

Swan Lake Association
Minutes of the September 12, 2016 Meeting

The Swan Lake Association enjoyed a pizza supper prior to their meeting at the Nickerson School at 6:00 P.M. on the above date. Attendance: 28.

Treasurer Bill Baxter was absent. Peggy Stout read his report; it was moved and seconded. See website for the report.

Secretary Charlotte Kerrigan read the August Minutes: they were moved and seconded, and will also be on the website.

President Marty Stout announced the sad news that Norm Stern, one of our long time board members, passed away recently. Norm had planned to arrange for some young musicians to entertain us tonight, but was unable to do so. Norm was 92, an enthusiastic supporter of the Lake Association, and will be missed very much. Marty hopes to follow up on the invitation to these musicians next year, and asked for other ideas for speakers/entertainers/events/fundraisers for 2017.

Treasurer Bill Baxter plans to send a letter to FERC and the dam owners re keeping to the Agreement made many years ago with the Town of Swanville to monitor and maintain Swan Lake levels. A meeting with the dam owners in the Spring was too late to rectify the already low level of the Lake, and the drought that has followed resulted in very low water this season which has negatively impacted all lakefront property owners.

Marty introduced Bruce Mailloux, Chairman of the Swan Lake Committee (the official name for the dam committee). Bruce has lived on the lake for 32 years and has been on the Board of the Swan Lake Association in the past. He has some questions about the proposed letter. Nick Cabral, President of Goose River Hydro, has joined in the lake monitoring, and has asserted that they plan to acquire some electronic lake level monitoring equipment. Meanwhile the current monitoring problem has supposedly been rectified. Bruce is concerned that a letter to FERC would register as a complaint but wouldn't result in any action from that group and would create undesirable friction between the dam owners and the Lake Association. Bruce questions the conclusion of the "Klein Schmidt (sp??) Study" that the Lake is down only a foot.

Responding to questions about the dam committee, Bruce explained that the Swan Lake Committee (the dam committee) is an ad hoc committee representing the three Towns fronting the lake (Swanville, Searsport and Frankfort). To a question about the agreed upon spillway, Bruce replied no work had been done on that; but that the need to repair the gates is more urgent than spillway construction. Asked about the continuation of the wording in the current Agreement into the new Agreement under the new license, Bruce wasn't sure but will find out. There were many strong comments re allowing the new contract to proceed without an agreement in writing about monitoring the lake level. Several Association members volunteered to help with monitoring, emphasizing the importance of establishing lake level monitoring as part of the new licensing agreement. The dam committee meets next week, and the point was made that we need not just monitoring but the competence to know how to interpret the numbers – this, also, to be part of the agreement. Bruce suggested sending a letter to Goose River Hydro rather than to FERC with these concerns. A question was raised regarding the licensing time frame.

President Marty Stout read aloud Treasurer Bill Baxter's proposed letter to FERC and Goose River Hydro. After much discussion a motion to send the letter was moved and seconded. An amendment was passed to hold the letter for two weeks in order to show it to Goose River in hopes of a written response agreeing to points delineated in the letter.

Thanks were expressed to President Marty Stout and to Bruce Mailloux for all their work with Goose River Hydro principals.

Kate Miklovich won the 50/50 raffle.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlotte Kerrigan
Secretary