

Pattagansett Lake Association Annual Meeting  
July 10, 2024 at 6PM

Mick Byrne, President called the meeting to order at 6:10 PM on the Campground Beach Front. He welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming, and he also asked everyone to sign in and take a name tag if they would like. 30 people were in attendance. Mick introduced the Board Members and asked Donna Byrne, Secretary to read the minutes from our last annual meeting on July 13, 2023.

Secretary's report was read, and there were no corrections. Don Danila moved to accept the minutes, and Kristine Holohan seconded, minutes passed.

Wendy Richardson, Treasurer reported on the costs for herbicide treatments and the hydro raking. She also covered our intake from membership dues, and the balance in our account. Copies were given to the President and Secretary. Don moved to accept the report, Paul Miller seconded and report passed.

Mick updated everyone on a bit of the history behind what our board was trying to accomplish. He explained our unsuccessful efforts to get a grant, (41 applicants, 13 grants awarded), how the herbicide works and what results we should expect. He explained the DEEP endangered plant survey requirement to modify our permit to include alternative herbicides, the permit

process, and the expected lower cost to use them. He notified everyone that the herbicide treatment would be July 19<sup>th</sup>.

Don explained the grant process and what lakes received grant money, and what the money was to be used for. The Board was obviously disappointed not to get the grant, but we plan to try again next round. Don also gave a short explanation of the hydrilla infestation on the CT River and its introduction to several CT lakes, some local to us, and efforts to alert the public to the danger and how it is spread, including improved signage at the boat launch.

Mick reviewed our efforts to get town support for lake maintenance, a meeting with the first selectman, and unsuccessful results thus far. He also mentioned our failed outreach to the unresponsive rowing association who receive significant funding from the town for the crew program. Wendy explained how we treated the boat launch and rowing dock areas last year, the excellent results it produced, and the continued failure of those parties to support us.

Jim Mingo asked about plans for hydro raking this year. Paul Miller said it is planned for late September-early October. A minimum of 40 hours is required at \$250/hour. We have a 5-year permit for hydro raking.

Don gave a presentation of the various weeds in the lake explaining which weeds were controlled by ProcellaCOR and which were not to show why our permit modification is

necessary. He also explained how he has conducted regular water testing on the lake from May-September over the past four years and that overall our lake is in relative good condition, (midway between oligotrophic and eutrophic states).

Mick introduced Bill Potvin and Kristine Holohan, professional artists who are managing the new Pattagansett Arts Center, the former Girl Scout camp property. They shared their vision for the property as a place for nature to interact with art in many forms. They anticipate daily programs for students lead by teachers and guest artists, minimal changes to the structures on the property except to update them, and are working to clean up and get the property ready for these activities. They thanked the association for its support and emphasized how they want to be engaged in our community. Bill and Kristine are among our new members, along with Rob Bernardo.

Mick announced that due to recent changes in the board membership over the past few years, all four officer positions and four of the five director positions were open for nominations. All four officers, Mick, Don, Donna and Wendy were elected to new two-year terms by voice vote. Kevin Scanlon was voted to retain his director position and new board members David Harlow, Wayne Gronlund and Wendy Petersen were nominated and voted onto the board. Paul Miller's term carried over. The association bylaws state the terms for these positions should be staggered so not all come up for renewal at once. The board will need to determine how to address this.

Prior to adjournment, Mick acknowledged the efforts of Wendy Richardson leading the effort to get the lake's first herbicide permit and thanked Don Danila for his expertise and continued support of the association's activities.

Don moved to adjourn, Paul seconded, meeting adjourned at approximately 7:30.

Respectfully submitted,  
Donna Byrne,  
Secretary