



Little York Lake Preservation Society Annual Meeting minutes June 7, 2025

Meeting called to order 10:05 AM

by Robyn Fisher (President Gary Lawrence absent) at Dwyer Memorial Main Pavilion

Board Attendees:

President	Absent	Treasurer: Don Fisher
Vice President	Robyn Fisher	Secretary: Julie Palermo
Past President:	Paul Stepien	Directors: Jarrett Regard and Bridget Cox

Minutes from September Annual Meeting Review: Robyn Fisher

Linda Vanberkom made a motion to accept the minutes of the 2024 September Annual Meeting, Susie Norton 2nd motion. Motion carried.

Elections

Robyn Fisher elected as Vice President

Marie Ferro elected as Treasurer, Kelly Regard will take on C-OFOKLA representation from Marie

Treasurer Report: Don Fisher

Financials were reviewed for 2023, 2024 actuals and 2025 planned budget. Both Little York Lake Preservation Society Funds (LYLPS) and Little York Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District (LYLPRD) financials were presented. Any surplus from the LYLPRD are carried over year to year. 2024 expenses ended with a surplus of \$2300 which will flow into 2025. Current balance is \$19,923 with a budget of \$22,039 for 2025 including 17.3k reserved for lake treatments and harvesting. William Luety made a motion to accept the report and Jim Reeners 2nd the motion. Motion carried.

Old Business

- 2024 Lake Plan results
 - Volunteers thanked for CSLAP water testing in 2024. This is our 16th year and all results can be seen on the NYSFOLA website. On that page we are known as Upper LYL. The Lake temperature has remained consistent year over year.
 - We continue to partner with C-OFOKLA to whom we pay \$200 annual dues to do outreach and education.
 - The boat steward station is still maintained in Dwyer Park.
 - With Cofokla, Marie Ferro as our representative held a field day for all county 6 graders, about 100 kids to teach them about Clean/Drain/Dry concepts.
 - Given the costs to perform large scale dredging of the lake (in the millions), fundraising is curtailed at this point. If we come up with another targeted plan for dredging that might be feasible, we will revisit fundraising.
 - Organizationally: Always seeking new board members to bring fresh ideas.
- Homer Billboards



- o Bridget Cox gave an update regarding Homer Town Board efforts to allow large LED billboards along the 81 corridor in the Town of Homer..
 - Despite widespread disapproval, the board appears to continue to push forward. One proposed location is by the cell tower at the south end of the Lake. Concerns for this project include property value devaluation, light pollution, impacts of continuous lighting on the abundant wildlife in the area, and safety concerns along I81.
 - The board must complete an SEQR process.
 - There is at least one town resident running for the Homer Town Board in November, but this may be too late to stop their efforts. A simple majority is all that is required to pass this project once the SEQR process is complete.
 - There was discussion whether the Town of Preble could object to this given some proposed billboard locations will impact Town of Preble residents. While several community members have reached out to the county legislator for Preble as well as the Town of Preble Board, there seems to be no interest by these representatives in getting involved.
 - The next Town meeting is this coming Wednesday June 11 at 6:30 pm and while the subject of billboards is NOT on the agenda, the board has in the past brought motions forward. It's important that the public continue to attend these meetings to ensure that those opposing the billboards are represented and to ensure the public is kept aware.

New Business

- Sheriff department update: Sergeant Paul Stillman 607-758-5531
 - o Marine Services: 518-474-0445. People who want to take the boater safety course should call and sign up. The last offered class had many no-shows. Marine Services asks that you give 3 days notice if you have to cancel. The next class is scheduled for July 12 behind the Cortland Fire Station in the regional training center.
 - o The Sheriff department expects to have their new boat before July 4th. The public is encouraged to call the Sergeant Paul Stillman or the Sheriff dept if you have information about boating issues.
 - o Questions about licensing for out of state boats that reside in both NYS and another state were asked and should be referred back to Sergeant Paul Stillman as he didn't have the answer at the meeting.
- 2025 Lake Plan
 - o We are always looking for volunteers to perform HAB and Macrophyte monitoring. Water testing has begun for our 16th year.
 - o The boat steward program will be operating again this year as in the past. There was an issue brought up where it was noticed that individuals are using the cleaning station to clean their cars and insides of boats and NOT the outside of the boat. The board will follow up with CCS&W with this feedback.
 - o C-OFOKLA had an event today in Cortland Water Works, Marie Ferro represented our association.



- o Sediment study by CCS&W was kicked off in May. There are buoys deployed to help measure the sediment build up from the channel by I81 and from the stream headed into the lake via Dwyer Memorial Park as these were deemed the most critical areas.
- o New harvester purchased by CCS&W (160K) should be arriving this month and we expect to have it on Little York Lake at various times throughout the summer, not just for a week or two.
- o Treatments for Milfoil and Curly leaf pondweed require both DEC permit approval (obtained) and Wetland permit approval. Indications are the wetland permit approval will be provided this month which will allow treatments to begin later in June or July.
- o The new harvester will be used for individual homeowner harvesting around docks and shorelines for a fee. Several home owners have already expressed an interest. CCS&W will work with the LYLPS to run a pilot of this effort. If anyone wants to be included in the pilot they should go to <https://www.littleyorklake.com/> and fill out the survey.
- Lake Management Committee and Communication Committee
 - o The board is working to form these 2 subcommittees and getting more individuals from the lake association involved. The lake management committee will focus on the yearly work plan and the communication committee will focus on managing email contacts for home owners and preparing content for the web site <https://www.littleyorklake.com/> .
 - o Preservation society members are encouraged to help the board in one of these 2 committees to spread the work around and get more people involved.
- The boat parade will be held on July 5 at 6 pm. Boats should be assembled by the Dwyer Park Pier. Laura Fergossi in charge of judging.

Linda Vanberkom made a motion to adjourn at 11:10 am. Roland Lascari 2nd motion. Motion carried.