

**Report on CLIC's 2024 Annual Meeting  
held at the Danforth Fire House on August 10**

**I. Order of Business**

1. Call to Order, Welcome Guests & Guest Speakers
2. Officer Reports *below*

President – Kathy Conley

Vice President – CariAnn Michaud

Treasurer - Edwin Decker

Secretary – Frank Bolton

3. Committee Reports *below*

Fisheries – David Townsend

Water Quality – John Johnston

Save the Dam – David Townsend

Communications – CariAnn Michaud & Frank Bolton

4. Special Thank you to a few folks who have gone above and beyond for CLIC
5. Elections to CLIC Board of Directors
6. Invited Guest Speakers
  - a. Barbara Glanville – Invasive Species
  - b. Neal Barry – St Croix International Waterway Commission
7. Thank you for attending. Any additional comments.
8. Adjournment of meeting.

## II. Reports

### President's Report

**Thank you** to the Danforth Volunteer Fire Department for opening their doors to us. We appreciate your hospitality. Please accept our donation to you for allowing us to have our Annual Meeting at your house!

CLIC is pleased to announce we again **donated to the East Grand High School Scholarship Fund** for the graduating class of 2024. The Danforth Community News coordinates the scholarship fund, and you can count on us to happily donate again next year for the graduating class of 2025.

**The Fish Release in April** was a huge success primarily because Jerry Wilson coordinated it! He got 5 schools involved –

Danforth Middle with David Apgar and Donie Steeves 14 students

Houlton Middle	Jill Porter 30 students
South Side Ele	Jacqueline Rogers 61 students
GHCA	Nathan Foster 24 students
Mill Pond Ele	Aimee Goth 49 students

Total of 198 the most students we have had to date involved with the Fish Release!

The students released 1528 Salmon Fry. They had a 90% success rate of the eggs they received to the Salmon Fry they released. Very Impressive!!

**The Half Moon Island Picnic** this year was a great success even though we had to change the date due to RAIN!

We had over 200 guests feast on Maine Red Hot Dogs, The Best French Fries in the County and soft drinks. We even had Strawberry Fruit Cups for dessert for the first 100 guests that were donated!

We received generous donations from guests that totaled over \$300 and in addition, some CLIC members paid their dues then too!

**Special Thank Yous** – Marie and Dan Ormerod and David Townsend for their very successful efforts in the Canadian Mail-Out for the Call to Action to write to FERC. It is vital for all of us to speak our opinion to FERC as the issue of the Forest City Dam is not yet completed. The Dam is vital to the lakes that make up the watershed – no dam – no lake - it will be a mud puddle!

Another Thank You to David Townsend – he has been critical in CLIC’s communication with FERC – both in submissions and keeping CLIC in a “party status”. So many hours, so many submissions, the time he has invested in CLIC and each and everyone’s interests here is just mind blowing! Thank you again for your continued work on Saving the Dam!

#### **#4 Special Thank you**

*Jerry Wilson* - Thank you for getting the Fish Release back – you truly made it happen – your tool box, visiting the 5 schools over and over to get the tanks and chillers up and running – just spectacular! Please accept this token gift from CLIC to you –

*Doug Callnan* – You are CLIC’s resident CHEF – The Fish Release -and the Half Moon Island Picnic – cooking our favorite Red Hot Dogs – you really go the extra mile – not only did you cook at both this year – you also got all our equipment to the island this year for the picnic! So please accept this gift to you – maybe you’ll wear it next year!

*Pete Chase* – You are another backbone to CLIC – you stepped up again this Fish Release – cooking on the grill once again – and you have been there for the Fisheries Crew – cleaning out streams and brooks with Maine’s Inland Fisheries and Wildlife - a true mentor – Please accept this Chef’s Hat – We look forward to your continued inspiration!

*Jeremy Michaud* – CLIC would like to thank Jeremy for his efforts at the Half Moon Island Picnic – he was muscles in loading our boat with food, drinks, coolers and so much more – not sure if the boat would make the journey – and then he helped load the equipment boat – then cook too – so he gets a Chef’s Hat too! He has cooked for two years now – so he has earned his wings!

I'd also like to Thank the *CLIC Board Members* – It's a volunteer position and one that is demanding

*CariAnn* – you do an amazing job with the Quarterly – it connects with our members and the Quarterly is informative! Getting info to Nancy Hickman at the Danforth Community News has been wonderful and beneficial. CLIC is the news! You are also amazing at keeping me grounded – I admit sometimes I get a bit overwhelmed!

*Frank* – reaching out to the papers – mostly electronically – gets CLIC out there for folks to see what we are doing!

*Ed* – you and Julia collecting emails and pertinent information from the membership forms from the dues received is key to keeping us up to date.

*John* – staying current with water quality – the testing and getting additional folks trained to do testing on the lakes - its great to see more folks come forward to get qualified to do water quality testing.

*Ann* – we do keep you busy – as CLIC's “sunshine chair” we have a lot of communication notes to send out.

*Susan* - thank you for your efforts at the Fish Release – keeping the kids inline – and the condiments in order – oh my – that was a full time job!

That said – we are open to additional folks to join our Board

### **Treasurer's Report** (as of 8/8/2024)

Current Bank Balances: (as of 8/08/24)

Bangor Bank Money Market: \$19,569.69

Bangor Bank Save the Dam: \$16,367.42

Bangor Bank Operations: \$ 7,017.72

Bangor Bank Conservation: \$ 7,473.46

Bangor Bank Fisheries. \$ 4,829.85

total \_\_\_\_\_ \$55,258.14

Income to date for 2024, which represents the dues and donations collected and deposited by the Treasurer only. \$955.00

Canadian exchange reduction of contributions due to exchange rate: \$56.00 Net Income: \$899.00

I have no information at this time on any Insurance policies paid or not paid.

Currently in our CLIC Master List - Dues database we have 332 members.

Currently in our CLIC Master List - Dues database we have 60 members who have paid dues so far in 2024.

*[The written report to the President included itemizations of various expenses and their payments incurred from 1/1/ 2024 to date].*

## **Secretary's Report**

Frank's role is to take minutes at any meetings.

To expedite this meeting, he also reported on his part in the Communications Committee. He writes articles on CLIC events which he sends to the Houlton Pioneer Times and the River Valley Sun. CLIC information is also posted on the online resource "The County".

## **Fisheries Report**

Since David took over the position two years ago, the key priorities of this Committee have been:

1. Enhancing CLIC's working relationship with the fishery employees of Maine Fish and Wildlife and with Kevin Dunham who is the Superintendent of Penobscot Region.

2. Improving the Committee's collective knowledge about the fishery-related conservation, environmental, and recreational issues particular to the Chip Lake Area, and to East Grand Lake in particular.
3. Building a good relationship with the fishing community in our area and learning that community's views about local and regional fishery issues.
4. Involving CLIC's board and CLIC's members in a fishery-related project which will enhance our local fishery and reflect well on CLIC.

Examples of activities to advance the four objectives above: the Fishery Committee recently secured Kevin Dunham as a speaker for a CLIC Annual Meeting, arranged for CLIC's board members to tour the Maine Fish & Wildlife Hatchery in Enfield, ME., wrote and circulated detailed notes about the eight Fish Hatcheries operated by Maine F& W, and about the fish stocking and rearing activities occurring in our area. CLIC is currently seeking input on the contributions which CLIC's Board and CLIC Members could make to an important fisheries-related project being proposed for the East Grand Lake Area. And, the Committee has recently arranged with Kevin Dunham to field some Members who will assist Maine Fish and Wildlife officers with the clearing of debris from important spawning streams located along the Maine shores of East Grand Lake. If anyone present is interested in participating directly in CLIC's fisheries related activities, please email David at [townsend@unb.ca](mailto:townsend@unb.ca)

## **Water Quality Report**

The water committee is continuing to expand their areas of monitoring of water quality. We are eagerly awaiting the presentation by Barbara Glanville on invasive plants at our annual meeting.

We continue to have some of our member volunteers performing secchi disc monitoring water clarity. By measuring the clarity of our lake water we get an important measurement of the health of our lake water.

This year we have initiated a monitoring program to look for any evidence of zebra mussels. Zebra mussels are an invasive mollusk that has been transported from

Europe and Russia by ships going up the St Lawrence seaway into the Great Lakes. It is believed that the mollusks were present in ship bilge water and when the ships dumped their bilges the zebra mollusks were carried with the water into the Great Lakes. The invasive mollusks have grown in great numbers and now they have become a significant problem. Due to northern Maine's close proximity to the St Lawrence seaway and possible spread by boats that become contaminated Maine Fish and Wildlife has begun asking volunteers to start looking for any evidence of Zebra mussels. At this time there have not been any reports of this invasive species in Maine, but early monitoring hopefully will protect our waters from contamination.

Our committee is always looking for more interested volunteers to help our organization become more aware and provide more knowledge in order to protect our waterways. If interested please contact me so you can become trained.

### **Save the Dam Report**

The licensing issue with the dam began in 2016 and the CLIC 'Save the Dam Committee' was created in the early Spring of 2017 and continues today. Its key members have been Barry Connelly, Andrew McCain and David Townsend with critical research and logistical support from CLIC member, Christian Connelly.

Throughout its existence, this committee has had one simple objective, Save the Dam!!

To the committee, 'saving the dam' means supporting solutions which will secure a long-term future; with the 1. dam intact, with 2. operational gates, which will be deployed to 3. store and release impounded waters to achieve (to the maximum extent possible) the operational objectives contained within the 30-year license issued to Woodland Pulp by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) in November of 2015. At present, the operational parameters which will best achieve these objectives are found within Article 404 of that 30-year license. Saving the Dam also means opposing any solutions proposed which significantly depart from those objectives. CLIC's Articles of Association charge the organization to pursue conservation, environmental and recreational objectives.

And, we believe that the highest level of conservation, environmental and recreational values and outcomes will be expressed and attained by committing to the operational parameters within Article 404 of the current FERC license.

For example: (key article) Article 404 contains water levels and flows requirements intended to: protect water quality, to achieve a bi-modal operational curve with two drain & fill cycles annually, protect Spring, Summer and Winter spawning fish and their aquatic habitats, stabilize water levels to protect the nesting and brooding activities of loons, maintain a summer recreational (high) level for boater access to docks and shorelines and, watercraft safety. These could target parameters which require a best- efforts standard.

The committee also supports requirements for a safe & effective fishway.

## **Communications Report**

CariAnn reported on producing the quarterly and indicated that sending it via email is a priority. Anyone who doesn't receive email should contact her.

In addition, information has been included in the Danforth News at least during the months of June, July and August.

## **Presentations**

When the meeting proper was concluded, Barbara Glanville and her sister Theresa gave a presentation on **invasive plants** (Eurasian milfoil (native milfoil is not a problem) which also included information about zebra mussels. Once they are in a lake, you can't get rid of them. They cluster together and have very sharp edges. East Grand Lake has not shown any evidence of this invasive plant.

She began the presentation with images from a GoPro camera showing Skiff Lake's clear waters contrasting them with the murky green waters of the St. John River caused by the invasive milfoil, the tips of which are red in July and August. It is also recognizable by its 6 leaves (native milfoil has 4 leaves). The river is totally contaminated by this species. Sebago lake has Eurasian milfoil.



Milfoil is carried not only on boats but also on trailers, fishing gear, waders, rear axles or trucks, the Velcro on paddleboard, the ridge area around the cockpit of kayaks, fishing paddleboats, etc. Fishing derbies have brought about a large movement of boats from one lake to another. For this reason, boaters should always Clean, Drain and Dry their boats and boating equipment when moving from one water source to another. There are boat washes at various places – hot water is better but a power washer is better than nothing.

Testing needs to be done for water temperature and for calcium levels (high calcium levels are needed for the zebra mussels).

CLIC needs to educate around milfoil.

### **Forest City Dam**

Neal Barry from the St. Croix International Waterway Commission then spoke about the status of their role regarding the **dam**. Under the recent proposal to FERC, Woodland Pulp LLC, would stay on as the operator / maintainer. SCIWC would end up being the owner. An amended application was sent to FERC (Federal Energy Regulatory Commission) on 10-31-2023. FERC would no longer have any role.

Submitted by Frank Bolton