

L.S.L.S.O.A.

STANDING COMMITTEES

GENERAL:

As the result amending our Constitution and By-Laws, we have consolidated the number of standing committees from five down to three. This gives us a more manageable number to staff and maintains our focus on the core issues that are most important to our organization. In addition, we still have the ability to create and appoint special committees, as needed, to deal with issues which may not be appropriate for the 3 standing committees.

The purpose of this memo is to review the objectives of the new standing committees, outline issues which would be possible projects for those committees and ask members to consider volunteering to help when and where they can. Each committee should have at least three members. They will, in turn, elect their own chairperson who will be a part of our Executive Board along with the Association's officers. It is very important that we get people to help with these committees. You don't have to have any particular experience to get involved. All that is required is an interest in helping us move things along. Please consider joining those who have already volunteered. If nothing else, you'll enjoy the chance to get to know other members better. My experience is that there are a great number of good ideas and capable people in our group. If we all get involved, the amount of individual work will be minimal and the results will be spectacular.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE:

This committee will deal with all issues that impact our environment. That will include water quality, invasive species, land use and water use. The most discussed issue is determining the current threat level created by Eurasian milfoil, alternatives available to deal with it and developing a course of action to propose to the membership. It will also involve reaching out to the D.E.C. to see how we work together on this issue going forward. This committee will also continue to manage our involvement in the Adirondack Lake Assessment Program. Obviously, those with experience in any of the above areas would help shorten our learning curve, but the primary attribute would be an interest in ensuring we do all that we can to protect this asset.

MEMBERSHIP AND COMMUNICATIONS:

This committee will most likely start with evaluating how we can grow our membership and how we can most effectively communicate with our members. Do we create our own newsletter and /or web site? Anyone with interest in and/or experience with graphics, newsletters, computers, creating and managing web sites or writing would be very helpful. Again, even if you don't feel you have any particular experience that would be of benefit, anyone with interest in this area and willingness to brain storm would be of great help in moving us forward.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS:

This committee will be our interface with other groups which can impact Lower Saranac Lake, its shoreline and the interests of our members. Initially, this committee would act as liaison with outside groups to bring information to our members on issues which might be of interest and benefit. With this committee we would be able to provide a more effective response to events such as Lower Saranac Lake History Day coming up in September or Invasive Species Week which was held in early July. As time goes on other groups are starting to reach out and initiate dialogue with groups like ours. We need to be better prepared to participate, when in our best interest. Past examples have been the property assessment issues and the newly formed non-partisan PAC, AdkAction.org. Therefore, interest in attending meetings such as the Tri-Lakes Association or Adk.Action.org would be helpful. We could benefit from anyone who has lived here for a long time and knows and / or has contact with people who are involved in local governments and agencies. Beyond that, it is just an interest in keeping your eyes and ears open for items which might be important to our members and, in turn, making others aware there is a L.S.L.S.O.A. when appropriate

Hopefully that gives you an idea of the purpose of the various committees. I don't pretend that we have identified all of the issues or even the most important ones. What is most important is that we get started. We need to take some initial steps which we can handle while we gain experience and evolve our committees in these important areas. Interest in helping us move forward is all that is needed. Please contact Penny, Brigitte or me to let us know your interest. We need your help and will appreciate anything you are willing to do, even if it's just providing moral support and encouragement.

Thanks,
The Executive Board
Lower Saranac Lake Shore Owners Association