**Minutes of General Members Meeting**

**Leesville Lake Association, October 14, 2023, Altavista Train Station**

**Present:** Roy Kelley, Chip Zimmerman, Teri Thomas, Mary Loiselle, Debra Kiraly, Dave Rives, Dave Waterman, Charlie Hamilton, Cynthia Coleman, Pam McMillan

**Absent:**  Jeff Markiewicz, Bill Beckett, Dannie Smith, and Edwin Hanson.

**Quorum:** Yes

**Call to order:** The President, Roy Kelley, called the Leesville Lake Association Meeting to order at 10:35 AM at the Altavista Train Station.

**Introductions:** Board of Directors, all other attendees (members) and guest speaker.

**Guest Speaker:** Reg Anderson, presentation on the Real Estate Market on Leesville Lake included the following:

* Low inventory of houses for sale.
* Original lot prices decreased significantly over the years.
* High interest mortgage rates have affected price and sales.
* Advertising a property includes using multiple venues such as: MLS, Realtor.com, company websites, Facebook, printed brochures/magazines, etc.
* Suggested a new updated brochure/map of the lake would be useful to display at various locations in the area such as Chamber of Commerce, Welcome Centers, etc.

Q&A afterwards focused on the debris issues, advertising venues for properties, etc.

**Treasurer Report**: given by Mary Loiselle, acting for Edwin Hanson, Treasurer

* End of the fiscal year occurred on August 31st.
* Beautification Day sponsors helped with cost.
* Income from Dues
* Water quality – most expenses are covered by entities outside of the association.
* Stated that accounting books are not published.

**Committee Reports:**

1. **Executive *(****Organizational Succession Planning)*
* New Board Members:
	+ Debra Kiraly (Runaway Bay)
	+ Edwin Hanson (Runaway Bay)
* Secretary Position – OPEN. President asked if anyone is interested to contact him to discuss. Teri Thomas agreed to take minutes until the position is filled.
* Treasurer Position – Edwin Hanson is the new Treasurer.
* Navigation Chair – Glenn Coleman is the new Chair.

**b. Beautification Day:** Roy Kelley, Committee Chair

* Save the date for **2024 – Saturday, June 8.**
* There is a need for boats, chainsaws, and committed members to help.
* Volunteers needed.
* Increasing debris collected each year.
* Any tarps or other materials needed to participate please contact Roy.
1. **Debris:** Pam McMillan, Committee Chair
2. A regular monthly survey was performed on October 5th, 2023. Appalachian's report was sent to
our committee on the 10th. Our committee also participated and in our observations were in line
with APCo.
3. In general, the lower half of the lake's man channel and especially shorelines, are in much better
shape compared to the upper half of the lake.
4. Typically, in past years AEP would have drastically reduced or ceased on lake debris removal
efforts at this point, with the exception of protecting the Leesville Dam intake. However,
Management proposed plans going forward on their report indicates that:
5. "The Leesville Lake Crew will work 2-3 days a week concentrating on the areas between
MM7 and MM-13.
6. Appalachian's contractor will assist, as available, 1-2 days per week with debris removal work being done out of Three Pipes (MM8), concentrating on areas above MM8."
7. Removal updates:
-Between September 9, 2023 and September 29, 2023, the Leesville Lake Crew worked 8 days
and the Contractor worked 2 days on Leesville Lake.
-AEP lake crew removed 175 tons.
-The contractor removed 40 tons.
-Total tons removed since January are 2460. (For comparison, SML total tons 1090 as of June)
8. **Membership:** Cynthia Coleman, Committee Chair
9. 35 members in attendance 10/14
10. 231 household members
11. 30 members not invoiced
12. 6 former members returned as members
13. Free LVL stickers available
14. Maps not available at this meeting
15. Duplicate accounts issue:
16. Occurs when someone pays online but signs up again under another name different from the first signup, such as using a nickname.
17. Postcards to be sent to those with duplicate accounts.

**e. Navigation:** Glenn Coleman, Committee Chair

 1) I met with Joe Humphries who brought me up to date on the issues that concern this committee.

 I am thankful that Joe has and shared his grasp of the history and future issues

 concerning Navigation.

 2) There was an incident reported to the association by a LLA member from Eagle Point Shores.

a) The complaint centered on an incident during a recent holiday weekend. Two personal

 watercraft drove recklessly around a hazard buoy near the family’s dock endangering the

 dock and other people in the vicinity. Joe Humphries advised the family on possible

 solutions, and I contacted them to assure them that I will take such action as necessary to

 warn people against such reckless behavior.

b) I urge members to be alert to any watercraft operated in a way that endangers people or

 property. Most of us have cellphones with cameras that can take a picture of the offending

 vessel and its registration numbers. Those pictures and a description of the behavior can to

 sent to the Department of Wildlife Resources (DWR).

 3) Reports of reckless behavior can be sent through one of the three avenues listed here:

*  Call DWR at 800-237-5712
*  Email DWR at WildCrime@dwr.virginia.gov
*  Text DWR at on their top line using this number 847411

**f. Water Quality:** Charlie Hamilton, Committee Chair

 1) No overall health concerns for recreational use.
 2) Two threats to the lake are evident and are being carefully monitored. These are:
 a) Low dissolved oxen in the tailwaters from Smith Mountain Lake Dam. Appalachian's

 VDEQ Virginia Water Protection Individual Permit No 08-0572 (Permit) expires on March 31,
 2025. LLA has communicated to APCo and FERC that APCo's resolution of the DO challenge
 should be central to whether Permit 08-0572 is renewed, or not.
b) Poor water quality of the Pigg River (subject to 2023 studies)

 3) **SMITH MOUNTAIN HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT** July 2023 Monthly Water Quality Monitoring
 Report ES Project No.: 16402 Date: 10/9/2023, Results show data from:

1. Instantaneous DO values ranged from 3.3 mg/L to 8.9 mg/L, with an average of 4.9 mg/L.
2. Daily average DO values ranged from 3.8 mg/L to 8.0 mg/L, with a median of 4.9 mg/L.

 DO concentrations decreased from the beginning to the end of July, with 21 -30 August 2023 being

 the days most out of tolerance.

 4) **2023 Pigg River Studies** first sampling conducted October 11, 2023.
 *2023 Pigg River Study Objectives:*

* 1. In 2023, we propose a further investigation of bacterial content in the waters of the Pigg River
	and its sediment.
	2. We will employ the same sampling strategy as utilized in 2022, but analysis of
	the nature of bacteria present will be assessed by 16s next generation sequencing (16s
	NGS). This analysis will provide information about the classes of bacteria present, their
	metabolism and pathogenicity. Thus, we hope to determine if the presence of large quantities
	of E. coli presents a human health threat or reflects ongoing processes of vegetative decay in
	the sediment.
	3. We should also be able to assess the nature of bacteria in the Pigg River waters
	during low flow and increased runoff conditions.
	4. Key parameters to be tracked are turbidity, total phosphorus, nitrate-nitrogen, pH, dissolved
	oxygen, and two bacteriological tests - E. coli and Enterococci coliform bacteria. Additionally,
	16s NGS will be utilized to further characterize the prevalence of different classes of bacteria in
	the Pigg River and its sediment. This information will allow us to identify appropriate potential
	risks to human health, courses of action and partners (government agencies and municipalities)
	with whom we can address the problem.

5) **HAB Smith Mountain Lake**
 The Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) advisory is no longer in effect for Blackwater River arm of Smith
 Mountain Lake. No HAB was found to be in Leesville Lake waters.

**TLAC Update** *(from October meeting)***: Dave Rives (LLA Rep)**

* APCo is in the final stages of purchasing additional land needed for Myers Creek offload/chipping facility site.
* Pigg River – APCo is still studying siltation issues.
* APCo Shore Line Management Plan to be reviewed for update with FERC in 2024. TLAC and LLA are involved in the review and comment period.

**AEP/APCo:** Next meeting is December 12, 2023. Roy and the committee chairs of the Water Quality, Navigation and Debris committee to attend.

**AEP Technical Review Committee Updates:** No meetings have been held.

**Old Business:**  No old business.

**New Business:**

* Calendars for Sale (Thanks to Melissa Croteau) Additional copies being ordered.
* TLAC rep needed to replace Dave Rives.
* Motion by Dave Rives nominating Roy Kelley, Motion 2nd by Charlie Hamilton.
* Vote taken and nominee approved by all present.

**Adjourn:**

Motion: Charlie Hamilton made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:10. Mary Loiselle seconded. All approved.