

**LAKE GEORGE PARK COMMISSION (LGPC) SPECIAL MEETING  
AD-HOC COMMITTEE ON INVASIVE SPECIES (AIS) REPORT  
FORT WILLIAM HENRY CONFERENCE CENTER, LAKE GEORGE, NY  
MARCH 22, 2012**

Resolution 2012-15 was passed to authorize an amount of \$5,000 for additional printing and mailing cost for AIS information.

Resolution 2012-25 was passed to give \$35,000 from LGPC to the Lake George Association for the Lake Steward program. This was the same amount of money given in 2011 to LGA.

The AIS Ad-Hoc Committee wants to set-up meetings in Ticonderoga.

The “Fishing Alliance” was mentioned numerous times by the LGPC during their meeting and members stated that they wanted to meet with the “Fishing Alliance.”

The LGPC AIS Members stated that they have to work with NYS DEC because of the two public launches on the north end of the lake.

The terms “clean drains and dry boats” were used and the AIS wants to come up with a logo with such terms and educational information that is consistent.

The LGPC has appointed a new AIS Liaison person and they said his name was Joe Thuron? (Spelling may be incorrect.)

Norowal Marina wants a memo of understanding contract and has concerns with liability. Norowal is also concerned with loss of business as they have a 2 million dollar mortgage.

Funding for the “decontamination unit” is being shared by the Village & Town of Lake George, Queensbury, Hague and Bolton.

They still need to get proposals or bids for the “decontamination unit” according to NYS and county purchasing standards.

Specifications for the boat washing or decontamination unit must be prepared before they can request bids.

The “decontamination unit” unit will be purchased with set-up and training included.

One problem will be finding qualified individuals to operate the “decontamination unit.”

The boat washing station or “decontamination unit” will be owned by Warren County and operated by the Lake George Association.

Washington County was not mentioned.

A statement was made that Warren County and LGPC regulations are designed for Invasive Species that can be seen. Since the Asian Clams were discovered, new things have come to light.

- The theory now is that the Invasive Clams were in the Lake for 2 or 3 years before being discovered.
- They believe the Asian Clams were introduced as “Microscopic Invasives.”
- Thus the term "boat washing station" should be changed to “decontamination station.”
- One of the LGPC people cautioned other LGPC members to use the term “decontamination station” and that was highlighted for the remainder of the meeting.

Ms. Emily Debolt of LGA reported on her investigation of other lakes with AIS and she said she used data from the past four years of Lake Steward reports.

- She reported that data collected from 2008-2011 indicates that boats come from over 300 different water bodies across the region to Lake George.
- 121 water bodies are in NY and 197 water bodies in other states.
- Ms. DeBolt reported that during four years the Lake Stewards inspected 18,001 boats and removed 276 invasives.
- Of the 18,001 boats, 1,830 boats were "at risk" boats defined as having been in a body of water other than Lake George within the previous 2 weeks.

Members stated that they had concerns regarding fishing boats because of things inside the boat.

Members spoke of "decontamination" of boats and not washing of them with a hose.

- “140 degree water kills micro-organisms”
- They also made some mention that the 140 degree water would be high pressure.
- One LGPC board member questioned if there was any data to prove that boat washing stations work.

Mr. Roger Phinney of the Eastern NY Marine Trades Assn. spoke to the LGPC with concerns of the marine dealers and marina owners on Lake George.

- Mr. Phinney questioned the use of 140 degree high pressure washing and said it would blow debris all over the roadway where it would be picked up by vehicle tires and then transported all over the area.
- He said that Lake George has classic wooden boats and classic wood boat shows every year. He said there is no way any classic boat owner will permit high pressure washing of their boat.
- He also spoke of concerns of boats with rubber bladders that would be damaged.

- Mr. Phinney said he has spoken with the marine trades folks around Lake Tahoe and they have problems while they have only 12 boat launches on the entire lake. He said that LGPC has permits issued to 40 different marinas and boat launches.
- The NY Marine Trades Assn strongly believes in education.
- Mr. Phinney also questioned a DEC regulation and law about washing any boat within 500 feet of the lake or shoreline. LGPC responded that they were going to get a DEC permit.
- Mr. Phinney stated he doesn't want any marinas or marina owners responsible for inspections.

LGPC members openly discussed that this AIS program is a pilot program hopefully to be enacted across the entire state. There was also mention of a proposal for a bill sitting somewhere in Albany for an Invasive Transport law that is worded after the Warren County Invasive Transport law enacted in 2011.

A representative of the Lake George Fishing Alliance stated that the LGFA did not want any restricted access to Lake George or gates on public boat launches. He invited the LGPC AIS Committee to a future LGFA meeting.

Next AIS Ad-Hoc Committee meeting to be held on March 30, 2012 at 1:30 pm in the town of Bolton.