**Welcome**

Keith Louden welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

**Present**: Keith Louden (President), Gary Jollimore (Vice-President), Donna Spracklin (Secretary), John Green, Jake Jacobson

**Absent**: Deborah Lusby, Rod Dennis

**Total Members Present**: 16, Total Individuals Present-30.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Business arising from the minutes**:

1. **Minutes of the last meeting** **June 17, 2018** were approved as circulated. Moved – Faye Jacobson, seconded Henry Smitt.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Annual Report** - See attached MLSA Annual Report 2018-19. Keith Louden presented the report.

2..1 – **Loon nest cages** – the floating loon nesting platform and cage (eagle protection) are up but the loons are choosing to not use them yet – they are nesting beside them…. The high water of late has flooded the nests again.

2.2 – **The State of the Lake** - There was no algal bloom in 2018 and tests to date show the lake to be in the preferred Oligotrophic (TPhos of 4-10) to the worrisome a bit higher Mesotrophic(TPhos of 10-20) range. Water sampling and analysis was done in 2018 by the Center for Water Resources Studies (CWRS), Dalhousie University, and the MLSA and will continue in 2019. The source of phosphorus in the lake water arrives via the 14 streams that carry water into the lake, direct run off from the lakeshore, and from the phosphorus that has settled into the lake bottom sediment, and subsequently is re-released under certain conditions. Certain streams have had high phosphorus levels over the past few years. A definitive source of the higher stream levels has not been ascertained to date, but is still being investigated. So far in 2019 the higher TPhos values in the streams have been greatly reduced. More sampling will follow this over the summer. The water temperatures are being tracked again at the water testing station moored at the deepest part of the lake (11 m) in the first bowl. The water temperatures in July and August of 2018 were 3-5 degrees C higher than in 2017. The hot water gets trapped above the colder deeper water and the cold water becomes anoxic, or lacking in oxygen. This allows for phosphorus to dissolve into the lake water from the sediment. In 2018 the levels of TPhos were found to be over 500 microgm/L in the deep area. This is a high level and this phosphorus will get mixed into the rest of the lake water when the fall overturn occurs, raising the phosphorus level in the lake water itself. This is theorized to be a possible trigger to a fall algal bloom. As the amount of deep water in Mattatall Lake is only about 1 % of the total water, we are hopeful the amount of dilution will mitigate the effect.

Summary – Water quality in Mattatall Lake is acceptable at this time, but it is fragile. Stewardship measures that reduce the churning of the lake bottom sediment are important. Slow down when boating in shallow areas! Avoid adding phosphorus to the land – skip the fertilizer, maintain the septic.

* 1. **Atlantic Data Stream** – Data collected by the MLSA is being sent to the Atlantic Data Stream which is a repository or archive for data for the Atlantic Provinces and Quebec. This data is available to anyone from this website.
  2. **Continued study** – The CWRS (Dalhousie University) continues to study 5 lakes in Cumberland County (Cumberland County Water Quality Study). We are pleased to have Mattatall Lake be part of this study for the 3rd year.
  3. **Outflow Project** – The Bridge Construction Timeline was summarized from the start in 2016.

After considerable time and effort and financial help especially from residents of the Mattatall Lake Community, Gridline Construction is set to do this project in July. As a main concern of all is to not result in a lake with lowered water levels, a continuous remote water depth sensor has been installed that will record lake water levels above the outflow. Rain events are also being noted which explains the pattern of lake water levels rising and falling. It was started in May 2019. The water level is expected to fall more quickly after a rain event after the culvert is replaced by the bridge, but the depth of the drop is determined by the stream bed, which is being carefully set to the current level. Please note that the lake water levels could fall below the level set by the outflow stream bed by times should there be an extended dry spell.

Pictures were shown of how the bridge is 24 feet long and will replace the 1 main culvert outflow. John Green who with his engineering expertise and connections and donated time has been instrumental in getting this project accomplished gave a summary of the bridge construction. To meet the environmental guidelines, the bridge road surface will be 3 feet higher than the existing road surface. The bridge is a steel and pressure treated lumber structure. Routine maintenance is expected to be low. For the first 5-8 years, minimal repairs are expected. The steel has a long lifespan, but the paint will need to be maintained. The decking of wood will expect to need some replacing after 10-12 years. The bridge is built to a weight allowance of 30T that of a legally loaded truck on NS highways. The MLSA will erect a sign to denote that. Excessive load could damage the bridge.

**Motion:** ***That the MLSA board acknowledges that on completion of the Outflow Project that will replace the single westernmost culvert (of the existing 4 culverts) with a steel bridge where the road crosses the Mattatall Lake Outflow Stream, it accepts responsibility for future maintenance and repairs associated with the bridge structure***. **Moved**- Wade Parker, **Seconded** Bob MacLean, **Motion carried**.

Jake Jacobson explained that the EMO have been advised of the impending road closure and will have a contingency plan. Any calls to 911 from the affected Aqua Vista addresses should be met with the flag that the road access is unavailable and trigger the EMO response.

Ferry service as needed and/or docking places are available to allow affected residents access to their cottages. Details will be finalized and distributed to the Aqua vista Drive properties.

* 1. **Financial Reports** – Last year the MLSA started with a bank balance of $30,530.74. Donations from committed lake residents added $23,627 ear marked solely for this project. A donation of $2000 was received from the Maritime and Northeastern Pipeline. With a total of $36,247 raised in 2018. The MLSA had expenses of $4,311.31 in 2018-19. This consisted of the ongoing annual for the Hall rental, Registry of Joint Stocks, Insurance, Bank, and TPhos Lab Fees. New expenses included $1500 for the Shoreline Remediation Workshop, $784.88 for the Website, and $575 for Bower Construction. Cash in the bank now totals $62,426.05.

The 2019-20 Budget includes at outlay of $59,800 for bridge construction, similar annual amounts as before, $500 for watershed signage and $400 for the North American Lake Management Society fee which was put on hold last year. $6000 has been allotted for dredging upstream of the bridge to be done when funding allows. Our main funding comes from donations from the lake residents – our members.

Appreciation needs to be shown- the lake residents have donated generously for this project – in 2018 $23,627 extra over and above the yearly membership donations that have been accumulating over the past few years and will now go towards this project. Also to mention the $2000 corporate donation from the MNE Pipeline and the $3000 donation from the Municipality of Cumberland in 2017. The project has been brought to fruition by John Green, a board member and also a professional engineer with Giffen Consulting, Amherst. He has donated countless hours. We say thank you very much to all and we are proud of our commitment to see this project through and it has not been quick or easy.

Audit – an audit has not been done as yet. With the completion of the bridge the intention will be to request an audit. The anticipated expense would be $600.

**Motion to approve the Budget-** **Moved** Rodger Sorsdahl, **Seconded** Adele McSorley. **Motion Carried.**

1. **Appeal for support for the Boat Launch** – the boat launch was built and is maintained by the South Mattatall Lake Association. It is widely used by lake residents for boat access to the lake. The Alba Rd is in need of significant repair work after damage from a collapse of a beaver dam. Rodger Sorsdahl on behalf of the South Mattatall Lake Association sends out an appeal to the other lake residents to help out to repair the access to the boat launch. As you share the use of the launch, please share the upkeep on the road.
2. **By-Laws –**

Special Resolution to amend By-Law 23

**Current By-Law 23:**

*The number of directors shall be 9. The subscribers to the Memorandum of Association of the Society shall be the first directors of the Society.*

**Proposed Amendment**:

**By-Law 23**: *The number of directors shall be 7.*

**Motion:** ***That the above proposed amendment to By-Law 23 be accepted***. **Moved** Henry Smitt, **Seconded** Faye Jacobson **Motion Carried.**

1. **Nomination of new board members** – John Green and Rod Dennis are stepping down. We thank them for their efforts and they will be missed. John has been asked to oversee the installation of the Outflow Project and he has generously agreed to follow it along to completion. There are currently 2 board positions open. Interested members are asked to contact a board member.

**Meeting adjourned 2.45 pm**