

MESSER POND PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 10, 2013

Present:

John Doyle, President  
Dave Hennig, Vice President  
Dick Denise, Treasurer  
Barbara Troxell, Director  
Rody Denise, Director  
Sue Shock, Director  
Scott Ellison, Director  
Alison Hennig, Secretary  
Nancy Stetson, Ex Officio

The meeting began at 7:00 p.m. with a quorum present. Bullet style minutes are presented below.

- Minutes from the June 11, 2013 meeting were unanimously approved as circulated.
- Business Items
  - A. Whistleblower Policy and Conflict of Interest statements were reviewed and signed by the new Board members; documents will be filed with the secretary.
  - B. John provided a list of roles and responsibilities to be filled by the current Board. Tasks were reviewed, and various members volunteered to be point person for certain tasks. Top priority is the kickoff meeting for the Watershed Plan, discussed in more detail later in these minutes. Alison volunteered to write the annual submission to the Town Annual Report. Sue volunteered to take the membership/recruitment position, and Barbara will assist. The culvert clean-out may not be necessary this fall but Dave will organize a culvert review. Regarding the Watershed Plan, we decided we need two support teams consisting of 6 people each to work as volunteers under Gabe's direction. Nancy, John and Bruce will coordinate water sampling.
- Membership. Alison reported that we are currently at 53 families and 113 members. Reminders were sent earlier this month to members who had not renewed. The 2013 membership roster will be updated and distributed to the membership by the end of the month.
- Treasurer's Report. Dick reported current bank balance is \$14,137, reflecting additional membership dues received. The D & O insurance rate was raised from \$479 to \$545. He will check out other quotes for insurance from other providers.

- **Weed Management.** No formal reports provided. Next season Terri Bingham will continue running the Lake Host program, and Donna Doyle will take over the Weed Watching program.
- **Water Quality.** There was only one water quality testing sample done this year, and three last year, making only five testings in the last three years. More frequent testing is desired.
- **Watershed Management.** It was decided to wait until after the Watershed Management Plan kickoff meeting to send a letter to all addresses in the watershed with map and information about protecting the MPPA watershed. We may also wish to add information from the kickoff meeting, and homeowner tips or guide to watershed management. Scott thinks we should consider adding an additional watershed sign on Burpee Hill Rd.
- **Fish & Wildlife.** Dave reported that since the beaver relocation this spring, there has been no apparent further beaver activity on the pond. The Canada geese were not a problem this season and are now migrating. There have been sightings of a loon on Messer Pond. We need to clean out the duck boxes and can email Frank for directions on this. Nancy has the wood duck decoys.
- **Education & Activities**
  - A) **Watershed Management Plan Kick-Off.** The kickoff meeting will be held at the home of Dick & Rody Denise on an evening in early October. Besides inviting MPPA members, we will invite Kim Hallquist and Lucy St. John from the Town, plus Rick Anderson from Pleasant Lake Association, and Debbie Stanley from Ausbon Sargent. The purpose of the kickoff meeting is to introduce people to Gabe Bolin, the watershed engineer, to hear about how to approach a study on the impaired status of Messer Pond water quality, and to recruit volunteers to assist with the study.
  - B) **Fall Luncheon.** Barbara reported that the annual Fall Luncheon is planned for Thursday, October 24<sup>th</sup> at King Hill Kitchen (subsequently changed to Millstone Restaurant). Info will be emailed to membership shortly.
- **BaseFlow Watershed Plan.** John talked about Gabe Bolin of Baseflow LLC, who we are considering hiring for the Watershed Plan. He is personable, professional, has excellent references, and is able to navigate DES and the Town. The Board evaluated the statement of work contract and felt that overall it looks good, and we will be able to save on the cost with volunteer hours. Concerns were raised about the clauses on insurance and 10 day notice to terminate. After discussion, the Board authorized John to finalize changes to the contract and to sign it, using his best judgment. John has received the DES letter stating the impaired status of Messer Pond. John would like to assign specific tasks: publicity, grantwriting, and fundraising. Other next steps include lining up volunteers (so far we have

Dave, Dick and Jeff Troxell, and would like at least 3 more). It was suggested that we try to get Bob Brown on board as a champion. Eric Williams at DES recommends starting some demonstration projects to garner support. Sue has been researching the Moose Plate Grant Program and Nancy has begun the application process for the NH Charitable Foundation Small Grant Program. Sue and Barbara will use a copy of the membership list for a focused door-to-door campaign to garner additional support.

- Other Business. The marker for the deep water spot is missing. Apparently it was caught up in a boat propeller. Nancy will email members to remind them what the marker is for and to stay clear of the marker. We may wish to switch to a GPS system in lieu of a floating marker. In addition, Barbara recently encountered a bear on Forest Acres Road; apparently it is not afraid of people and has done minor property damage at various homes in search of food. Nancy will send a warning to the membership in her next communication. We also received a nice thank-you note from Terri Bingham for the kind words and farewell gift which she received at the Annual Meeting.
- Board Meeting Schedule. The next meeting is scheduled for 11/12/13.

The meeting adjourned at 9:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alison Hennig  
MPPA Secretary