

MESSER POND PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
May 14, 2020

Present:

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

Absent:

Tom McCauley, Director  
Ethan Simon, Director

A remote meeting via Zoom began at 6:00 p.m. with a quorum present. Bullet style minutes are presented below. Donna Doyle filled in to help take meeting notes.

- Lake Hosting
  - The Association has received 2 grants to fund the program this season:  
NH Lakes - \$1,750 and Town of New London - \$3,400
  - The Board reviewed the safety protocols that have been instituted by NH Lakes in response to the COVID-19 outbreak. The mailbox and sign-in sheet will be removed so as to eliminate shared points of contact. Hosts will be encouraged to enter time and surveys online.
  - Sue Showalter updated the Board on the status of paid lake host hiring as well as the volunteers that will be working at the launch.
  - It was noted that the “Private Property” sign was not replaced when the gate was removed. The Board will install a new sign as well as replace the broken reflectors.
  
- Minutes from the February 19, 2020 were approved as circulated.
  
- Business Items
  - The Board voted to cancel the Annual Meeting given the restrictions that are in place limiting large gatherings because of the COVID-19 outbreak. The NL Historical Society will be contacted about our decision.
  - Board reports and other Association information will be distributed via email as has been the practice the last several years. The Board will investigate options on ways to conduct other business (as required by the By-Laws).
  
- Watershed Management Plan Status
  - The Moose Plate Grant is scheduled to be approved at the 5/20/2020 Governor’s Council Meeting.
  - The Board discussed the project goals and requirements of the NH DES Watershed Assistance grant. The Board decided to move forward and voted unanimously to accept the grant. In

addition, the Board authorized the President to execute any documents which may be necessary for this contract.

- Request for Qualifications were posted for grant work on the DES website at the start of May. Aside from the firms that worked on the previous grant, we have received other unsolicited inquiries. Overall, the level of interest looks promising.
- The homeowner on Burpee Hill Road has been contacted about the stream restoration work that was postponed from the last grant. The work is scheduled for this summer – once the Watershed Assistance grant is approved.
- We have been notified that the NH Lakes Congress has been cancelled.
- The NH DOT was contacted about the stormwater management work on I-89 at Exit 9. The project manager still needs to be contacted.

- Membership/Recruitment

- 16 families have renewed their membership for 2020.
- The membership update letter will include a membership reminder.
- It was suggested that the next outreach mailing to the entire watershed explicitly ask for folks to join the MPPA.
- The MPPA qualifies for the free non-profit version of G-Suite. The next task is to authorize the use of our domain name (messerpond.org).

- Finances

- The Association has \$28,275 in the checking account.
- The treasurer's responsibility will transition to Sue Shock in September when Dick Showalter leaves to winter on the west coast.

- Weed management

- All shore areas have been assigned and weed watching will start in May.

- Water Quality

- John Harris has contacted CSC to schedule sampling dates.
- The VLAP workshop has been canceled.

- Watershed Management

- The Board again pended any discussion on the existence of invasive plants at Bog Road (Nutter Brook) and County Road (County Brook) – waiting until the Town of NL completes the licensing/training of DPW personnel planned for next year.

- Fish and Wildlife

- The Elkins F&G performed maintenance on only 2 of the boxes due to scheduling issues.

- Education & Activities
  - The NL Inn Thursday's Child fundraiser is cancelled.
  - Mid-Summer's Night - cancelled.
  
- Other Business
  - A reminder about well water testing will be sent to the membership in May.
  - A reminder about the impact of fireworks will be sent out in late June.
  - Nancy Stetson heard from Byron's and will send out a notice about the discount septic maintenance program.
  - The board again decided to postpone any discussion on repairing the launch to a future meeting.
  
- Board Meeting Schedule.

The proposed meeting schedule for the rest of the fiscal year:

Jun 17  
Annual Meeting - cancelled

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Doyle