

MESSER POND PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
March 14, 2018

Present:

John Doyle, President
Dick Showalter, Treasurer
Scott Ellison, Director
Sue Shock, Director
Nancy Stetson, Director
Donna Doyle

Absent:

Ethan Simon, Director

Via Conference Call:

NA

The meeting began at 7:00 p.m. with a quorum present. Bullet style minutes are presented below. Donna Doyle filled in to help take meeting notes.

- Minutes from the November 14, 2017 meeting were approved as circulated.
- Business Items
 - A. Annual Town Report – Submitted on schedule, no changes were suggested by the Town.
 - B. Removal of the gate and post at the boat launch – The DPW removed the gate and posts in late November. The Board agreed that the launch looked much better. The Board will discuss signage repairs and additions at a future meeting.
- Watershed Management Plan Status
 - A. NHTI Update – Carrie Cree was unable to attend.
 - B. Watershed Grant RFQs Status - Both RFQs have been submitted and posted on the DES web site. Three firms were contacted concerning the County Road BMP. Meetings with two of the firms (CLD and Horizon) were held to go over specifics. Both have expressed interest in submitting qualification packages.

Gabe Bolin (Stone Engineering) has expressed interest in submitting a qualification package for the County Road Culvert filtering investigation.

The Board reviewed some of the financing details about the overall DES Watershed grant.

It was suggested that the firms be invited to the next board meeting if a final decision on an award is made by then.
 - C. Gabe Bolin/Stone Engineering has been asked to submit a proposal to review the current water sampling process and propose modifications.

- Membership/Recruitment.

A. The board agreed that we should send out a membership letter, with a reminder about renewing annual membership. It was agreed that the dues schedule will remain the same.

B. The replies from Annual Meeting Survey were discussed and there was consensus around:

- a morning meeting
- no alcohol
- a potluck-breakfast
- having a guest speaker for roughly 30 minutes

The survey also recommended a change of venue and several options were discussed. Nancy Stetson will research possible locations and dates and provide an update via email.

- Finances.

A. The Board reviewed the P&L and Balance sheets. The MPPA has a balance of \$28,465.

B. The board reviewed the treasurer's report for 2017. In preparation to submit the 2017 Federal and State regulatory filings, the Board unanimously approved the Annual Treasurer's Report and Financial Statements for 2017.

C. In addition, the Board unanimously reaffirmed compliance with the MPPA conflict of interest policy in the bylaws and the following Conflict of Interest statement in the Annual Report to the Charitable Trust Division of the NH Attorney General's office:

Did any Officer, Director, Trustee or member of their immediate family obtain a pecuniary benefit from the organization in the last year other than reasonable compensation for services rendered and expenses incurred in connection with their official duties?

All Board members answered in the negative

- Lake Hosting.

A. The grant application for 2018 has been submitted to NH Lakes. The MPPA is requesting \$3,300. The board discussed the possibility that lake hosting expenses might exceed the grant award amount by \$200 - \$300. The Board agreed that those items would be covered by the MPPA operating budget.

- Weed Management.

A. We received a picture summary of all the native species of plants in Messer Pond from Amy Smagula at the DES. This summary has been posted on the web site. It is in a format that can be updated as new (and hopefully benign) species are identified.

- Water Quality.
 - A. The board reviewed the 2017 lake report from DES. It will be posted on the MPPA web site. The pond still remains in an impaired status for “Aquatic Life” designated use, and continues to maintain a very good status in “Recreational” designated use. It was also noted that the dissolved oxygen parameters have improved - they are now at a good to very good rating.
- Watershed Management
 - A. Culvert cleanup – A date in May will be picked based on contacting JP Paquette about the possibility of using his trailer. The Board discussed options for replacing the front loader that Curt Hineline donated the last several years.
 - B. The Board agreed that the MPPA should participate again in the “Keeping New London Presentable” program. Jeff Troxell has organized this effect the last several years and will be contacted to ask if he would coordinate it again.
- Fish & Wildlife.
 - A. Elkins R&G club have been contacted and they still plan to maintain existing boxes (as well as possibly installing 2 new ones). The weekend of 19th is planned, depending on ice conditions.
- Education & Activities.
 - A. The very enjoyable Holiday Party was held on 12/19 at the home of Bruce and Nancy Stetson and was well attended.
 - B. The MPPA has been scheduled to participate in the New London Inn Thursday Child fund raising program again this year on June 7th. A reminder will be sent to the membership and the Board agreed that we should also advertise the event again in the Kearsarge Shopper.
- Other Business
 - A. Board briefly discussed topics to include in a membership letter. One of the items mentioned was to include a list of volunteer opportunities.

As part of that discussion, the Board reviewed the need to distribute guidelines that should be followed by volunteers and reiterated the need of a list of the names of the members who volunteer – as a requirement of our liability insurance.
 - B. It was also pointed out that sections of the MPPA brochure are out of date and need to be updated.

- Board Meeting Schedule.

The proposed meeting schedule for the rest of the year:

Apr 17, Jun 19
TBD - Annual Meeting

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Doyle