

MINUTES
JULY 28, 2011
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
LAKE ONOTA PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION, INCORPORATED (LOPA)

The Board of Directors meeting began at 6:50pm. A quorum was not present, therefore no official business was conducted. An abbreviated agenda was reviewed and the notes from the meeting follow.

Directors Present: Bob Race, Gail Light, Joe Cancilla, Jim Ditello and Bob Quattrochi.

Gail Light distributed the Treasurer's Report. Gail commented that this year's income is slightly ahead of our expenses and the quarter ending Balance of accounts is \$43,203.45. Bob Race thanked Gail for her efforts.

Old Business and Committee Reports.

Water Quality and Weed Control:

Bob Race reported that LOPA's weed control strategy of a deep drawdown every third year and an annual spot treatment of herbicide, continues to be successful. Bob said that some bushy pondweed and pond lily pads have appeared in the lake both at the north cove near the marina and on the West St. end of the lake. The bushy pond is an invasive weed and can be removed at the discretion of the homeowners. Bob suggested that depending on next year's budget, LOPA might recommend the application of additional herbicide to these areas.

Bob also reported that the Ken Wagner study of LOPA's 10 year collection of data had resulted in several suggestions which will reduce LOPA's water testing expenses. The study recommended performing less frequent water sampling and reducing the number of sites. It also suggested adding some pre-storm testing of tributary streams and adding more frequent Seechi disk clarity testing. Gail Light will make copies of the study for directors and other interested parties.

In other efforts, Ron Smith lead a team that removed water chestnut plants both north and south of the Dan Casey causeway.

Burbank Park Master Plan:

Bob Race reported that Lew Cuyler had developed a first draft of a park vision outline and submitted it to Jim McGrath, but no further discussions, meetings, or reviews have taken place.

What remains as an outstanding task to complete the effort for the last 319 grant is to stabilize the shoreline between the swimming pavilion and the BRASS boat house. Because of a shortage of funds due to cost overruns, only two-thirds the original scope will be completed this year. Bob continues to seek funds to complete the original scope of the project with one effort, instead of returning to complete it at a later date.

LOPA's directors will continue to support its involvement with Burbank Park, while recognizing the fact that the park maintenance responsibility is managed by the city's Parks and Recreation Commission.

Membership:

Despite the increase in membership with our last drive, there remains a significant number of waterfront owners that have not responded. Bob Race described LOPA's role with the city as a consultant that recommends efforts that enhance the health of the lake through political persuasion. The higher the head count the more the clout. Bob is encouraging the Area Representative Directors to contact the non responding lake front homeowners to solicit membership or discover why their lack of interest.

Bob will ask Tom Dailey to approach Williams College for an institutional membership and a \$100 LOPA donation. Bob also reported that LOPA's Annual Membership meeting and election of officers is scheduled for October. Bob announced that Jim Ditello is chairman of the nominating committee which also includes Dorothy Mara and Bob Quattrochi. Bob challenged the committee to seek new blood for the Board of Director positions. Several ideas were discussed which included: to specifically review LOPA's membership list for new candidates, and/or to solicit new officers with the next membership drive.

600 Churchill St.:

Bob Race attended a public meeting on the Churchill St. development and reported that both water and sewer access rights have been secured from the Blythewood Association. The Developer hasn't decided between city water or well water for each housing site. Bob expressed concern that wells could add a new level of restrictions from the Environmental Protection Agency as it relates to lake management. Bob also reported that the developer plans to clear about 50% of the trees from the properties. The Conservation Commission has yet to approve the plan. Bob said that he and hopefully other LOPA directors will continue to raise concerns over the use of well water and tree cutting.

LOPA Meetings:

There was some discussion among Directors as to reducing the number of Director Meetings to two per year, possibly spring and fall. The suggestion included holding ad hoc Executive Committee Meetings as necessary. Bob Race will check with Dorothy Mara as to the requirements of LOPA's Charter.

Unresolved City Issues:

- Status of boat ramp monitoring efforts.
- Status of the Canada Geese control.
- Status of the Burbank Park Visioning Plan.

The meeting adjourned at 7:47pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Joe Cancilla
Recording Secretary

Next Meeting:

The Annual Membership and Director Election Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 18th 2011 at 7:15pm in the downstairs room at the ITAM Lodge, 91 Waubeek Rd., Pittsfield (at Pontoosuc Lake). Note: this is a change of venue. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Anyone interested in holding an office can contact Jim Ditello [-jditello@berkshire.rr.com](mailto:jditello@berkshire.rr.com).

Please show your support by planning to attend.