

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

July 10, 2021

ZOOM Meeting

A booklet was mailed to all 2021 KLA members containing the following:

1. Introductory Letter from Ray Dell with the Meeting Agenda
2. New Board Member Bio
3. How to Access the KLA Meeting
4. Nominations
5. Treasurer's Report
6. KLA Financial Review Recap
7. KLAeidoscope of Keuka Calendar
8. Alexander & Esther Wahlig Scholarships
9. KLA Navigation & Recreation Report
10. Sheriffs' Navigation Report Update - Boating Season 2020
11. Update on our Watershed Management Plan - called the Nine Element (9E) Plan
12. Watercraft Steward Program (WSP)
13. Shoreline Monitoring Program (SMP)
14. Water Quality Testing Programs
15. Lake-Friendly Living for Homeowners: 15 practices to help protect and improve water quality
16. Lake Level & Other KLA Activities for 2019-2020
17. Proxy Vote—to be completed and mailed back to the KLA

Agenda for this Meeting will be as follows:

1. Welcome and Quorum Certification—Ray Dell & Ira Goldman
2. Introduction of Current Officers and Directors—Ray Dell
3. Approval of the 2020 Annual Meeting Minutes—Ray Dell
4. Opening Remarks—Ray Dell
5. Introduction of Al & Esther Wahlig KLA Watershed Scholarship Winners—Meg Cole
6. Treasurer's Report—Diane Edwards
7. Recognition of Retiring Board Member—Ray Dell
8. Nominating Committee Report and approval of Board slate—Maria Hudson
9. KLAeidoscope of Keuka 2022—Candy Dietrich
10. Special Reports*: Lake Patrol Report—Steve Hicks, State of the Lake—Dr. Tim Sellers, AIS/Boat Steward Program/Shoreline Monitoring/Stream Sampling/9EPlan/SSW Project - Maria Hudson, Laura Bailey, Mark Morris
11. Questions
12. Adjournment

I. Welcome & Introduction of Current Officers and Directors – Ray Dell

Ray Dell 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 2021 Annual Meeting of the Keuka Lake Association to order. He also wanted to state for the record that we have the quorum to conduct the KLA's business. He called on Doug DeFranco to comment on how questions will be handled.

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. Introduction of Current Officers and Directors - Ray Dell

Your Board of Directors:

For Barrington –Steve Hicks and Scott Drake
For Jerusalem –Tim Cutler & Sue Oliver
For Milo – Bill Laffin & Nonie Flynn
For Pulteney – Doug DeFranco and Thom Love
For Urbana – Sam Pennise and Ellen Maceko
For Wayne – Nancy Feinstein and Wayne Hand
At-Large Board Members are –Steve Hicks, John Hagreen, Michael Thomas & Steve Brigham
The KLA's Officers are – Maris Hudson - Vice President
Diane Edwards – Treasurer
Ira Goldman – Secretary
Dennis Carlson - Past President

Ray recognized the very dedicated technical advisors to the Board of Directors:

- Dr. Tim Sellers, Associate Provost for Academic Innovation, Professor of Biology and Environmental Sciences, and Director of the Keuka College Center for Aquatic Research on water quality issues.
- Mark Morris, Ex Officio Board Member for the 9 Element Plan Development.
- Laura Bailey, Invasive Species Educator, Cornell Cooperative Extension Yates County
- 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. Scott was unable to attend.
- Colby Peterson – Technical Advisor regarding Water Quality – Yates County Soil and Water
- Arlene Wilson, Executive Director Cornell Cooperative Extension Yates County, who, also could not attend.

Ray thanked them all for their tremendous support and efforts.

III. Approval of the 2020 Annual Meeting Minutes

The minutes from the 2020 Annual Meeting were distributed in the September 2020 newsletter as well as being posted on the KLA Website. Ray asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the 2019 Annual Meeting. There was a motion from Doug DeFranco, seconded by Steve Hicks to accept the minutes from the 2018 Annual Meeting. As there was no discussion, Ray asked for a vote. The motion was passed.

IV. Opening Remarks – Ray Dell

2020 was a challenging year for everyone including the KLA.

One of the first challenges we faced was to update the by-laws of the Association to comply with the ever- changing Covid restrictions. Changes were made that allowed us to conduct business via ZOOM style electronic meetings. The Communications Committee set up various electronic accounts that allowed the Committee to meet and conduct business.

The Association modified the reporting status of accounts as related to budget thus freeing time needed at our monthly meetings. They also acquired additional financial and accounting software, which allowed for remote accessibility for balance inquiries and vendor payments.

The KLA also reviewed and updated two operational agreements between the KLA and Cornell Cooperative Extension of Yates County. Currently we have in place an agreement to supplement the costs that CCE expends related to the Natural Resource Educator program. This is a valuable asset in that we receive the assistance of the current NRE, Laura Bailey in several different KLA programs.

Additionally, CCE applied for and received a three-year grant from NYS-DEC for Aquatic Invasive Species Watercraft Steward program. This program provides the "inspectors & educators" at the various boat launches that surround the lake.

By collaborating with CCE these two programs, help us to achieve our mission of "protect and preserve."

Our mission to protect the lake also meant that we needed to protect our organization. So, we contacted our insurance companies to review the existing policies and update where need. The

assets and the organization itself must be protected. General Liability, Workers Comp, and Special Project Policies were updated and instituted.

For well over 20 years, the KLA has collected data on the water quality of the lake. We collected data by visual and by deep-water probe retrieval. The probe unit we had needed repairs and could not collect the data that we currently require for analysis going forward. The "old" unit needed repairs and the cost for an estimate exceeded what the useful remaining life of the unit was. If there was, something that Covid was good for it was the cost reduction of new probe. We saved a substantial amount of money purchasing a new probe. We also invested in an underwater camera that will be utilized in our SSW Harvesting Project, which Maria and Laura will discuss later.

Our Mission statement is clear, "To Protect and Preserve." We have collected data of our lake for well over 20 years, but data collection alone is not enough. As we found out late last year, our lake is now under siege by the Invasive Species known as SSW. We need to act now to protect the lake. With federal and state funding either diminished or non-existent, the funds of the KLA will have to be used. These project funds are direct result of your dues and donations. Without these funds for harvesting and eradication projects, invasive species will continue to invade the lake.

The future of the lake is in your hands donate, encourage membership, and volunteer.

Thank you.

V. Introduction of 2021 Scholarship Winners – Ray introduced the 2020 Alexander and Esther Wahlig Keuka Lake Watershed Scholarships to Andrew Hill (who was present) and Myra Rusack.

VI. Treasurer’s Report – Diane Edwards – included in written reports. Ray complimented her for keeping “a close eye on our funds.”

VII. Recognition of Retiring Board Member – Ray Dell - Ray complimented Thom Love for his service to the KLA, his continued use of his boat for water testing and how appreciative of his dedication to Keuka’s welfare.

VI. Nominating Committee Report – Maria Hudson

Maria reported that we had several very good candidates. The committee met numerous times in making their decisions. The biographies of the proposed new board members were in the booklet sent out prior to the Annual Meeting. She introduced the following to the KLA Board of Directors:

Milo	Bill Laffin
Barrington	Mike Gow

Sue Oliver made a motion, seconded by Dieter Bush to accept the propose candidates to the Board. Proxy cards have been distributed and received from members who are eligible to vote and will be voted by President Ray Dell and Treasurer, Diane Edwards.

VII. KLAeidoscope of Keuka – Calendar Photo Contest

On behalf of the calendar committee, Ray complimented the entries and the winners of the chosen photos

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

A. Navigation & Recreation – Ray for Steve Hicks

1. We have much collaboration with law enforcement
2. Continuing the 5.200 campaign

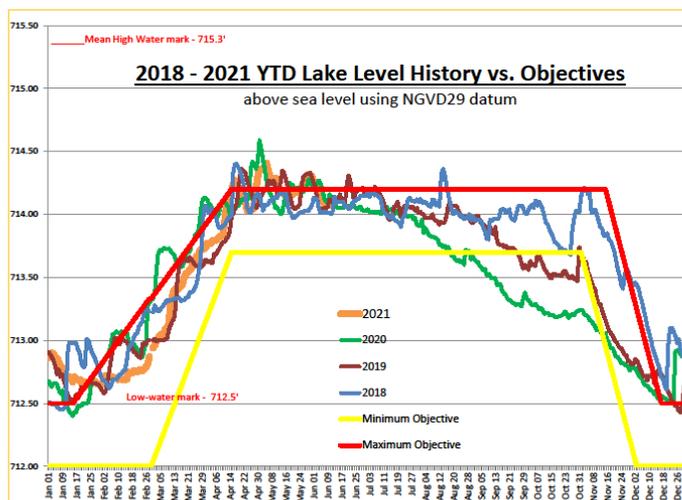
3. Boating and Fishing Regulations
4. One more year of cisco monitoring
5. Events on the Lake
6. Contacting the Sheriffs

B. State of the Lake – Dr. Tim Sellers presented 2 years of his “State of the Lake” reports covering 2019 and 2020. His complete reports are on our website.

C. Water Quality Committee and AIS Reports:

1. **Laura Bailey** – She stated our Boat Steward program is in its 7th year. We have 3 full-time stewards. Last year, 2020, was the busiest season: 11,000 boats and 23,000 people. This year, so far, about 2197 people and 700 boats
2. **Maria Hudson** – Maria elaborated on her booklet report describing the lake monitoring activities and the starry stonewort projects:
 - Once a month lake monitoring: test at the surface and depth, get a composite sample, measure for clarity & nutrients, collect plankton.
 - CSLAP is done twice a month testing for similar factors
 - This is our 4th year for stream sampling looking for solids, measuring phosphates, nitrogen
 - Also monitoring for HABs which are analyzed at the Finger Lakes Institute in Geneva.
 - Thanks to Laura and our many volunteers
 - We also work closely with the DEC, neighboring lakes
 - **Starry Stonewort Project** – Marie described the DASH method: a pontoon boat with a suction hose. Divers hand pull the SSW and feed it into the hose. SSW is filtered out and the rest is returned to the lake. DASH stands for “Diver Assisted Suction Hosing”. A grant from PRISM assisted the KLA This will begin Aug. 1st. We cannot eradicate it yet – just try to control it. Ray added that your dues help this project as the state is not providing help. He thanked Jack Wheeler as a “tremendous help” for letting us tie up at his Marina and use his facility. He also thanked the Town of Jerusalem for hauling it away and to Hunt Country for composting it. Maria added thanks to Ethan Hall and the Finger Lakes Museum.
3. **Mark Morris** – Mark read his report from the booklet.

D. Lake Level – Wayne Hand – Wayne showed a Power Point presentation with the following slides:



- KLOC & Gate Mgr. have done a good job the past few years in keeping the lake level within the defined objectives range.

- However, lack of rain in 2019 & 2020 made it impossible to stay within objectives from Aug. thru Nov. Hopefully, 2021 will not be the same this summer. KLOC has chosen to try to keep the level toward the high objective, just in case.
- Several minor repairs were completed on the control structures (gates) over the past year, with the aid of a \$15,000 KLA grant.
- The very dry first half of this year required minimal gate setting changes, the least amount in recent history (most of the time single gate 5" opening with minimum required outflow).
- Gate # 1 experienced some damage during closure in early January. A resolution plan is still being developed, meanwhile the gate continues to be fixed at the minimum 5" opening and can't be altered. The other 5 gates provide adequate outflow control for all except extreme event conditions.

Key Elevations (above sea level in NGVD29 Datum)

- Mean high water level – defined as 715.3' for Keuka, usually where municipal land use regulation boundaries are defined, and their jurisdiction ends.
- Low-water mark – defined as 712.5' for Keuka, the official boundary between shoreline property owners and the state of NY land ownership.
 - NYSDEC needs to approve any desired modifications located between mean high water and low-water mark
- 100 Year Flood level – 721' (per most recent FEMA flood maps, generated in 1977)
- FEMA required new construction minimum level for shoreline living areas – 723' (100 year flood level + 2 ft.)

E. Communications – Doug DeFranco reported we had 473 responses to our survey. The major result is we are updating our website with a new look that we hope you will enjoy and find easier to use and be a better tool to recruit members.

F. Financial Review – Cathy Gueli reported that the semi-annual review was conducted in June and all went well.

G. Membership – John Hagreen stated that membership dues provide the KLA with income and allows us to continue our projects that fulfill our mission. Please help by encouraging your neighbors and friends to join.

H. Thank you – Ray thanked Tim Cutler for his work with grant applications and Dieter Busch for his SSW research.

X. Questions/Comments followed.

1. 5.200 program – the Sheriffs will do what they can to enforce it.
2. A discussion on wake boats

XI. Adjournment – Ray asked for a motion to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned after a motion by Bill Laffin, seconded by Dieter Busch and approved by all.