

WOPWA Annual Meeting Minutes

July 28, 2012 at the Holderness Historical Society
Final Version (approved on 7/20/13 at Annual Meeting)

Meeting called to order at 9 am.

Attending: Will Stratton, Lois Stratton, Doug DeCluitt, Steve Wicksman, Connie Hirsch, Marty Hirsch, Ted Van Sant, Janet Cocchiaro, Rich Cocchiaro, Sid Lovett, Bob Maloney, Bonnie Hunt, Will Brown, Betsy Falk, Al Falk, Nancy Voorhis, Anne Knight, Mary Anne Saul, Kevin Frank, Anne Ireland, Blake Ireland, Anne Levin, Galen Beach, Beth DeCluitt, Virginia Hood, Mimzie Uhler, Roger Uhler, Deborah Freedberg

Guests: Roger Larochelle (SLCS), Harry Vogel (LPS)

Approval of minutes from July 23, 2011 annual meeting moved by Will Brown, 2nd by Bonnie Hunt. Unanimously approved.

Treasurer's report:

Will Stratton reported an opening balance of \$2084.17 in July 2011 and a closing balance as of June 30, 2012 of \$2178.48

revenue

dues	\$1337.50
craft sales	10.00
interest	.49
total	\$1347.99 (43 members contributing)

expenses

water testing	\$172.67
taxes, assn dues	300.00
SLCS for CV	100.00
Historical Society	100.00
Loon Pres. Society	250.00
WOPWA brochure	135.75
administration	195.26
total	\$1253.68

surplus of \$94.31

Mary Perry Conservation Fund through June 1, 2012

opened with a balance of \$16,086.74
2 grants awarded for a total of \$5272.92
contributions and earnings: \$658.18
closing balance of \$11,472.00

Sid Lovett moved to accept treasurer's report, Second by Bonnie Hunt: approved by all.

Website - Nancy Voorhis

No major changes to the website. Nancy continues to post meeting dates and minutes. Please let her know if you want any other information on website. She requests some new photos, especially of the loon chicks. Bob Maloney thanked Nancy for all her work in maintaining the website.

Water Quality Report - Galen Beach and Nancy Voorhis

We received a report for 2011 from NHDES. Water quality monitoring is a collaborative effort between us and state. The funding has been cut so this year's report is abbreviated. The water quality report is available through links on the WOPWA website and Nancy has hard copy which she is happy to share.

In a comparison of White Oak Pond and other lakes, White Oak Pond is generally average in areas tested. The exception is in the algae count in the pond which has a higher variability than is ideal. Nancy pointed out the section on best management practices for shoreline activity in the report. Topics covered include: how to reduce algae growth, how frequently it is safe to add sand, and changes in vegetation. If you are a shore line owner please review.

Nancy also mentioned that the state of NH also emphasizes need to be aware of invasive vegetation in our pond.

Anne Knight asked about lily pad control. Nancy will ask the biologist when she comes.

There are still some areas of high conductivity in some parts of the pond. It is unclear what this means, but we need to stay aware. Acid Neutralizing Capacity has improved as have the total phosphorus levels.

Galen encouraged planting of native species close to the shore line as a natural filtering system

Membership Updates - Lois Stratton

We are counting on personal contacts to bring new members into the association since the mass mailing was not effective. Lois has distributed WOPWA flyers to local businesses. Will has made a box for flyers by the dam for our boating visitors. Please invite new neighbors to join us.

Nancy asked if we could develop a logo for WOPWA. Anne Levin was wearing her WOP tee shirt and the group expressed interest in having a new t-shirt. Kevin will try to find original art work for Anne's t-shirt. Galen suggested a logo design contest. Board has authorization to spend up to \$300 on logo and t-shirt.

Bob asked for new e-mail addresses of new neighbors so we could include them in our informational e-mails. Nancy pointed out that unsolicited e-mails are not always welcome. Roger LaRochelle suggested we use the town of Holderness website for information. Nancy pointed out that Mimzie has used that source. No final decisions were made.

Mary Perry Conservation Fund- Kevin Frank

Kevin reviewed purpose of the fund to support people making conservation easements within the watershed. Our fund contributed to the Brown easement this past year. Please make a contribution this fall to support future easements in the watershed.

Bob Maloney asked the Association to amend the original definition of transactional costs covered by the Mary Perry Fund to include stewardship. Bob has proposed that the original definition of transaction costs includes stewardship with original limits on funds expended. Sid Lovett moved to approve change with a second by Kevin Frank. Unanimously approved.

Roger LaRochelle - SLCS

Roger applauds the work of WOPWA. progress and expressed great pleasure in working with the Brown family. Roger's update on the activities of the SLCS included: 20% of Squam watershed is under conservation, the goal to put 1/3 of land in conservation with a current focus on the uplands, a Land Trust Coalition has been formed to help with advocacy on the political side along with education and capacity building. The SLSC annual meeting is on 8/18 at 9 am. All are invited.

Harry Vogel - Loon Preservation Society

Harry came to address our concerns about banding the loons. He reviewed the information that is gathered from banding the loons. He also reassured the group that LPS will not band loons on a lake if some residents express concern. It is too late to band the adults or the chicks on White Oak Pond this year.

WOPWA members spoke both for and against future banding on the pond.

Roger asked for a straw poll for/against banding: 3 opposed/ majority in favor.

Nomination of Board Officers: Roger Uhler

president: Bob Maloney 2nd 2 year term

vice-president: Kevin Frank 1st 2 year term

secretary: Mimzie Uhler 1 year term

treasurer: Will Stratton 1 year term

unanimously approved

Nomination of Executive Board members: Roger Uhler

members leaving: Bob Rothchild, Lois Stratton, Roger Uhler, Janet Cocchiaro

members continuing: Kathy Weymouth, Anne Levin, 2nd 2 year term, Corrine Hirsch, Blake Ireland continuing their current term

1st term members to be elected: Jude Ruhm, Michael Bognanow

other nominations: Will Brown

Departing Board members were thanked and all others were unanimously approved for the term beginning July 2012.

Other Business:

Weed Watchers: Marjorie Bogdanow asked for help with weed watching in White Oak Pond. Jude Ruhm has volunteered to help.

The following money was recommended to be distributed by the Board:

NH Lakes Association dues: \$300

Holderness Historical Society: \$100

Loon Preservation Society: \$100

Squam Lakes Conservation Society: \$100

Ted proposed a cap on donations to organizations.

Kevin moved to approve \$100 cap

The cap and all donations were approved as well as dues to NH Lakes Association.

Wildlife Sightings:

Lots of bears, mink, otters, mother and 3 bears on Coxboro rd,
mountain lion off of Lane rd.

bear on Franks Island

Steve Wicksman has a video of bear swimming

deer and fawn near the marsh

Deb Chase saw a fawn being born on the each of Rte 3

bald eagle in may

Boat found off Rothschild property - seems to be from the beginning of 1900's.

Galen wants to have a sign put up for fishermen to encourage them to use non lead sinkers - SLA has non lead sinkers.

we would have to ask the Rothschilds to put up a sign. Bob Maloney will check with Bob. Galen could paint a sign

Meeting adjourned at: 11:12

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Cocchiaro

(Substitute secretary)