

MESSER POND PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
SEPTEMBER 13, 2011

Present for the meeting:

Nancy Stetson, President
Terri Bingham, Vice President
J.P. Paquette, Treasurer
Dick Denise, Director
Frank King, Director
Alison Hennig, Secretary

Absent:

Rody Denise, Director
John Doyle, Director
Barbara Troxell, Director

The meeting began at 7:05 p.m. with a quorum present. Bullet style minutes are presented below.

- Minutes from 6/16/11 meeting unanimously approved as submitted.
- President: Conflict of Interest Policy, as stated in our Bylaws, was read and signed by all members in attendance; an action that will be done annually at the first meeting of each new board of directors. Members not in attendance will be asked to sign at their convenience. A Whistleblower Policy, required for 501(c)(3) organizations, was unanimously adopted and signed by the secretary .
- NH Lakes submitted a request for additional support; we sent an additional \$200, as voted on unanimously via email, for a total of \$500.
- J.P. is updating the membership list spreadsheet and will provide the final list to Nancy and Alison. The membership count includes children when a family membership is selected.
- Unanimously voted to update website to accept PayPal transactions for membership dues or donations.
- Treasurer: Bank balance stands at \$9,979.67 reconciled, with no outstanding expenses. Paid town invoice for boat launch signs: \$64.99. Paid annual D & O insurance: \$495. Question regarding cost of D & O insurance coverage; Terri will check the Food Pantry's insurance cost which is with Colby Insurance. J.P. will give the D & O insurance policy to Alison for record keeping.
- J.P. will follow up with Donna Miller of New London Book Keeping about changing our QuickBooks setup to comply with 501(c)(3) requirements. J.P., Terri and Nancy had an initial meeting with Donna in July.
- Vice President: This year's Lake Host program has seen an increase in both the number of boats, 185, and number of inspections, 304. The number of paid lake hosting hours has increased, while the number of volunteer lake hosts has decreased, almost to a crisis point. The program will cost more money to MPPA without more volunteers. Discussion was held on strategies for drumming up more interest in volunteering, including emails and phone calls.

- Besides the Lake Host program, we are also in need of volunteers to help with the newsletter, website, fundraising and Weed Watching. Forming committees would be a good idea. People on the board are overworked and are also going to retire at some point. We will think about how to approach the membership and likely institute phone calls.
- The Weed Watch workshop by Amy Smagula on July 16th was excellent, with high attendance and great feedback by those who attended.
- Water Quality: In John Doyle's absence, it was noted that we are not sure how many times water quality testing has been done over the summer. J.P. stated that this year's lab analysis bills are comparable to last year's and last year testing was done 3 times. We would like an update on water quality. Also we will look into generating a new bathymetric map of Messer Pond next year using equipment offered by DES.
- Watershed: Dick reported that the Lake Conservation Corps project on four Messer Pond properties has not broken ground yet because of the lack of an adult supervisor for the students. Science teachers at Kearsarge Regional High School were asked but not all have responded. An alternative is a Boy Scout leader with Boy Scouts as the student workers. Dick will ask NH Lakes if there is a time limit for the LCC grant because the project may have to start in the spring due to impending frost.
- The watershed address database is ready. Dick will shoot for April 2012 to send a stewardship letter to watershed residents.
- Fall Cleanup was set for Oct. 22nd, with a tentative date of Sept. 30th for culvert review.
- Loon census on July 16th this year showed no sightings. There was no activity in the wood duck boxes except for one near the Kaufmans. Frank discovered some eggshells in the box and thought Audubon might be able to identify them. Frank is considering installing another wood duck box. Also no trout sightings were reported although it was rumored that a fisherman told a paid lake host that he caught one.
- We are grateful that the island rope swing was taken down by the Weavers because it was unsafe.
- Education/Activities: The July 4th Barbecue, Annual Meeting and Regatta were all a big success. MPPA member Jack Hughes asked if we would consider serving grilled food at the Regatta in the future, and he would be glad to cook. We will poll the membership for interest.
- Fall Luncheon will be on Oct. 14th at The Inn at Pleasant Lake, for a cost of \$25/pp inclusive. They will be serving on the porch. Terri is working with the Inn to create a nice menu. When ready, an announcement will be sent out to the membership.
- Holiday Gathering will be on Dec. 10th generously hosted by the Troxells.
- We are thinking of ideas for an educational event at the Library, and perhaps a ski, skate or snowshoe activity sometime during the winter.

- Fundraising: Nancy displayed the beautiful new MPPA note cards available for sale at \$15 each. Regarding the 2012 calendar, it was unanimously approved for Nancy to order 75 calendars at a cost of approximately \$799; these will sell for \$15 apiece. J.P. proposed that we create an archive of old calendar photos on the website. The new calendars and note cards will be available for purchase at the Fall Luncheon. We have also sold three tee shirts recently and given one to our annual meeting speaker as a thank you. There are still several of the old note cards left.
- The meeting schedule for the current term is as follows:
 - Tuesday, November 8, 2011 – BOD
 - Tuesday, February 21, 2012 – BOD
 - Tuesday, April 10, 2012 – BOD
 - Tuesday, June 12, 2012 – BOD
 - Saturday, July 28, 2012 – Annual Meeting
- With no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alison Hennig,
Secretary