

SECOLA Annual Meeting  
July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
Svecia Club

The SECOLA Annual meeting was called to order by President Scott Reynolds at 10:05 AM. A quorum was established.

Joe Buchanan made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022 annual meeting. Ed Patrick second it. All were in favor.

**President's Report:**

Scott Reynold's thanked everyone for attending the meeting and for their continued support of SECOLA. He mentioned what a wonderful summer it had been so far and how fortunate we are to live in such an extraordinary place. He thanked the board members for all their hard work as well as all the members that have worked on committees. He mentioned that Florence has a new sheriff, Theresa Chrisman, and that SECOLA looks forward to working with her.

**Special Guests:**

**Florence County Chairman, Jeanette Bomberg:** Mrs. Bomberg informed the members that the Sheriff's office has a shortage of deputies and to please be mindful of that. She also mentioned that Florence County has a difficult time raising revenue. Besides taxes, they sometime need to increase fees. Departments try hard to get grants, but that is difficult. Their biggest challenge is funding, their greatest asset is the people and the natural resources. She reminded everyone that you have a right to be heard and get involved.

**Florence County EMS Coordinator, Amanda Mulvey:** Amanda Mulvey reviewed the new EMS system for Florence County. It will be funded with some grant money as well as tax money. Instead of a volunteer system, the EMS workers will be employed. 8 candidates have applied for 3 leadership positions. There will be 3 stations located in Florence County: Tipler, Long Lake, and Florence. As of now they don't have living quarters for 24 hour shifts. She mentioned that they are taking their time in figuring everything out so they do it right and it is sustainable.

**Florence Township Chair, Tim Bomberg:** Mr Bomberg said that they are still working on plans for a fire station in Spread Eagle. He also mentioned that they currently have a 4 -man crew that maintains 200 miles of road throughout Florence County.

**Svecia member Susan Francisco:** Susan spoke and informed the members that Svecia will celebrate their 100 year anniversary in 2025. She asked that if you have any old photos or memories to please submit to [Clarkaustin4@gmail.com](mailto:Clarkaustin4@gmail.com).

**Treasurers Report, Dana Colenso:** Dana reminded everyone that we are a 501C3 charitable organization. She said everything has been filed for the year. She noted that we are down a bit in money coming in this year due to the fact that our grant has ended. Scott Reynolds then reviewed the budget for the upcoming year and mentioned that we have a deficit due to the grant ending for invasive species.

**Natural Resources, Carl Sundberg:** Carl thanked those members that donated to the fish fund. He mentioned that the walleye stocking would take place in October. The state was guaranteeing us 2,800 but Carl was hoping it would be closer to 5,400. It is costing SECOLA about \$13,000. The shocker boat was out in the spring and registered 5,200 per acre. Carl had

been out 3 times so far to test the water clarity in West and North Lake. He stated that FLCARA has ended, but a speaker had been scheduled for July 27<sup>th</sup> at the Florence Natural Resource Center.

**Invasive Species, Jay Weber:** Jay reminded everyone that we have been dealing with invasives since 2013. We continue to partner with Whitewater Associates. This year so far we have removed 465lbs of Eurasian Water Millfoil. He informed the members that we have a big need for funds when it comes to invasives. So far 3 days of diving has cost SECOLA \$8,100. At this time the EWM has not left Middle Lake. He also reiterated that if you rake your shoreline, please rake and remove. Do not put it in the lake. Also be mindful of what you put on your lawns as this will runoff into the lake. Jay Weber also reminded members that the decontamination station at the landing is for decontaminating your boat, not for washing your boat at the end of the summer or whenever you are removing it. Please don't ask to have it washed.

**Membership, Katie Reynolds:** Katie thanked Martie Muzzy and Deb Cini for their continued help with the membership committee as well as all the members who have joined SECOLA and donated. We currently have 256 members. Katie said she encourages everyone to use the online form on the website as it saves a lot of time. There is a committee working on a new directory which will come out in 2024. Katie thanked the committee for their work on this project. Katie also mentioned that SECOLA is working on reprinting The Eagle Spreads its Wing book. If interested in helping or you have photos, please contact Katie.

**Water Safety, Britt Reynolds:** Britt reminded everyone that riding on the bow of a boat is incredibly dangerous. If you see someone doing this, please tell them to stop. He also mentioned that work is continuing with the DNR and legislators to put regulations in place that would ban wake surfing in lakes that have a size of 1500 acres or less. This would include Spread Eagle. Please be mindful of where you tie up or raft your boat.

Jet skis need to be 200ft from shore. Please watch out for loons. Slow down when you see them. Law enforcement did receive a grant to patrol the lakes but does not have enough workers so it will only be occasionally. The DNR warden has retired and is not being replaced. West Lake Channel was flushed out. Britt encouraged everyone to please make sure you are through the channel before taking off.

**Nominations:** Dana Colenso was nominated and elected to a 2 yr. term as Treasurer. Cindy Weber was nominated and elected for a 2 yr. term as Secretary.

**Bylaw Revision:** Ed Patrick made a motion to increase the dues to \$50. Marion Anderson second it. It was passed unanimously to raise dues to \$50. Maureen Howard made a motion to allow the Executive Committee to raise dues. Tim Reynolds second it. It passed unanimously to allow the Executive Committee to raise the dues.

**Open Forum:** no questions

Joe Buchanan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Tim Reynolds second it. The meeting was adjourned at 11:30.

Minutes submitted by Cindy Weber.

