

MESSER POND PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
November 16, 2016

Present:

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

Absent:

Vacant, Vice President
Vacant - Secretary
Ethan Simon, Director

Via Conference Call:

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 September 21, 2016 meeting were approved as circulated with the suggested correction on the ‘gift card’ wording (change to “reimbursement for use”).
- Business Items
 - A. The Annual Town Report is due by mid-January. John will circulate a draft for comments and will contact Nancy Stetson for possible pond pictures to include.
- Watershed Plan - Project Status Review
 - A. John summarized his meetings with town boards and abutters relative to the County Road Brook BMP. We received letters of support from the Planning Board (on behalf of the Town of NL), the ASLPT and William Green. These were included in the grant application.
 - B. The pre-proposal for the Watershed Assistance grant was submitted on 10/20/2016. John contacted the DES and reported that the selection of the applications is scheduled for the end of November. Assuming we are awarded the grant, Dick Showalter asked how the monies are distributed. John explained that as we send invoices to the DES as tasks are completed (with supporting documentation).
 - C. John and Dick reviewed the two meetings that were held with the LPSA. The first on 10/5 was a presentation on our Watershed plan and a discussion on common areas that the associations could partner on. Representatives from LSPA, PLPA, LLSPA and Murry Pond attended. There was general agreement about the effect of salt run-off from I-89 and the resulting high conductance in the waterbodies. The group agreed it would be appropriate to address the issue with DOT once more data is gathered.

The second meeting was a general round table discussion (Q&A) with town officials on how to maintain compliance with town regulations. The group discussed ways that the lake associations could assist in that effort.

The Board's conversation then turned to how to track the current and future watershed BMP tasks the MPPA will be undertaking. Dick Showalter suggested creating a gant chart (3-5 years window) to be able to represent the plan and be able talk about progress to members and outside groups. John mentioned that the DES maintains a Project Tracking sheet on BMP's called out in the Watershed Plan. John will distribute a copy as a possible option to monitoring work.

- D. At these meetings at LSPA, John had a conversation with Paul Gorman (chairman of Planning Board) about the status of the non-structural BMP recommendations that were made to the committee. Paul said they may start/continue an effort to update overlay districts and storm water runoff regulations. He will call if that effort is started.
- E. Sue will reconnect with NHTI to determine if there is still interest in partnering and developing a student project relative to researching issues in the watershed. John will attempt to re-engage with CSC by contacting Laura Alexander (professor and member of NL Conservation Committee).
- Membership/Recruitment.
 - A. Dick Showalter summarized his conversation with Nancy Stetson on membership renewals. The Board had a general discussion on how to reach out to members to foster early signups. John will contact Nancy Stetson about emailing a dedicated membership renewal letter - to be sent out early in the year (January-February) to remind everyone to renew early and not wait until the Annual Meeting.
 - B. Nancy Stetson will update the membership list, send it out to the Board and post the list on the website.
 - C. The Board then had a discussion on the administration of the web site, which is currently maintained by Nancy Stetson. The group discussed long term support and need for someone to help/backup Nancy. Several alternatives were evaluated but no decisions were reached. The topic was tabled for discussion at another meeting.
- Finances.
 - A. Dick Showalter reviewed the P&L and Balance sheets. He also reviewed the expenses paid in the last quarter with the Board approving expenses for calendars, notecards and t-shirts from 2013 to present. The Board noted the lateness of these receipts and emphasized that expenses need to be reported in a timely fashion.

Dick also discussed that he is looking for good internal controls, hopes we all ask questions and look for updates and clarification when appropriate.
 - B. Dick will provide Gabe Bolin a 1099 by the end of February.

- C. The Board agreed to eliminate most of the watershed management donation options on the current membership renewal form. Dick Showalter will work with Nancy Stetson to design a new membership form.
- D. The conversation returned to the outreach effort proposed in the Watershed Grant. John will contact Rick Aseltine and Beth Greenawalt. They had volunteered to write newsletters. This effort needs to be timed such that hours spent can be used as in-kind match for the grant. The Board thought that the first letter could be used as a way of introducing (reintroducing) MPPA to the target audience.
- Lake Hosting.
 - A. Sue Showalter and Donna Doyle attended the Board of Selectmen's Non-profit budget review. The MPPA requested \$3,200 for the 2017 season (\$300 less than last year). The Board of Selectmen approved the request and forwarded their recommendation to the Budget Committee.
- Weed Management.
 - A. No report
- Water Quality.
 - A. No report.
- Watershed Management
 - A. John was contacted by Doug Adamian regarding his proposed addition. Doug was asked by the Planning Board and Conservation Commission to get a letter of support from the MPPA. John reviewed the plan (with Gabe Bolin) and provided the letter. John reviewed the design with the Board.
 - B. John reported that he was informed that the covenant restricting development to the shore on the Pond Edge waterfront lots was removed at the Planning Board meeting on 10/11/2016.
 - C. Scott Ellison reported on his title research on the Messer Pond boat launch. He reviewed the language in the property title, stipulations of use and the definition of a public boat launch.
- Fish & Wildlife.
 - A. Beaver Activity - It was agreed to address the issue in the springtime. The cost of relocation will be researched and the membership polled for a direction.
 - B. Duck boxes – John will contact the Elkins F&G Club to determine if the maintenance is still planned for this winter.
- Education & Activities.

A. John will contact John and Pat Harris on the planning for the Holiday wine and cheese party.

- Other Business

A. Sue Shock will reserve the library meeting room for the 2/15/2017 board meeting.

- Board Meeting Schedule.

A) Proposed Meeting Schedule for rest of the year:

4/19, 6/21 July/August (?) - Annual Meeting

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Doyle