

Honeoye Valley Association
Annual Meeting
July 19, 2014
Minutes

The annual meeting of the Honeoye Valley Association was called to order by President Hugh Turner at 9:10 on July 19, 2014. He opened with a flipagram made by a 12 year old who spent a week on Honeoye Lake. The flipagram showed the many ways that our lake is enjoyed.

We first conducted our business meeting with the board. Present were Dave Baker, Don Cook, Frank Powell, Helen Johnson, Hugh Turner, Mike Weidner, Bill Wood, and Terry Gronwall. The minutes and treasurer's report from the June meeting were accepted.

Hugh then shared a slide listing the accomplishments of the HVA during the 2013-2014 year.

New Business:

The HVA By-laws have been worked on this year by Mike Weidner and the proposed changes were highlighted.

- There would be three types of membership available: single with one vote, a family membership with two votes, and a business membership with no votes but links to their business
- Membership year would run from April 1st to March 31st.
- Notices of upcoming meeting could be made electronically.
- Officers will be elected for two year term or until a successor is elected.
- The executive committee will be the president, vice-president, treasurer, secretary, and past president.
- The president will appoint a nominating committee.

Hugh also introduced the candidates who are running for board vacancies.

- Dave Baker is our acting treasurer.
- Mike Weidner has spent the last year working on revising our by-laws.
- Dan LaLonde is our new webmaster.
- Carole Baker is working on our membership campaign.

Members received ballots upon checking in and these by-law changes were approved and the recommended board candidates were elected.

There was a very informative presentation by Carole Baker and Dan LaLonde. The membership drive is currently underway. You can register online or download an application and send it in. We are currently switching our website over to www.hva.wildapricot.org. This new website gives us much more flexibility in communicating with our members. We are able to send members email blasts to inform them of upcoming events or conditions of the lake, the Grapevine will be available on line rather than being mailed, we can send out sample letters for them to send to their representatives when critical lake issues are being discussed, and it maintains a database of our members and lets them know when to renew memberships. You can also contact us on Facebook.

After the discussion of membership and our new website, Carole put together a slide presentation of who manages the lake. At the state level the regulatory bodies are the Department of Environmental Conservation, The Department of Parks, Recreation and Historical Preservation, and the Department of Health. At the county level the governing bodies are Ontario County Soil and Water, the Honeoye Lake Aquatic Vegetation Department, and the Sheriff's patrol. At the town level the town boards can pass laws for our lake and each town has a seat on the Watershed Task Force. There are also citizen groups like the Honeoye Valley Association, New York State Federation of Lakes Association, and CSLAP.

Other agencies or groups that can help with different projects are The Nature Conservancy, FingerLakes Community College, and the Finger Lakes Institute.

David Brown was introduced. He is an underwater photographer who has had a great deal of experience photographing underwater all around the world. Through a Water Resource Council grant we were able to have David video some of the bottom of our lake. He presented this video. Many thanks to David Brown, Bruce Gilman, Don Cook, Frank Powell, and Terry Gronwall who helped with this project.

Our next presentation was by Terry Gronwall who is the HVA's member and chairman of the Honeoye Lake Watershed Task Force. Terry went over the mission for the HVA being a not-for-profit organization, concerned with educational outreach, communication, advocacy notices, and annual programs such as monitoring the lake and roadside cleanup. The Watershed Task Force is the implementation organization. They are charged with implementing watershed projects and are our single interface to county and state agencies. The Watershed Task Force has permanent professional support in P.J. Emmerick, Bruce Gilman, and Tom Harvey. It also has project specific support from agencies like the DEC and Nature Conservancy. The Watershed Task Force published newsletters and they are available on our website.

Our next speaker was Stevie Adams from the Nature Conservancy. This organization has been very influential in our area. It was through them that the 2,100 acres at the inlet was obtained and then turned over to the DEC and also they have doubled the size of Harriet Hollister Park through their land acquisitions. One of Stevie's jobs now at the Nature Conservancy is the recovery of Honeoye Lake. She is studying how can we speed the recovery at a reasonable cost. Princeton Hydro has been hired to update the modeling for the watershed, identify subwatersheds on which to focus, and make recommendations for each subwatershed. The inlet contributes over 50% of the external loading and one year storm events are responsible for 70% of that loading. The recommendations for the north part of the watershed are all community based initiatives like reduce fertilizer, lake and stream planted buffering, rain gardens and vegetated shorelines. In the inlet the recommendations are to allow the water to slow down and spread out, use nature and plants to filter the water, increase opportunities for recreation, and improve the fish and wildlife habitats. This will be a five year project and will include things like raising the channel bottom to spread out the water, plugging the channels, going back to a wetland, and adding bends to the inlet. This is where The Nature Conservancy feels we can get the most bang for our bucks. It will reduce the external loading by 1/4 to 1/3.

August 23rd will be our next rake toss and we are looking for volunteers.

There is also a hydrilla hunt that we are encouraged to participate in. The information is on our website.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45.

Respectfully submitted,
Helen Johnson, Secretary