**Lake Rescue Association Board Meeting**

**May 17, 2011**

**9AM**

Present: Mary Rita Batesole, Angi Ciufo, Kevin Davis, Jim McCall, Charley Robinson, Chris Salerno, Frank Wingate. Missing: Glenn Brown, Judy Zilvitis attended by phone

Minutes of Sept. 24, 2010 approved with correction on typo on cost of core sampling. Estimated cost was $6000—delete one zero.

1. **Membership**: As of today 74 members have paid dues. $5700 in the bank and 40% of paid members sent extra donations amounting to $1800. That extra contribution amount is typical with average gift of $25-50. We are midway through the membership process. Sent forms to 255 people and only 5 were returned for bad addresses. Of those 3 were fixed and sent again. The Lake District is not a specific designation on the Grand List which is used for this mailing, but it is a zoning term and described in the P&Z office.

Charley asks that we agree on the benefits of membership in Lake Assoc. and state it on the membership form.

Mary Rita gave Charley forms showing 10 properties changed hands with new owner addresses.

Charley noted the Grand List now contains property valuations and that 50% of the highest valued properties around the lake are not LRA members.

Cost of mailings: About $100. There will be three this spring: membership, Lake Breezes and Lake Living booklet. Use of not-for-profit mailing permit is not advantageous because can’t count on timely delivery.

1. **Water Quality: A. Core Sampling:** Prof. Andrea Lini, geologist at UVM, has been contracted to do core sampling of the sediment in Lake Rescue and Round Pond this season, beginning in May with a final report due in January 2012. The actual sampling is done from a boat in May but after that step is completed the cores are sent to a laboratory in Minnesota that Dr. Lini works with to analyze the chemical content of the sediment core and date the layers as well. The dating process will provide information that can be associated with historical events known to have occurred in the region, such as mining gold on Buffalo Creek and smelting iron ore on Patch Brook.

If at some point LRA decides to pursue steps to reduce sediment accumulation all of the data derived from the core sampling project will be required by the state permitting process to remove sediment. If LRA never seeks permits to disturb sediment, the Board and community will have a much clearer picture of why sediment is accumulating in certain areas and will probably continue to increase over time.

**B. Geomorphic Survey report** received in Dec. 2010.

This extensive examination of two major tributaries to the Black River north of Lake Rescue—Patch Brook and Buffalo Creek—is highly technical and really needs a layman’s summary, which has been requested from the researcher, geologist Kristen Underwood. The purpose of the survey is to determine sources of sediment which are accumulating in Lake Rescue and Round Pond. The process examines each stream in sections—reaches- in great detail. Extensive measurements are charted, topography described, photographed and examined in geological terms.

This season LRA needs to identify and begin projects (1 or more) suggested by the report to improve/limit transport of sediment into our lake.

The report makes very clear that both streams have been extensively affected by human activity in many places which has increased sediment being sent downstream to our lake. Whether bridges or roads, many quite ancient, or channeling the stream bed, diverting the flow, we are affected by considerable non natural interference with the streams that feed the Black River and affect our natural lake on that river. My interpretation of that fact is that LRA is in possession of the needed data to try to remedy these various actions that negatively affect the lake. Implementing these potential projects is the challenge ahead. The survey also provides evidence that might be used to support dredging efforts in the future as it clearly identifies the human---non natural--activities that have increased the sediment flow into the lake.

Acting on the survey information will occupy the Water Quality committee for some time in the future. This begins Phase II of the Water Quality work: implementation efforts based on the Phase I data gathering that has been underway for 8 years.

**C.** Kristen Underwood, Marie Caduto and Dr. Andrea Lini have been invited to speak at the Annual Meeting August 6, 2011.

1. **Water Safety:** Rules will be mailed soon. Included in the mailing envelope will be Save the Dates reminders for July 4 picnic and the Aug. 6 Annual Meeting. Kevin’s office will print these and mail by May 23.

Johnny Esau will get the buoys out by Memorial Day

1. **Nominating Process:** Mary Rita heads the committee of 3: one other board member and one non board member. Three terms are expiring and need to be filled: Jim, Judy and Angi. Angi would like to run again. One of the new nominees needs to non resident. Board currently has the required minimum of 4 resident members. Board will have a special meeting June 6 to discuss potential nominees before contacting them to determine their interest in board membership. Ballots have to go out by July 15th.

Chris mentions that she really needs to leave the board if not this year, next, as she will spend more time in Sanibel, FL and thus is seeking a new board member who would be interested in heading water quality. Chris would continue to work on the committee.

1. **Riparian Buffer Zone demonstration site:** Mary Rita reports that she has several potential sites, but none secured at this date. Purringtons, Harrison (island), McNeil (work mostly done by Amy already), the new house next to Lovelesses on Ellisions Lake Rd., and a property on Carpenters Cove. She will work on permissions for all of the above. Trees and shrubs are available at Luzenac on rte 103.
2. **July 4th celebration: the 10th annual!** Kevin and Angi are well organized: property owners have given permission, Bruce Schmidt and his equipment are secured, portapotty reserved and LRA now has year round insurance that covers this one day event. Decided not to print t-shirts this year but to use the winning design on the invitation. The drawing contest will continue, but for the invitation next year, 2012. Toni McPherson will design and mail the invitation as well as make a banner for the Board table which will contain membership forms, Lake Living booklet and other relevant information.
3. **Milfoil:** Frank reports that Lake Nineveh has found numerous plants last fall having done only partial lake surveys for several years. We continue to hire the diver to do full lake surveys twice each season. He applied for a $7400 grant March 1 and will hear soon about the grant amount. He plans to contract Chris Sheldon to do 100 hours of diving (c.$3400) and budget some for part time monitoring of the boat access. Surveys will take place in July and September. The motion was made and passed to approve $4000 for surveys (100 hrs).
4. **Lake Living Brochure:** Judy and her team of Hinda and Marty Wolf, Marge Killian and Maria Urban have done a fabulous and very timely job in producing our first booklet entitled “*So you live on a lake…now what?.”*  Thanks also to Kevin and Toni for expert technical production. The Board thanks all involved for producing a handsome brochure filled with important suggestions couched in very readable prose.
5. **Membership survey:** Glenn joined us on the phone for this discussion. The survey will have 3 sections: 1) Introduction-how and why information can be used 2) Verification of address, property location, and relevant personal information, including how to help LRA 3) segmented survey on various topics: water safety/boating; water quality/buffers/sediment; traffic and road safety; zoning and building issues; communications: Lake Breezes/website. What else is needed? He is waiting to receive a copy of the FOVLAP survey sent online last fall to see if some of those questions are relevant. Contact for that is Judy Davis davisjud@gmail.com

This survey needs to be send, answers received and analyzed in time to report at the Annual Meeting, which means being printed by August 1st.

1. **Lake Breezes.**  Next issue will be sent in the fall. Jim asks for content. Charley has some that has not been used yet.
2. **Website:** Dave Hearne, webmaster, always asking for current information: wants minutes, committee reports, newsletters and new building permits. MR will provide the latter. Judy provided Lake Living brochure info and several recent board minutes. All minutes should be posted, though executive sessions(personnel) should be eliminated before posting.
3. **Loon:** has been heard and seen on the lake. Johnny Esau is cleaning the platform and will reinstall it in the cove across from his house. He will monitor it during the season..
4. **Other business**: A. Road signs: Jim met with Frank Heald to discuss process for posting new signs for “Caution- Recreation Area”. Frank wants a specific proposal. Jim will suggest about 10 sites for such signs which will also say sponsored by Lake Rescue Association. LRA will pay town for signs**. B. Better Back Roads** granted LRA $8800 for work on Ellisons Lake Rd hill going down to Stewarts. From Beydens a culvert will be installed crossing to the east side, down east side and redo catch basin above Stewarts. Thanks to Jim for his work on this grant applicaton. **C. Bumper stickers: “Get Sedimental”** as a fun way to draw attention to our sediment problem **.** Jim discussed this with Allen Grant who has PR background. These signs will cost $200 for 150 oval green signs.

Angi asked if these could be magnetized rather than glue backed? Jim will check cost of same.

**D. Large float that fills Carpenters Cove:** Kevin raised issue of placement of large inflated platforms that blocks access to his dock. Problem issue is the water is the state’s domain, but people need to be reminded to be considerate in placement of these very noticeable and large objects. **E. Annual meeting speakers:** Chris will invite Kristen Underwood, Marie Caduto and Dr. Andrea Lini.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Salerno, Acting Secretary