Q1-2026 ALA Director's Meeting 03-12-2026

The Zoom meeting was called to order by President Bernie Gracy at approximately 7:30 pm. Present were: Gennette Carr, Treasurer; Connie Jackson, Secretary; Directors – Larry Steeneck; Kim Hubbard; Don Tase. Bernie called a quorum. Susan Gresser, VP, Directors Zach Chapman & Tim Cowan joined.

The first order of business was to approve the Q4-25 meeting minutes emailed earlier by the Secretary - motion was made and seconded; all were in favor.

The second item was to accept the treasurer's report: as of 9/30/25 the account balance was $11,065.44. On 12/31/25, with $60 in dues plus more greeter program reimbursement, minus a donation to the Loon Project, the balance was $11,592.86. After 12/31 membership letters were sent out at an expense of $284.50, $120 was taken in by end of February '26 for a balance of $11,428.36. So far in March the final 2025 greeter program reimbursement of $4,041, plus $1,280 dues and $1,720 donations were received. Motion was made and seconded to accept the treasurer's report - all were in favor. The total unreimbursed cost to ALA for the greeter program for 2025 was $1,739. However, VT DEC predicts that next year's reimbursement will be less.

The first item of old business was an update on the 501-c-3 application status. Connie requested an update from Kurt Lutes of Primmer, Piper, Eggleston & Cramer PC in December, and received this reply in January: "I just send another follow up message to the VT SOS expressing the urgency for the needed correction to the Articles of Amendment. I hope to hear something definitive from them soon."

The second item of old business was an update on the 2026 annual meeting location and date. Per Larry Steeneck: Averill Corp has agreed to let us use their Inn again this year. The date is Saturday, July 11. Larry has researched renting a port-o-let for use during the meeting, per Averill Corp's request, to prevent overloading their septic system. The cost is $135/weekend or $165/month. Everyone agreed that food from Solomon's worked well last year, so we will do so again this coming summer, with some tweaks. We will again plan an hour for coffee from 10:00-11:00, to allow folks to filter in, purchase raffle tickets and socialize prior to the start of the meeting. Larry has reached out to VT F&W for a potential speaker, and he has a tentative commitment from Nick Fortin, the deer and moose project leader.

The third item of old business was an update from Susan Gresser on the UPW (Use of Public Waters) rule change(s) relative to wake sports. Hearings and public comments were held this winter for DEC's newly proposed changes to the 2023 UPW, which was not fully implemented last summer. After months of hearings and public testimony, hours of work by groups like FOVLAP (Federation of Vt Lakes and Ponds) and RWVL (Responsible Wakes for Vt Lakes) and this board, Susan reported: "Looks like RWVL and FOVLAP are not on the same page. Members of Lake Seymour and Pat Souzzi pushed this bill (S.224, which would revise the underlying statute) out. They were warned by DEC that if this goes thru it would

put a pause on the forward movement of the proposed new ruling. They are very focused on the Home Lake Rule as Seymour has full greeter coverage and are ok with the wake boat owners on their lake. They feel that they can do their own enforcement of the rule. It will not benefit all of us due to our poor funding. They also have a decon station. If the proposed ruling is put on hold we go back to 30 lakes which I think Seymour likes. All of the new rules for safety will not be put into place for this season." So it's now back to square one.

Next old business item: committee recommendations from the board. The following six committees were named: Lake Greeter Program; LWAP (Lake Watershed Action Plan) Projects; Capital Fund/Fundraising; Community Science; Nominations; and Public Policy. Motion was made and seconded to create these 6 committees; all were in favor. Bernie asked for permission to promote these 6 committees on the website. Don thought we should wait until after the LWAP presentation on 3/23, but after more discussion all agreed with Bernie's plan.

New Business: Is it time for another strategy/planning "offsite" in May? Bernie referred the board to the 2023 planning session that took place at Quimby's, which set the tone for our focus/efforts from 2023 to 2026. Gennette offered the use of her camp on Cottage Road, which has electricity and internet. Bernie wants to provide lunch, and a repeat of April's house salads was suggested. We picked Saturday May 16th, 10:00-2:00 at Carr Camp for our offsite meeting.

The final discussions of the evening were around the possibility of installing a boat-washing/ decontamination station for Great Averill. Bernie provided cost estimates from the Adirondack Water Institute, along with suggestions that ALA approach the wake sports industry, and maybe Coaticook Power, for funding. Can the Great Averill launch be graded to prevent boat washing water from entering the lake? Can we use water from the lake (not supposed to, per DEC, but several washing stations do)? Will VT F&W approve a pad/site? Will the LWAP help with funding sources? Susan feels that we will not be able to construct a wake boat decontamination station because of the amount of water and high temperature requirements. Who will run it? Who will do the hiring and training? Susan has located one intern via the Northwoods Stewardship Center to cover part of the weekends only Greeter station on Little Averill, but needs to find another. Seasonal employees are hard to find.

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn at 8:50 pm; all were in favor. The second quarter 2026 meeting will be our annual meeting on July 11, 2026.

Action Items:

Bernie – this weekend on the ALA website: post the approved Q4 minutes; announce the date and time of the LWAP final presentation (3/23 at 5:00 pm); introduce the six proposed committees and seek interested volunteers; and advertise for a part-time Little Averill greeter position. File the required corporate biannual report to the state and cc Kurt (Jim's legal aide).

Larry -- contact Averill Corp to see if they would like the Juddy's port-o-let for their own use for the remainder of the month following the annual meeting, at ALA's expense.

Tim – (leftover from Q4-2025 meeting) offered to purchase & post a second sign on ARCO's billboard near the beginning of Jackson Rd stating that the owners of the Little Averill Launch have prohibited launching wake boats from the Little Averill Access, with ARCO's permission.