

WOPWA Board Meeting

Saturday, June 7th – 9am at Anne Knight's home

Attending: Anne Knight, Will Stratton, Nancy McDonald, Janet Cocchiaro, Galen Yates, Ted Vasant, Nancy Voorhis, Lisa Lovett, Marty Hirsch, Anne Ireland, Kevin Frank, Rich Cocchiaro

Absent: Sara Young, Caryn McHose,

Reviewed minutes of 2007 Annual Meeting. Anne Knight made motion to accept minutes as presented – Second by Marty – minutes approved.

Will – Treasurer's report

40 dues paying members

\$1350 – balance forward. Expenses to date are \$1150

We will probably spend the remainder for water sampling before the July annual meeting

Fiscal year ends June 30th

\$1250 is allocated to Mary Perry Conservation fund, leaving an operating operating balance of \$200.

Membership – Update to membership database by Lisa. Nancy V will “migrate” the entire watershed database from Excel to Word document in order to make a report of members in a “friendlier” format.

Summer/winter address should be designated. Invalid addresses will be corrected when possible, or person's residence validated at Town Offices. Otherwise person should be removed from the database.

Yerkes/Whitings/Currier are additions

Water Quality – Galen

1 tributary sampling taken so far. Chloride testing OK but need to continue to include manage/maintain the shoreline and overall health of pond re. Chris's presentation at last year's Annual Meeting.

Cynobacteria (neurotoxin) lacted with tiny blooms last year – aided by phosphorus – high temps – long drought followed by heavy rainfall. We must be on the lookout for it...not good to come in contact with it.

We should list the “green” do's and don'ts on our WOPW website. We can post the handouts from DES on our website and have other DES information accessible via links on the website. Place the list under “water quality” and the list of do's and don'ts. (bullet points) should be right there.

NH volunteer lake assessment program for White Oak Pond – biennial report 2007 from DES – sent to Nancy V.

Suggestion: send a postcard of do's and don'ts to all people in the watershed. Also send notice about Mary Perry Conservation fund and annual meeting.

For more info about water quality, see website.

Janet C suggested that a copy of the biennial report be sent to SLA so they can keep them on file. Nancy will send reports from 2005 on to SLA via Janet.

Summary of WQ will be ready for annual meeting

Dam update: Janet met with Board of Selectman about dam. The selectman would like dam maintenance processes in place. Barry Eastman's health is of concern. The top board was removed to prevent road flooding and replaced too early this spring whereby it affected the fish trying to spawn downstream. There was too little water in the stream. We are looking for a back up person for Barry. The selectman have money set aside for the management of the dam. Need to replace rotted boards and rusing mechanism. Having someone from SLA or the Fire Department to manage the dam is a possibility.

After ice out this past spring the lake went down a foot/16" very quickly...the precipitous drop is unhealth. We don't know who opened it or when they opened it.

Janet mentioned the Holderness Selectman meeting to be held at the Town Hall on Monday, June 9th. The dam is on the agenda. Walter Johnson, our town administrator would like a representative from WOPWA at the meeting. No one is able to attend so Janet will contact Peter Webster post-meeting for updates.

Issues are : Date trigger – water level trigger – don't want spring run-off on road – there is a date for draw down in the fall...Peter Furmanik is not the guy...

Suggestion: Investigate getting a device that monitors the level of pond – GPS uses it – someone could look at what's happening and put board in...Janet C called Peter Webster this morning and he gave her this update . Janet will get in touch with Chris Devine/Peter after meeting to see what they decided.

Lake access signage – Ted/Bob

Ted thanked Kevin and Anne for wording on the sign (see printout of sign proposal). Ted made calls about pricing – simple metal sign to put on post – 12 x 18 by Signorama in Concord...one color - \$48; Two color – \$52

Welcome to White Oak Pond

Please help us protect the natural beauty of this pond

This public boat access resides on **private property** and state law governs lake usage.

Please observe the following:

Clean your boat hull of all vegetation before entering pond

Park at your own risk – **4 vehicles** maximum

State law prohibits motors over **7.5 horsepower**

Keep this area clean

This sign provided by the **White Oak Pond Watershed Association**

www.whiteoakpond.com

Kevin explained that Bob Rothschild is in control of the boat access since he owns the property – until someone challenges it (via court). If people complain – hire attorney - Bob did place big rocks to keep trailers out of the Pond because of liability...if trailer pulled out and got hit...

Ted will get proofs of signage – Nancy McD has contact at Omni Signs in Meredith so she'll get quotes too.

Ted will contact Bob R about the sign's wording.

Mary Perry Conservation Committee – Rich/Kevin/Bob

Bob Maloney, Rich Cocchiaro and Kevin Frank were members of this active committee that prepared the reports sent out via email to Board members.

Kevin – funnel money through SLCS – Roger LaRochelle of SLCS is supportive - is aware that people spend money when conserving property...\$25k...formula based on how much is in the fund...funds raised by solicitation...anyone in area who wants to contribute...no details on fund drive yet.

Fund will increase through direct donation (tax deductible) or surplus from our general fund on an annual basis.

\$ distributed once a conservation project is completed - is that too restrictive? Front-ending of expenses

Reassurance? Formal agreement – once you complete project you will receive X dollars...approval in advance...person knows they will receive X dollars...

To raise money – solicitation should go to entire watershed...incl. SLA members.

Will asked if we should we send \$1250 today to SLCS. We agreed the check should be sent as soon as account is open and checks can be received. Ann Ireland so moved//Marty seconded and Board approved.

Process for managing the Fund: Designate person to manage fund – the treasurer. The Committee will review applications/approves and then sends to Board for approval – Board appropriates funds based on recommendation – Board could vote via email/phone.

Board approved the report from the Committee. Documents will be corrected by Kevin for distribution at annual meeting but the Annual Meeting announcement should tweak people's interest about the Fund.

Checks should be written to: SLCS – Mary H. Perry Conservation Fund and mail to Will or SLCS. SLCS would need to generate report to treasurer.

Hawk sighting

For publicity about our fund, Janet should ask SLA to include Mary H. Perry Fund in their newsletter – and SLCS' newsletter – generate press release after annual meeting.

Website Update/suggestions – Nancy Voorhis

Need to add new tab on Conservatio. The best process for a website is for people to go there – send Nancy suggestions – there's a feedback form on site...Other suggestions include a blog capability? Member login? Nancy suggested we go from com to org...i.e. Wopwa.org? The importance of changing to it to org rather than com is to imply an organization and not a business.

Member area login would be for Members only bulletin board...access to list, for rent, for sale, craft items for sale, event happenings, personal ad's, lost pet, men seeking men, bass seeking perch, etc. based on email addresses...

Link to SLA and SLCS are already there...applications online for viewing and printing...conservation groups need to be on the site...

Blog is description tied to individual...do we want a forum? "pond observations"...Nancy will start it..."I heard the loons last night"...so NOT a blog – it will be a forum...

Historical Documents/HHS – Anne knight/Kevin frank

Holderness Historical Society has file cabinet space available for storage of WOPWA documents...hard copy...do we want them scanned? (not all of them)...Galen will take them to HHS... Will's Treasurer's reports will be filed there and not scanned.

Nominating Committee Suggestions – Marty/Lisa

All officers – pres, vp have served one of their two year terms.

VP - Dave Peterson will not be able to serve a second term. Need replacement

Treasurer – ongoing – has to be reelected – Will S will continue as long as there is no audit

President - Anne will continue if elected

Secretary - Lisa will not continue. Need replacement

Those completing second year of second Board term – Bill Southard, Lisa Lovett, Margery Bogdanow, Marty Hirsch, Ted Vansant – and thus will NOT continue on the Board next year.

Moving into second year of second term – Sara Young, David Peterson (will not continue), Caryn McHose (will not continue)

First year to second year of first term: Nancy McDonald, Ann Ireland, Galen Yates and Will Brown

Janet Cocchiaro has agreed to be on the Board – but not as an officer.

The NomCom will have to find other WOWA members to serve on the Board since many people are leaving the Board and fill vacant positions of Officers.

Annual Meeting – July 19 – 10 am – Holderness Historical Society – at no charge...moving forward... HHS function room reserved from 9 – 2 pm...

Set up: Janet, Will, Marty

Clean up: Anne Ireland and others?

Arrangements for food – Beth DeCluitt or Nancy McDonald

Lois S – crafts – Will asked on her behalf if there's still interest – yes

Lisa L – won't be at annual meeting – She will find someone to take minutes

Discuss timing frame for annual meeting...no outside speakers

9:30 – 10 social time; 10 – 11:30 meeting; Lunch to follow_

Other business – renewal of association memberships is done at annual meeting - \$300 which is an increase for New Hampshire Lakes Assoc. Add SLCS - \$250

Meeting adjourned at 11:47 – motion by Marty, seconded by Galen

Suggestions to NomCom of people to contact in the next few weeks:

Secretary: Joan Vicinus, Mimsy Uhler, Peggy Wicksman

Will Brown for VP

Board Members – Bob Maloney, Ann Levin or another Levin, Lois Stratton, Bob/Sara Rothschild, Roger Uhler, Steve Wicksman, Chuck Vicinus