



Silver Lake Association Belmont-Tilton  
Minutes of the Annual Meeting  
June 8, 2019

---

The annual Silver Lake Association (SLA) meeting began at 10:03 AM, Saturday, June 8, 2019 at Jalbert Beach on Gardners Grove Road.

**1. Welcome and Introduction of new members.**

President Terry Threlfall asked if there are any new members and invited them to introduce themselves. They are: Wayne and Audrey Rougeot of Tilton; Chris and Liz Thompson; and Denise Naiva, chair of the Belmont Conservation Commission, attended as a guest.

Terry welcomed them and asked current members of the Association to go around and introduce themselves, stating where they are located and how long they have been at the lake. A total of 27 members were in attendance.

**2. Secretary Reading of Minutes.**

President Terry Threlfall read the minutes of the 2018 Annual Meeting on behalf of Secretary Sabina Foote so that everyone could hear them. A motion was made by Dave Foote and seconded by Lew Loud to accept the minutes as read. The motion passed unanimously.

**3. Treasurer's Report.**

Treasurer Julie Paquin read the financial report ending with transactions through May 2019. A motion was made by Dave Foote and seconded by Marie Bonnett to accept the Treasurer's Report as read. The motion passed unanimously.

**4. Election of Officers**

Terry Threlfall made a motion to nominate Jonathan Meunier to be Vice President. Rich Stanley seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Terry Threlfall made a motion to nominate Juliette Paquin to be Treasurer. Rich Stanley seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

**Silver Lake Association Officers**

President	Terry Threlfall (2020)
Vice President	Jonathan Meunier (2021)
Secretary	Sabina Foote (2020)
Treasurer	Juliette Paquin (2021)

**Election of the Board of Directors**

Jean Carbonneau informed the Association that he would like to step down after serving as chair for several years. He was thanked for his service and a new chair will be elected at the next Board Meeting.

- . Dawn Marie Godin volunteered to serve on the Board for another term. A motion was made by Lew Loud to nominate Dawn Marie to the Board of Directors for a three-year term, seconded by Rich Stanley. All voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.
- . Pauline Tessier volunteered to serve on the Board. A motion was made by Terry Threlfall to nominate Pauline to the Board of Directors for a three-year term, seconded by Angela Makin. All voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.
- . A motion was made by Rich Stanley to nominate Bill Naughton, in absentia, to the Board of Directors for a three-year term, seconded by Paul O'Connell. All voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

#### **Silver Lake Association Board of Directors**

Dawn Marie Godin (2022)

Pauline Tessier (2022)

Bill Naughton (2022)

Rich Stanley (2020)

Karl Makin (2021)

Dennis Leclerc (2021)

### **5. Milfoil Mitigation and Funding Efforts for 2019**

#### **Merchandise Sales**

VP Jonathan Meunier discussed the benefits of outside revenue to support the cost of milfoil mitigation efforts. A new SLA logo was developed and an athletic apparel company, run by a Silver Lake family, offered Association members a window to purchase T-shirts and other items online. As a result, \$500 in sales revenue was received. The website was reopened until midnight Wednesday, June 12, with the second set of orders expected to be delivered July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend.

#### **Professional Divers**

Karl Makin and others were recognized for volunteering most of his/their Saturdays, for several years, to diving for milfoil in Silver Lake. However, since it has been difficult to get volunteers scheduled for DASH boat setup, running and breakdown, Jonathan Meunier and others agreed that hiring a company with professional divers was a worthwhile investment. Outsourcing milfoil mitigation to a professional agency would be more efficient and cost effective. He also mentioned they can spend 6 out of 8 hours picking milfoil.

- . NH DES has awarded \$4975 in grant funding to SLA.
- . The grant provides 25% of the cost (or \$1243), leaving a shortfall of \$3732.
- . However, the towns of Belmont and Tilton have agreed to support this effort by:
  - a. Tilton Conservation Commission will donate \$2000; and
  - b. Belmont Conservation Commission will erase the deficit by contributing \$1732.

Discussion began about DES mapping GPS coordinates on the lake and logging the locations where milfoil is present.

- . Dawn Marie Godin suggested that priority areas be targeted for mapping and for picking.
- . Dennis Leclerc mentioned that the overall quality of the lake has been pretty good. He asked if the DES survey has identified specific areas. Yes, 5-6 spots are more prolific, but many residents know there are other areas with milfoil as well. The intent is to pilot the project this year and to keep the survey ongoing so that milfoil abatement can be managed.
- . Denise Naiva asked if the Association has representatives who can post signs at the boat launch with tips for washing/checking boats.

There was discussion about boat launch locations: The one on Route 140 (down river) is run by the state (public); and pontoon boats have been seen launched near the dam.

- The launch on Gardners Grove Road has been private. With the recent acquisition of land, Rich Stanley mentioned that the town of Belmont should now be responsible for maintaining the boat launch and the road. Adding gravel would be an improvement to the quality.
- Dennis Leclerc suggested that this issue as well as parking should be discussed among the Board of Directors at their next meeting. It was also suggested that the Association get an update on the Belmont land acquisition.
- Denise Naiva asked if Winnisquam uses chemicals to treat milfoil (Yes), and how is it removed here? Paul O'Connell explained that Karl Makin is a certified diver to pick it by hand; no chemicals are used.

## 6. Currier Sanborn Conservation Area

The land was private where the boat launch is and there are no official plans to make improvements to the road or the launch. Rich Stanley believes that it is not good citizenship to discontinue use. Others disagree. It's better to not advertise it and keep things informal as they are. Or, you can fix it if you want to advertise it.

Denise clarified that the property is available for general use, but not the ramp. She suggested keeping an eye on it and let the Belmont Conservation Commission know if there are changes. She also mentioned taking down the 'No Wake' sign because the cover blew off and created some confusion. Paul suggested that large signs be posted at all the boat launches with the specific RSA information on it. Lew Loud shared a story about 'No Wake' signage—He once informed a boater that a no-wake policy was in effect, but the boater claimed he didn't know. Later on, Lew witnessed the same boater park next to the sign he apparently didn't see.

Discussion:

- Two roads on Gardners Grove are certified by the town of Belmont; the rest are privately owned. Many deeds indicate rights-of-ways that are to be maintained and plowed by the town.
- Signage is helpful only when it is maintained with updated water level information—at 467 feet DES must post 'No Wake.' There is a number you can call to check the high-water level.
- Marine Patrol has authority to enforce No Wake orders. Some suggested covering/uncovering No Wake signs when needed.
- Jim Sawicki pointed out that the buoy markers on the lake are incorrectly placed except one. Some ongoing discussion ensued, and Jim volunteered to work with the Board and Marine Patrol to look into the problem. (See Buoy Placement below).

## 7. Old Business: The DASH Boat Discussion Continued

Jean Carbonneau recommended selling the DASH boat since the Association will be using a professional agency. It was noted SLA Officers have placed an advertisement in the NH Lakes Association newsletter. The only requirement is to have a trailer and a motor.

Dawn Marie suggested donating it to the UNH Oceanography program, since it would not be a financial benefit or liability to the Association. Squam Lake is another option via UNH and other environmental programs. Dave Foote explained that he has experience with UNH and they do not allow programs to accept donated equipment. Dawn Marie offered to reach out to the diving network to see if the boat could be repurposed another way—just to find out if it is even possible. No one objected.

Rich mentioned the possibility of stripping it down into its useful parts, and it was suggested to bring this to the Board's attention.

Woody Fogg cautioned the Association to consider saving the DASH boat as an asset, until consistent funding can be established for professional removal of milfoil. Denise added that there is no guarantee to this budget line item for the Belmont Conservation Commission, to keep that in mind as well. Woody suggested that the Association wait until the town meeting before selling the boat. Others noted that usage last year was minimal because getting volunteers is difficult and storing the boat is another issue.

Dennis Leclerc made a motion to give the Association Officers authority, with approval of the Board of Directors, to go ahead and sell the DASH boat in the most advantageous way possible before the next annual meeting. Angela Makin seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

## **8. New Business: Amendments to the SLA By-Laws**

### **a) Electronic Voting**

*Article IV, Paragraph 3*, in the current By-Laws states that a quorum is required for any action to be performed by the Association. According to Terry, this is often difficult to do. Instead, he suggested that e-mail voting by Members be allowed.

Dennis Leclerc made a motion to amend the By-Laws adding electronic communication (such as e-mail) as an additional method for Members of the Association to vote on an action. Jean Carbonneau seconded it, and the motion passed unanimously.

Jim Sawicki raised the question if there is a standard for establishing an electronic quorum?

### **b) Annual Dues**

*Article II* states that one vote is cast for each dues-paying family. Terry made a motion to amend the By-Laws so that a vote is cast for each individual dues-paying member. Lew seconded it, and the motion passed unanimously.

Dues have been \$20 since 1990. The Association will consider increasing the amount next year.

### **33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Boat Parade**

Dave Foote announced the 33<sup>rd</sup> annual SLA boat parade will be Thursday, July 4; and Saturday, July 6, will be the rain date. He also distributed flyers to everyone.

### **Buoy Placement**

Jim Sawicki talked to Marine Patrol to get the supervisors email address. Some of the issues include: the colors are wrong; channel markers indicate river navigation vs. ocean; none indicate shallow waters; should they all be the same color? Yes, but they are not. Jim is willing to contact the State to discuss the issue and notify Members of the results, especially since the private launch is now public.

## **9. Adjournment**

David Foote made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:18 AM, Lew Loud seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.

*Respectfully submitted by Sabina Foote*