

Mattatall Lake Stewardship Association

AGM Sunday June 5, 2022 1 pm Wentworth Rec Center

Welcome - Donna Spracklin (President)

Members present 12 (voting), 16 individuals

1. **Minutes of the previous AGM June 16, 2021** - *Motion to approve the minutes as circulated Moved :Jake J, 2nd Keith Loudon, Carried*
2. **Synopsis of 2021 and Plans for 2022 - Reports: Lake Water Quality and Monitoring** - Donna - Lake Water quality in 2021 was good, Tphosphorus levels are low at less than 0.010 milligrams/Liter. Keith Loudon sampled for one final year last year and wrote the follow up report: Measurement of Water Properties in Mattatall Lake. July to October 2021. This sampling was funded by the NSECC and we wish to thank them for their support. The purpose of this report is to continue the quantification of TP input from deep water overturning at site M4 (SW basin, Mattatall Lake). After 4 years of testing at M4 - the deep water site of the lake the most consistent pattern is low phosphorus values in the upper 7-8 M with the TP increasing exponentially below this depth to reach very high levels in the anoxic 9-10 M depth. However as the amount of water at those depths represents less than 1% of the total volume of the lake, the significance of TP release from the lower depths to the upper areas by the fall overturning is not significant once fully mixed. Keith has now retired from all testing. We have been most fortunate to have his level of expertise doing our lake water testing, analysing data and writing reports. In case you do not know Keith, he was - (rumor is he still is?) on staff with the Dalhousie Dept of Oceanography and the Bedford Institute of Oceanography. We thank him greatly.....

The level of the lake water is fluctuating less and the flow of water at the outflow has increased, This is cleaning some of the sedimentation away from the outflow area. The MLSA board makes the assumption that the reason for these positive flow changes is the removal of the culverts and causeway on Aqua Vista Dr that impeded the flow of water. We feel that this action has made a great positive impact on the general health of the lake.

Current Monitoring will be Spring Summer and Fall sampling for Tphos along with Secchi readings for clarity. The torch has been passed. I am now in possession of the sampling device. (A horizontal Van Dorne bottle) and I have been trained in standard sampling methodology. One water sample will be taken at a depth of 2 meters at the deep spot of the lake designated M4 in the SW Basin of the lake. A spring summer and fall sample will be taken and submitted to the QE II Environmental Lab in Halifax. Each sample costs \$26.70. (Total Budget \$100). We have applied for and received the ok to have this sampling supported by the NSECC. The May sample has been taken, no results to date.

Communications - Donna Newsletters and website updates were stalled this year. My apologies, we had good plans which did not materialize. Kristi has resigned and we thank her for her great ideas and efforts and hope she finds more free time in the years ahead. The board believes that information transferral - education and updates and news is a big part of what we should be concentrating on now and we know you didn't hear much from us last year. We are hoping you missed the newsletters! It is a challenge to keep emails current and the email list current and correct. So I ask for forgiveness for our lack of expertise in some of these areas. Tammy Chitty has agreed to come on board to take over communications and the website but will not have the time until July. We know that too much on one person gets onerous. She has taken this on with the understanding that she will not be a board member but the agent that organizes, writes and distributes and maintains the website/and or adds another social media way to communicate with the idea of making the process easier. The MLSA Website is an ideal place to store the amount of research data and information that has been collected about Mattatall Lake to date and we do not want to lose that. But we need to be able to update it and keep it current and useful as well.

So welcome Tammy and hopefully we can streamline the process of communication in the summer ahead!

Buoys and Loons and Aquatic plant growth intro - Gary Jollimore
-Buoys - The white buoys are placed to indicate shallow water - slow

down. There is still a stockpile of extras. If someone wishes one please let him know.

Loons are back. The older floating nest in the middle basin is still there and Bob McLean and Gary are in the process of building a 2nd floating nest to be placed in the SW basin where a pair of loons have been seen spending time. Loons are known to spend some time and sometimes years in choosing a nesting site so they are hopeful this pair will choose this spot.

It is hoped that with the lake water outflow faster there will be less water elevation and perhaps less flooding of nests. Also we would like to emphasize that loons like their privacy and trying to get close to them agitates them. It is best to keep your distance from the loons and loon nesting sites! Respect their space.

Aquatic Plants - they are more prolific and different species are appearing. A worrisome one is a tough vine that is well rooted and seems to entangle your legs when swimming. We are asking for other lakiers to help ID the aquatic plants in the lake this summer so we can all become more knowledgeable. The main control of excess or invasive aquatic plants is "weeding". See the ***Aquatic Plant Resource*** page attached.

GOOD NEWS - The hemlock grove known locally as "Hemlock Hill" has been taken over by the Nature Conservancy of Canada. We would like to thank Al Bonnyman for his generosity.

As you may be aware there is an invasive insect called the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid moving westward in Nova Scotia. It is nearly a 100% fatal outcome for infected trees. There is pesticidal treatment available but is expensive and given individually to trees by injection. There are other ways of treatment under development. So far the disease is rampant in hemlocks in Kedgie and area. All local hemlocks are expected to be infected within a few years. We are asked to be on the lookout for this insect. Early detection is helpful. There will be in future much volunteer effort needed to help save these trees.

Addendum: HWA(Hemlock Woolly Adelgid) found in Kentville Gorge, May 2022.

[Saltwire.com/atlantic-canada/communities/hemlock-woolly-adelgid-discovered-in-the-gorge-in-kentville-ns-100725802/](https://saltwire.com/atlantic-canada/communities/hemlock-woolly-adelgid-discovered-in-the-gorge-in-kentville-ns-100725802/)

3. Treasurer's Report - Year End Financials - Presented by Jake Jacobson (Shirley Sorsdahl is away)

MATTATALL STEWARDSHIP ASSOCIATION TREASURER'S REPORT

Bank Balance as of 1 April 2021 \$ 2742.55

CREDITS:

Dues	\$ 735.00
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Grant Colchester County	\$ 321.00
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TOTAL CREDITS	\$ 1056.00
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DEBITS:

Bank Fees (monthly fees and

e-transfer fees)	\$ 54.45
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NALMS yearly Dues	\$ 214.36
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Insurance	\$ 642.00
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Web Design (2021)	\$ 138.00
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Web Design (2022)	\$ 45.88
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Registry of Joint Stocks	\$ 31.15
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TOTAL EXPENSES **\$ 1125.84**

Credits Minus Debits **\$ (69.84)**

BANK BALANCE as 30 April 2022: **\$ 2672.71**

MOTION: To accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Moved Gary J, 2nd Kim Lily, Motion Carried

4.Budget - Presented by Jake Jacobson (Shirley Sorsdahl is away) see attached

Discussion on the budget - The board wishes to discuss suspending the Directors and Officers Liability Insurance and the North American Lake Management Society (NALMS) expenses This would reduce our expenses by \$410 + \$225 = \$635. With the number of members in the low 30's and the membership fee at \$25 the yearly revenue is barely covering the expenses. The goal of the MLSA board is to reduce expenses to live within the annual revenue and to avoid reducing the reserve fund. The need for the NALMS membership was not felt to be high at this time as the lake water has been excellent.

The need for the Director's and Officer's Liability Insurance is difficult to know as it involves legalities and future events. The concern is liability from an event involving the outflow bridge, the MLSA feels the responsibility of having had it built but as we are not the owner of the bridge, we are not sure where responsibility is placed. Wade Parker will seek a legal opinion from the lawyer who works with the county . The feeling is that there is not much else that this board would have a liability issue with at the present time. But, membership numbers may be greatly helped by the collection of membership fees along with the road fees of

French and Alba Rds. This may make finances much less tight, but again, if there is not a need for the insurance, why incur the expense. The pros include - being prepared for the unhappy unexpected, and peace of mind for board members to not be concerned about their personal liability.

The desire and need to commit the current MLSA reserve to a special fund to be designated for maintenance of the Aqua Vista Dr outflow bridge was discussed. Also the desire to commit a portion of unused funds to the special fund yearly. Discussion ensued about how much of unused funds to be committed. To set it annually or have a pre designated amount. Discussion about how a designated amount may limit flexibility to use the funds for other more pressing at the time issues.

MOTION: That NALMS (North American Lake Management Society) Membership be suspended at this time-to be reinstated as the need arises and resources allow. Moved: Wade Parker 2nd Faye Jacobson, Motion Carried

The draft motion that the board was intending to move (The Board moves that the Directors Liability Insurance be considered for suspension at this time-to be reinstated as the need arises and resources allow..) **was tabled.**

MOTION: Moved that the board pay the Directors and Liability Insurance for the current year, and reconsider this expense after obtaining more information on their need for liability protection especially regarding the Aqua Vista outflow bridge. Moved Kim Lily, 2nd Keith Loudon - Carried.

MOTION: Moved that the Budget be accepted as revised. Moved Adele Loudon, 2nd Colin Isnor, Motion Carried.

MOTION: Moved that a reserve fund dedicated to the maintenance of the Aqua Vista outflow Bridge be established and this issue be brought back at the next MLSA AGM to determine an annual contribution. Moved Wade Parker, 2nd Kim Lily, Carried.

Valuable comments were received about how the Lake Road Associations should share expertise and information and the suggestion that a person from each Road Association be appointed to act on the MLSA board. Comments as well about email lists of lake residents - are we missing a lot of people? The south east corner of the lake is less available with no one group association.

5. Election of the 2022-23 Board Members:

Returning: Donna Spracklin , Shirley Sorsdahl, Jake Jacobson, Gary Jollimore

New Offering: Michele Gillis, Dave (Bud) Morton

With no nominations from the floor the above were acclaimed. Welcome Michele and Bud!

Group Discussion: Growth of Lake Aquatic Plants: - Group sharing of Information - What are you seeing? - We would like to catalog what we have in Mattatall Lake - use internet resources - see notes from Cameron Deacoff, Surface Water Quality Special, Nova Scotia Environment and Climate Change.

We encourage everyone to take pictures and attempt an ID of any worrisome plants - we would like to gather information and become more aware and knowledgeable about that that grows in the lake. As far as we are aware to date the main control that is both available and practical and generally environmentally friendly is to pull up and remove from the water any invasive aquatic plant. Typically by hand - just like weeding a garden. But be aware - some plants spread easily by any bits that float away so try to remove all pieces as best possible. Send any pictures you take to Donna Despracklin@gmail.com or Gary at gamfur@gmail.com

Note: Aquatic Plants are much better to have than algae!

MOTION to adjourn - Adele L. 2.45 pm.