

MESSER POND PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
June 15, 2016

Present:

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

Absent:

Dick Denise, Vice President, Treasurer
Vacant - Secretary

Via Conference Call:

Ethan Simon, Director
Gabe Bolin

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 April 19, 2016 meeting were approved as circulated.
- Watershed Plan - Project Status Review
 - A. The board discussed the input from the focus group that was assembled to review the Watershed Plan. The neighbors who attended agreed that the Annual Meeting should concentrate primarily on a discussion of what comes next, now that the watershed plan has been completed. The meeting should focus on the top priorities, the 4 things to address over next year and how folks can get involved. All background material should be distributed prior to the meeting and reviewed by having an opportunity for folks to ask questions.
 - B. John reviewed the meeting that was held with the Kim Hallquist (Town Administrator) and Lucy St John (Town Planner). The status and findings of the Watershed Plan were reviewed and the non-structural BMP recommendations were discussed. Kim and Lucy felt it would be appropriate to present the recommendations to the Planning Board at their meeting on 6/28. This meeting was chosen because it was a working meeting where items to be considered for zoning amendments and regulations will be discussed.
 - C. The meeting that was held with Kim Hallquist, Lucy St John and Richard Lee (DPW Director) was discussed. The goal of this meeting was to review the Watershed Plan and the structural BMP recommendations with Richard, and hopefully reach consensus on a direction. Based on current DPW work plans, it was decided that the County Road Brook BMPs be addressed first. John will write up a grant to cover a portion of that work and will review it with this group before submission.

The group also discussed the possibility of the association paying for the catch basin cleaning work every other year, allowing the DPW to outsource the effort. The Kim and Richard thought this would be acceptable and John will present this at the annual meeting and determine membership support for the idea.

Richard also gave a timeline for the repair of the Bog Road culvert. John will contact Richard relative to the work's impact on flood zoning and road closing. John will also ask if the boat launch could be repaired at the same time.

- D. John contacted the Deb Langer, the Town Health Officer, relative to the septic survey work and the Watershed Plan's septic BMP recommendations. Deb has not called back.
- E. Dick Showalter said he had been in contact with a representative from PLPA and they were interested in discussing our plan and findings. Dick will reach out to both the LSPA and PLPA and pull a meeting together. The goal of the meeting will be to review the analysis and discuss possible areas where the groups could collaborate on the recommendations. Dick will ask June to help provide a contact at Little Lake Sunapee and Otter Pond
- F. Sue found a contact at the NHTI and sent a letter to the head of the environmental department. Ethan mentioned that he has not received a reply from CSC, but will reach out again.

John mentioned that during the focus group discussion, Pat Harris suggested that maybe offering specific project opportunities (rather than general ones) may be more productive at generating interest at the schools.

- G. John reviewed what items will be included in the 319h grant. They include: address the storm water runoff on County Road at the culvert crossing, perform outreach to the watershed residents along the entire length of County Road Brook to improve shoreline buffers, complete the septic survey, and investigate phosphorus filtering options that could be implemented at the County Road culvert. The outreach and septic survey efforts will provide opportunities for grant matches.

It was mentioned that we should also contact ASLPT, because the work on County Road may impact their property in the area. In addition, any issues with Messer Pond potentially affect Clark Pond and their downstream assets.

- H. The board discussed with Gabe the possibility of developing an expanded water sampling plan to cover not only areas highlighted by the Watershed Plan but also to address some of the questions that we received from the DOT.

- Business Items

- A. The board discussed the timeframe and format changes for the Annual Meeting. It will be held at the New London Baptist Church on 7/30/2016 from 9 – 11 am. It will be a working meeting with food available during the meeting

The board unanimously agreed to not charge for the event. The board reviewed a preliminary agenda. John will send out an email for volunteers to provide breakfast food and to help with set up and cleanup.

- Membership/Recruitment.
 - A. John reported that the Septic Maintenance program had about 8 members participating. This effort was organized by Nancy Stetson.
 - B. The board discussed possible items that should be covered in the newsletter leading up to the annual meeting.
 - C. The board review the possibility of publishing the membership on the web site. The board felt that a disclaimer around use should be included. Scott will follow up after the meeting and provide a few ideas.

- Finances.
 - A. The group had two questions on the financial statements: 1. Did we receive the final payment of \$1,600 from the Moose Plate grant and 2. Did we double pay our donation to NH Lakes. John will follow up with Dick Denise on these questions.
 - B. Dick Denise will be retiring from the board at the end of his term as treasurer. The next news letter to the membership will ask for a volunteer. Dick Showalter said that he would fill in until a replacement is found.
 - C. With Dick's retirement, the group also suggested that we investigate some procedural things relative to the treasurer position: 1. Do checks of a certain amount require two signatures? 2. Who has signature authority on the checking account presently? 3. Who has access to the association's PO Box? John will follow up with Dick Denise on these questions.
 - D. In the interim, the board voted that that John Doyle and Dick Showalter should add their names to the checking account.

- Weed Management.
 - A. Donna Doyle reported that she has coverage for all pond areas except the west end of the pond. Otherwise, most folks have already been out at least once.

- Lake Hosting.
 - A. Sue Showalter reported that the paid lake host coverage over the Memorial Day weekend through the middle of June has gone well. Volunteer host coverage have been scheduled and starts the end of June.

- Water Quality.

- A. John reported on the VLAP workshop held in Concord on 5/21/16. Two very interesting talks from Vermont DES; one on the importance of not disturbing areas just off shore in lakes and ponds; as these areas are prime areas for fish reproduction. The other outreach to watershed residents and the use of social media to maintain and improve compliance with shoreline buffers regulations.

One of the handouts at the Workshop was an environmental fact sheet explaining the impact that motorized craft have on pond ecology. John will distribute this to the membership.

- Watershed Management

- A. The spring culvert cleanup went very well. The board approved the purchase of gas cards for JP Parquette and Curt Hinline; to reimburse them for the use of their trailer and front loader.

- Fish & Wildlife.

- A. John will contact the Elkins Fish and Game about helping with a fish survey.

- Education & Activities.

- A. July 4th BBQ – was not held, no one volunteered to organize the event.

- Other Business

- A. No discussion.

- Board Meeting Schedule.

- A) July 30th, Annual Meeting

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Doyle