

## **ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES**

July 8, 2023  
Keuka College

A booklet was distributed at registration to all 2023 KLA members containing the following:

1. Meeting Agenda
2. New Board Member Nominees and their Bios
3. 2022 Annual Meeting Minutes
4. Treasurer's Report
5. KLA Financial Review Recap
6. Committee Reports:
  - A. Communications
  - B. Lake level
  - C. Water Quality
  - D. Scholarship
  - E. Shoreline Monitoring & Boat Steward Program
  - F. Nominating
  - G. Membership
7. KLA Navigation & Recreation Report

Agenda for this Meeting will be as follows:

1. Welcome – Steve Brigham
2. Quorum certification – Ira Goldman
3. Introduction of Current Officers and Directors – Steve Brigham
4. Motion for approval of the 2022 Annual Meeting Minutes –Steve Brigham
5. Opening Remarks –Steve Brigham
6. Recognition of Retiring Board Members/Officers/Key Support – Steve Brigham
7. Introduction of Scholarship Winners – Meg Cole
8. Treasurer's Report\* – Diane Edwards
9. Audit and Financial Review Report\* –Gerry Gacioch
10. Nominating Committee Report/ Election – Mike Gow
11. KLAeidoscope of Keuka – Candy Dietrich/Margo McTaggart
12. SPECIAL REPORTS
  - a. Lake Patrol Report\* – Steve Hicks
    - a. Special Recognition Award Presentation
    - b. Yates Sheriff's Office Presentation
    - c. Steuben Sheriff's Office Presentation
    - d. DEC Presentation & Fisheries Report\*
  - b. AIS/Boat Steward Program/Shoreline Monitoring/Stream Sampling/SSW Project – Lexie Davis

- c. State of the Lake – Lisa Cleckner
  - d. Membership – John Hagreeen
13. Q & A
14. Adjournment

## **I. Welcome & Introduction of Current Officers and Directors – Steve Brigham**

Steve Brigham introduced himself and stated that as the Keuka Lake Association's President and at this time, as mandated by our by-Laws, he called the 2023 Annual Meeting of the Keuka Lake Association to order at 9AM. Steve stated that since we last convened, the Association has been very active on many fronts and that he wanted to personally thank all of our members for their support.

He recognized several of KLA's board members and officers who will be retiring due to their term limits, as well as the KLA office administrator.

He stressed that this organization is very fortunate to have a committed, engaged and active working Board of Directors, whose efforts allow the KLA to carry out its wide range of activities that you as members count on. Being a Board of Directors Member is something that indicates a passion for Keuka Lake and a desire to diligently work to protect and preserve it.

## **II. Quorum Certification**

Steve called on the KLA Secretary, Ira Goldman who confirmed for the record that we have the quorum to conduct the KLA's business.

## **II. Introduction of Current Officers and Directors - Steve Brigham**

### Your Board of Directors:

Barrington – Steve Hicks & Karen Griffin  
Jerusalem – Susan Oliver & Rick Willson  
Milo – Bill Laffin & Gerry Gacioch  
Pulteney – Doug DeFranco & Jim Howitt  
Urbana – Nolan Smith & Jim Horner  
Wayne – Wayne Hand & Margot Bliven

### At Large:

Jim Horner  
Rory Long

Robert Karczewski  
Michael Burns  
Tom Pearson  
Darryl Heckle

### **III. Approval of the 2022 Annual Meeting Minutes**

The minutes from the 2022 Annual Meeting were distributed in the booklet June and on the KLA website. Steve asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the 2022 Annual Meeting. There was a motion made and seconded to accept the minutes. As there was no discussion, Steve asked for a vote. The motion was passed.

### **IV. Opening Remarks – Steve Brigham**

Good Morning and Welcome. I'm Steve Brigham, the Keuka Lake Association's President. We have a full and interesting agenda for today and I am sure everyone will find it information packed. We will be presenting information ranging from the state of the lake and all the projects that are related to water quality, navigation rules, to fishery reports.

But first some housekeeping. At this time, as mandated by our By-Laws, I call the 2023 Annual Meeting of the Keuka Lake Association to order. I also want to state for the record with the confirmation of the necessary quorum that we can now conduct the KLA's business.

At this time I would like to entertain a motion to approve the minutes from the 2022 Annual Membership Meeting. All in favor...

I would like to take a moment to recognize a very dedicated leader who passed away this past year. Denny Carlson was a board member and a past president of the KLA who devoted many hours to the mission of the KLA. Let's have a moment of silence in tribute for Denny. Thank you.

Since we last convened, the Association has been very active on many fronts, and I want to personally thank all of our members for their support.

I'd also like to stress that this organization is very fortunate to have a committed, engaged, and active working Board of Directors, without whose efforts the KLA would not be able to carry out its wide range of activities and I want to stress the word "WORKING". Being a Board of Directors Member is more than something nice to put on a resume. It indicates a passion for Keuka Lake and a desire to diligently work to protect and preserve it.

At this time, I'd like to recognize our Board of Directors and Officers and others who provide vital services to the KLA. Please stand when your names are called:

Introduction to Your Board of Directors:

For Barrington – Karen Griffin and Steve Hicks

For Jerusalem – Sue Oliver and Tim Cutler

For Milo – Bill Laffin and Gerry Gacioch

For Pulteney – Doug DeFranco and Jim Howitt

For Urbana – John Hagreen and Sam Pennise

And For Wayne – Wayne Hand and Nancy Feinstein

Your At-Large Board Members are – Rick Willson, Jim Horner, Nolan Smith, Margot Bliven, Robert Karczewski

The KLA's Officers are – Michael Gow, Vice President

Diane Edwards – Treasurer

Ira Goldman – Secretary

The KLA also has some very dedicated technical advisors also:

Dr. Lisa B. Cleckner, an expert in collaborative aquatic research, community outreach, and administration, became the director of the FLI in 2011. She earned her PhD in environmental health sciences from the University of Michigan and worked as a post-doc and staff scientist at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Lexie Davis is the Natural Resources/Watershed Educator for Cornell Cooperative Extension of Yates County. She received her master's degree in Environmental Science and Ecology from SUNY Brockport in 2022. In her role at CCE, she serves as the executive director of the development, delivery, direction, and management of Natural Resources Programming in cooperation with many other organizations. She focuses her time on subjects of water quality, invasive species, and forestry. She also serves as the Northwest Regional Director of the Master Forest Owner Program.

Colby Peterson, Yates County Soil and Water and KWIC watershed manager.

Working with Colby on the 9E plan is ex officio board member Mark Morris. Mark is also one of our representatives and an officer of Finger Lakes Regional Watershed Alliance Ray Dell and Maria Hudson who are the most recent past presidents who have helped the KLA over the last year.

Scott Demmin, of DSD Webworks on web design and internet issues which includes the real time lake level and water temperature displays on our web site.

I'd also see many past officers and Board Members in the audience. Please raise your hands and thank you for your past work on behalf of the KLA.

No activity of the Keuka Lake Association would be possible without the total dedication of our Office Administrator – Margo McTaggart who is retiring this year.

Introduce Amanda Marino who is replacing Margo and who is in transition with assistance from Margo.

Thank you all for your tremendous support and efforts.

I would like to recognize several of our board members and officers who will be retiring due to their term limits:

- Sam Pennise who has been on the board since 2017 and active with our scholarship and membership committees over the years.

- Tim Cutler who has been on the board since 2017 and active with the water quality, stream testing, grant writing and executive committees
- Nancy Feinstein who has been active since 2017 and active on several committees such as nominating, communications, water quality, stream testing and shoreline monitoring programs
- Ira Goldman who has been with the KLA board and officer group since 2013. Ira has been on the finance and administration, financial review, water quality, lake level, navigation, and recreation committee and since 2019 has been our secretary.

I would like to invite Bill Laffin up, one of our current board members and a past president to come up for a special presentation.

#### **V. Recognition of Margo McTaggart's many years of service and gift presentation.**

**V. Introduction of 2023 Scholarship Winner** – Diane Edwards introduced the 2023 Alexander and Esther Wahlig Keuka Lake Watershed Scholarship winner: **Cadence Cummings**, from Penn Yan Academy; she will be attending SUNY Cobleskill in the fall.

**VI. Treasurer's Report – Diane Edwards** –Diane shared slides of KLA Finances providing a brief picture of our sources and uses of funds for the past 12 months:

- Revenue totaled \$165,750
- Expenditures totaled \$160,339
- 92% of revenue comes from 4 sources, the biggest of which is our member dues, \$127,655 (77% of all income).....without your support Keuka Lake Association would not be able to continue to provide services to protect the lake. Other significant revenue comes from donations/donor match, the Great Lakes commission grant used in support of our watercraft steward activities, and our annual golf tournament at Lakeside Country Club
- All of this support is spread largely over 7 areas:
  - \$37,500 for our admin assistant, our only paid staff who keeps the rest of us on our toes
  - \$18,500 dedicated to control of Starry Stonewort
  - \$16,600 funding the monthly lake and stream sampling tested at Finger Lakes Institute
  - \$13,300 in support of Lexie Davis, our natural resource educator at CCE
  - \$13,200 towards communications including our monthly newsletter
  - \$9,600 supporting watercraft stewards at the boat launches
  - \$7,500 for marketing outreach to watershed residents not already members

We split our balances between 2 local banks to ensure our funds are FDIC protected and to take advantage of optimal interest rates.

## **VII. Financial Review Recap**

The committee met to review the months of June through December 2022 and January through May 2023; Activities include validating individual transactions, ensuring that membership income is accurately and timely deposited into our bank account, and comparing balances on each of monthly bank statements, Quick Book reconciliations, and treasurer's reports to confirm that all match and balance. All was in good order at both reviews.

## **VI. Nominating Committee Report – Mike Gow**

Mike reported that we currently have the following up for membership approval at the annual meeting:

- JIM HOWITT
- BOB KARCZEWSKI
- JIM HORNER
- MARGOT BLIVEN
- TOM PEARSON
- DARRYL HENKLE
- MICHAEL BURNS

We also have 3 "exiting" directors ending terms that need to be ratified by the Membership at the annual meeting: STEVE HICKS, WAYNE HAND, BILL LAFFIN, DOUG DEFRANCO

## **VII. *KLAeidoscope of Keuka* – Calendar Photo Contest – Margo McTaggart**

Margo commented on the beautiful entry photos for the 2023 calendar, which have been showing on the screen. She thanked the winners of the monthly selections and prize winners, showing each as she progressed. Margo encouraged people to submit photos for the next calendar.

**VIII. Special Reports** – Steve introduced the next portion of agenda and asked that questions be limited until the completion of the meeting.

### **A. Lake Patrol Report - Ira Goldman , Yates and Steuben Sheriffs**

• Responsibilities:

- Increase awareness of NYS boating and fishing laws
- Work with the Yates and Steuben County Sheriff's Marine Patrol & Department of Environmental Conservation Officers
- Distribute summaries of navigation and fishing laws
- Distribute dock plates

- Track and stay current with NYS Navigation Laws- existing and proposed.
- Address member concerns on issues of navigation, recreation, fishing and safety.
- Navigation & Recreation Priorities
  - 5 MPH speed limit- within 200 feet of shore, docks, moorings
  - Wake Boat safety/etiquette
  - 5-200 Signage
  - Marinas and Boat Launches Signage, Public service signage Sheriff Postings
  - Wake Boats - Legal in New York - Recognize their impact on shores, safety etc., Include wake boat safety details in the NY Safe Boating course, Education campaign, Videos, Newsletter articles, quizzes,
  - Work with Wake Boat trade group to obtain signs
  - Working Closely with The Sheriffs and DEC - Annual Spring luncheon, Communicating by emails & phone, Annual member meeting presence, In person one on one meetings.

#### **B. DEC Fisheries Report:**

- Lieutenant Matthew T. Lochner – DEC Conservation Officer - He is the only ECO assigned to Keuka Lake but he can be contacted at the Section 8 DEC Office and through the Sheriff's Department. He mentioned that they are reintroducing Cisco to Keuka Lake and went over the fishing regs for 2023-2024.

#### **C. Water Quality Committee and AIS Reports: Lexie Davis**

Lexie began by introducing herself by sharing her background, mission and job goals. She described the programs in which she is involved:

**-KLA Shoreline Monitoring Program:** She described our use of the Citizen Science Program that monitors and tracks the presence of harmful algal blooms (HABs) along the shores of the lake. Volunteers take samples once a week from June-September. She thanked the 38 total volunteers. Lexie then described what others should do if they see a suspected bloom. She finished with info on how to contact her to volunteer and with a bloom summary from 2023.

#### **D. State of the Lake –Lisa Cleckner**

- The data shows that the lake continues to be relatively high quality relative to some of the other upstate NY lakes but the phosphorus and nitrate runoff continues to be of concern. This report is available on our website.

#### **E. Membership Update–John Haggren**

John shared the total number of members & revenue for 2023 year-to-date.

#### **F. Lake Level Update–Wayne Hand**

Wayne discussed the following topics:

- How is lake level controlled
- Level control performance vs. objectives
- Level monitoring and communication process
- Lake Water Temperature reporting

**X. Questions/Comments followed.**

**XI. Adjournment** – At 11:30, Steve asked for a motion to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned after a motion was made and seconded.