



## **Loon Preservation Committee**

P.O. Box 604, 183 Lee's Mill Road, Moultonborough, NH 03254  
603-476-LOON (5666) Fax 603-476-5497 [www.loon.org](http://www.loon.org)

### **Minutes of the Loon Preservation Committee Annual Meeting, August 25, 2022 Via Zoom**

Tom Deans, Trustee called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. He explained that he was standing in for Board Chair Kristen Begor while she was away celebrating her son's wedding. Tom welcomed members, volunteers and guests. He noted that 90% of LPC's funding comes from members and donors. He also noted that without volunteers' eyes on the 300 plus lakes LPC monitors, data would be significantly less robust. Tom asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the August 26, 2021 Annual Meeting. Members were asked to respond via chat if they had questions or objections; there being none, the minutes were approved.

Tom noted that Kristen had provided some thoughts to share. She asked Tom to relay her thanks to three groups. First Kristen sent her thanks to Harry and the staff of LPC who work tirelessly for the loons of New Hampshire. Tom added that he was also very proud of Harry and his staff for their work in a taxing year that included Covid, the wrap up of the Capital Campaign and moving into new and renovated facilities. Secondly Kristen sent thanks to the 673 donors to the Capital Campaign who raised \$2.1 million to renovate, expand and modernize the Loon Center and construct and equip the new Kittie and John Wilson Field Operations Center. Lastly, Kristen sent her thanks to the LPC Board; a group of dedicated volunteers working behind the scenes in partnership with the director and staff to ensure that LPC's mission is fulfilled. Tom added a tribute to Kristen who Chaired the Board through an incredible time that included Covid and a successful Capital Campaign. During her tenure she encouraged her fellow Board members to contribute to general support of LPC at the highest level possible. Tom asked all to join him in a spirited zoom thank you to Kristen.

Next on the agenda was a farewell to retiring Trustee Sandy Helve. Tom noted that Sandy has been a valued member of the Development and Stewardship Committee which she chaired for several years. Sandy's passion for stewardship of donors paid dividends for LPC. She has been a great representative in the southern part of the state and on Winnepesaukee. She led efforts to establish a speed limit on Winnepesaukee and recently worked to ensure those limits were continued. Her years of island living gave her great insight on loons. Her enthusiasm and leadership on the Board will be missed.

Tom presented the slate of officers elected by the full Board at the June meeting. Officer terms begin at the end of the Annual Meeting and officers are elected for one-year terms. LPC Board officers for 2022-2023 are: Bob Rotberg, Chair, Brenda Stowe, Vice Chair and Glyn Green, Treasurer. Incoming Chair, Bob Rotberg has been a member of LPC for 40 years. He has summered on Whitton Pond which straddles the towns of Madison and Albany since 1973. In his other life Bob was a professor, college president and a foundation president and he has written several books on Africa and Asia. Tom noted that he was proud to have Bob as the next Chair of LPC. Tom turned the floor over to Bob in his role as Chair of the Governance Committee to present Trustees to be elected or re-elected by the membership.

Bob thanked Tom for his kind words and stated that he was delighted to chair a strong Board and support the Director and staff. Bob introduced the new Trustee nominee, Brian Reilly. Brian is active in conservation in the Keene area where he was a physician for 35 years. Brian is a former Chair of the Board who led LPC through some challenging times and the Board is delighted to recommend his return. Five current Trustees were due to be re-elected for a second three-year term: Susan Goodwin, Dave Govatski, Jeff Patterson, Brenda Stowe, and Bob Varney. There being no objection, the election and re-elections were confirmed. Bob presented a slide with changes to the by-laws that were voted on by the Board and required approval from the membership. There being no objections, the changes were ratified. Bob gave the floor to Glyn Green to present the annual Treasurer's report.

Glyn thanked Bob and offered his congratulations. He noted that LPC finished Fiscal Year 22 (ended 3/31/22) in the black and commented that Harry does a great job of stewarding funds. LPC received a Payroll Protection Program loan that was forgiven and benefitted extensively from energy rebates from the solar systems that were installed during the renovation and expansion. LPC's audited financials and 990 are available to view on LPC's website, [www.loon.org](http://www.loon.org). Glyn thanked members, donors and volunteers for their support. Bob thanked Glyn for his report and gave the floor to Harry Vogel to present the Spirit of the Loon award.

Harry noted that the staff has a great appreciation for every one of LPC's close to 1,000 volunteers. This year two volunteers stood out for their unique contributions. Terri and Bud Lynch have been members and volunteers since 2005 serving as the primary contacts on Lake Mascoma. They provide boat rides to LPC staff to help monitor over 1,000 acres. Terri and Bud organize 20 or more volunteers annually for the loon census, they participate in raft building, help with signage, and distribute educational materials at lake access points. Terri is a past President of the Lake Mascoma Lake Association. Terri and Bud were directly involved or helped coordinate many loon rescues including three last year alone. They are great champion of loons and LPC and great advocates for non-lead tackle. Harry stated that he was pleased to honor Terri and Bud who are important partners to LPC's efforts to preserve and protect loons in New Hampshire.

There being no further business, Bob Rotberg thanked all for attending and declared LPC's 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

Presentations by John Rockwood and Harry Vogel on loons and LPC's work to protect and recover New Hampshire's loon population followed.

Respectfully submitted by Holly Heath.