

MESSER POND PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
April 21, 2015

Present:

John Doyle, President
Dick Denise, Vice President
Dick Denise, Treasurer
Sue Shock, Director
Scott Ellison, Director
Ethan Simon, Director
Donna Doyle
Dick Showalter

Absent:

Kristen Haas, Director
Vacant - Secretary

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 February 10, 2015 meeting were approved as circulated.
- Business Items
 - A. NL Archive document Storage. Sue Shock was not able to link up with Terri Bingham about the potential of using the town archive to store and backup paper documents and electronic records. Terri had asked to postpone for a bit. Sue will try to schedule something before the June Board meeting
- Membership/Recruitment.
 - A. Dick Denise reported that 13 families had renewed their membership. Dick mentioned that this number is not unusual for this early in the year; most membership renewals happen at the annual meeting and the Fourth of July gathering.
 - B. Sue volunteered to send separate membership reminder emails to last year's members. Dick provided the membership list from last year.
 - C. Bob Brown provided a contact at Elkins Fish and Game, Mike Gelcius. Mike said that the group would be able to help maintain the wood duck boxes and provide some limited support with other wildlife management.
 - D. Bob Brown also provided a contact from the conservation committee, Terry Dancy. Bob believes Terry could be a resource as we work with the town on non-structural BMP's. Terry has not been contacted yet.
- Finances.

- A. Dick reviewed the association's financial statements. The MPPA has a balance of \$19,932.
- B. The first reimbursement of \$2,900 from the Moose Plate grant has been received.
- C. Sue will contact the NL Inn and check on the status of the donation from the Thursday's Child dinner.
- D. The Board discussed possibilities for the monies that were received in memory of Betty Brown. Dick reported that approximately \$540 had been donated. It was suggested to ask the family what they thought would be appropriate. John will contact Betty's son.
- E. Dick mentioned that he would be processing the tax filings on behalf of the Association in May.
- F. The Board voted to approve the following donations: \$500 for NH Lakes; \$100 for LSPA; \$100 for ASLPT; \$50 for Loon Preservation Fund.
- Weed Management.
 - A. Donna Doyle reported that all the weed watchers from last year volunteered again for this coming year. Donna still needs to find a replacement for the portion of the shoreline that was covered by Dave and Alison Hennig. John will include a request as part of the next membership update.
- Lake Hosting.
 - A. On behalf of Terri Bingham, John report that most of lasts year's hosts have offered to volunteer again in 2015.
 - B. John reported that no one has volunteered to replace Terri as Lake Host coordinator. John will contact Terri for suggestions on who to contact and will include a request for help in the next membership update.
- Water Quality.
 - A. Water Sampling. On behalf of John Harris, John reported that John has a schedule for water sampling this year. The first date is June 10th and the bi-annual biologist visit is schedule then as well.
 - B. John mentioned that Gabe will be presenting his work on the Watershed Plan at the VLAP Workshop on June 5th. All members are welcome and John will send out an announcement.
 - C. John will also send out an announcement to the membership about the upcoming Lake's Congress hosted by NH Lakes.
- Watershed Management.

- A. Scott mentioned that he is looking at either May 16th or 30th to hold the Spring Culvert Cleanout, with the 16th being the preferred date. He will contact JP Paquette and Curt Hineline to determine their availability. Once a date has been settled on, a general request for volunteers will be sent to the membership.
 - B. Jeff Troxell has volunteered again to manage the “Keeping New London Presentable” program. The MPPA adopted the portion of County Road in our watershed last year. Nancy suggested including Forest Acres Road this year. Ethan suggested including the area of Bog Road near the Brown Brook Culvert.
- Fish & Wildlife.
 - A. Continuing on the offer from the Elkins Fish and Game Club to maintain our duck boxes, the group wanted a little more information as to their interest. John will also ask if they would assist in helping with next year’s fish survey and answering questions about wildlife issues that we encounter on the pond.
- Education & Activities.
 - A. John will email the membership looking for volunteers to plan and coordinate the July 4th BBQ and Regatta. John will contact Barbara Troxell and Rody Denise for their planning checklist and include it in the request to the membership.
 - B. John confirmed with Terri Bingham that the Baptist Church has been reserved for the Annual Meeting, scheduled for August 8th.
 - C. The group then had a general discussion on a format for the Annual Meeting. Everyone felt it would be appropriate to dedicate most of the reporting period to Gabe in order for him to explain what has been done, next steps and questions. The group felt other reports should be limited to 5 – 10 minutes or just a handout.
 - D. As for Gabe’s presentation, the group felt that Gabe should not go into too much detail for the Annual meeting. Members interested in the science could attend the meetings that will be scheduled with Colby Sawyer College or the Garden Club. Ethan volunteered to work with Gabe to format his Annual Meeting Presentation.
 - BaseFlow Watershed Plan.
 - A. Current Status of Watershed Plan. Gabe is in the process of integrating water sampling data into the model in order to more accurately reflect the response of the watershed to storm events. Gabe has also set some preliminary loading targets for phosphorous.
 - B. Grants. John reported that the 319h grant has been approved.

- C. John and Gabe met with Kim Hallquist and Lucy St. John to review the work on the Watershed Implementation Plan. Gabe's analysis was well received. Kim suggested that we schedule a meeting with Richard Lee to discuss specific recommendations and with her staff to review possible non-structural BMP's.
 - D. The group had a general discussion on how to engage with the members of the association and the watershed on the plan and its recommendations. The importance being not only education but it is part of the ongoing requirement of current and future grants. Some thoughts were: would periodic emails be sufficient; use of town's e-newsletter, the garden club meeting that is scheduled in the fall; and as part of a possible seminar series at CSC.
 - E. Ethan summarized some research he had done relative to the donation of water sampling equipment. The purpose being to allow for the ability to identify sources of phosphorous by lowering the cost to analyze water samples.
 - F. Volunteer Status. Sue will check on the status of Terri Bingham's research effort about the history of the pond and watershed. Pat Harris' was not able to commit the time and was not able to perform her research effort on Brown Brook.
 - G. Outline of Letter to Membership. John reviewed some thoughts of what should be covered in the next update email to the membership.
- Other Business
 - A. John will follow up with Kim Hallquist on the road safety issue that was brought forward in the fall by Laurel Bobrowich.
 - B. John reviewed an issue raised by Heather Steinmetz about uranium in well water. John stated that he and Donna are in process of getting their well water tested.
 - Board Meeting Schedule.
 - A) Future meeting schedule for this board year: 6/9/15, and 8/8/15 (Annual Meeting).

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Doyle