will be shared online through the Town's website (www.townofindianlake.org)
 - Ad hoc committee will determine a means of sharing additional information with the Adirondack Lake Weed Control Tax payers (email / website / facebook / mailings)
 - An email address has been created to communicate with the WC Tax payers: adklakecommittee@gmail.com
- Other topics of discussion to be addressed in future meetings:
 - Monitoring and managing invasive species
 - Purple loosestrife (=> contact Nature Conservancy or HCSWCD)
 - Is someone looking out for Milfoil or considering boat inspections?
 - Snails & clams increasing
 - Beavers increasing and wreaking shoreline (=> contact DEC)
 - Protection of loon nesting sites
 - Reinstitution of a horsepower limit on boat motors

A special thank you to Brian Farrell and Brian Wells for participating in this meeting. And a collective thanks to the entire Weed Control Committee for all of their efforts past and future on behalf of Adirondack Lake.

Minutes compiled and submitted by:



Marty Ford (2/23/18)

Adirondack Lake Aquatic Weed Control District
Summer Meeting
July 24, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 7:35PM with an introduction of the Weed Board members (Brian Farrell, Ernie Pollman, Richard Wooley, George Anderson, Mickey Merwin – absent) and the Ad Hoc Committee members (Shari Rowe, Rita Rozboril, Warren Tunkel, Glenn Sullivan, Ed and Marty Ford – absent).

Shari introduced Caitlyn Stewart, Conservation Educator with the Hamilton County Soil & Water Conservation District. She delivered a presentation on “Love Your Lake” – sources of aquatic pollution and best management practices to prevent it. Topics covered were raingardens, shore buffers, use of low phosphorus products, proper maintenance of septic systems and the dangers on the ecosystem of poisons.

This was followed by a question and answered session from those in attendance.

The Advisory Board and the Ad Hoc Committee met prior to this meeting. Rita Rozboril spoke briefly on what was discussed: bog removal, lake health, issues with the carp and the importance of open communication between the Advisory Board and the home owners on the lake regarding lake management.

This was followed by Glenn Sullivan, Certified Lake Manager with SOLitude Lake Management who spoke on “The Current State of Adirondack Lake”. He expressed why we need to be concerned about the health of the lake now and the importance of acting responsibly to restore it back to a healthy balanced ecosystem. Topics covered were encouraging growth of healthy native plants by decreasing the carp population thus enabling productive weed growth. The weed growth currently runs about 5% in our lake, and the DEC feels a normal healthy coverage should be around 30%. A question was asked about the mud bogs and he responded that they cannot be removed because they are considered to be wet lands. He discussed the various native plants that need to return and that their seeds still exist in the bottom of the lake and could return naturally. He stressed that surveys have been regularly done and the lake will continue to be monitored yearly.

Mr. Sullivan’s talk was followed by questions and concerns. These included carp harvesting, balanced weed growth, our bog boat status (currently a contractor has been hired by the Advisory Board to remove bogs using his boat at a cost of about \$500 per day), and the need to encourage open communication between the Advisory Board and the homeowners/weed tax payers regarding lake issues.

Before the meeting ended, a vote was taken of everyone present as to whether a carp harvesting event should take place in cooperation with the Indian Lake Fish and Game Association. The response was 35 yes and 6 no. Warren Tunkel will be meeting with the Fish and Game Assoc. on July 25th to discuss details.

Meeting closed at 8:45 PM

Respectfully submitted, Beth Petrie