

White Oak Pond Watershed Association
Board of Directors Meeting
August 16th, 2014 @ 10 AM
(Final - last updated 9/15/2014 - approved 7/27/2015)

Present: Ann Knight, Will & Lois Stratton, Nancy Isikoff (for Bruce Falby), Bob Maloney, Will Brown, Blake Ireland, Galen Beach, Roger Uhler, Jude Ruhm, Kevin Frank, Corinne & Marty Hirsch

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am by President Bob Maloney.

New Board Members, Susan Levin (not present), Roger Uhler and Bruce Falby (Nancy Falby attending on Bruce's behalf), were graciously welcomed by everyone.

Meeting Minutes of Annual Board Meeting on June 28th, 2014 was unanimously approved.

Website Issues & Membership

A few years ago we decided to do email solicitation for membership, but it did not improve membership. Therefore, with the help of Lois Stratton, Jude Ruhm and Bob Maloney, we are going to do an old fashioned mailing - mail out membership forms with return envelopes - to members and potential new members. We will work with the Town Hall to get a list from which we can determine who is in the watershed and who isn't. This will include the membership form on one side and on the other side a solicitation for the Mary Perry fund. Kevin Frank will send the form for the Mary Perry Fund contribution.

Nancy Falby commented that the only reason she knows about WOPWA is because of previous home owner, Nancy McDonald, mentioned the organization to her.

Nancy is and has been updating the website and the membership approved an expenditure of up to \$250 for Nancy's work.

Mary H. Perry Conservation Fund

Investments handled by Roger's office (\$14,316 as of 5/31/2014)
There are no Investment Issues at this time. Roger did ask about investing the money in a higher yield type of investment. We had agreed in the past that we wanted to take little risk with the investment monies.
Roger informed Bob Maloney that there are no easements pending at this time.

Bob Explained the Mary Perry Fund to Nancy Falby and others and how it works.

Fall Drawdown of Pond

Bob will continue to work with Janet Cocchiaro regarding Barry Eastman. Bob will get with Janet to script the letter to Barry regarding his Honorary Membership in WOPWA.

Will Brown brought up a good point ... what is the ecological impact from the drawdown? His take away from some of the research he has done is that it is important to do it slowly so that the micro life can survive. Part of the problem with the drawdown is getting to Barry Eastman to discuss lowering of the water level at the dam.

The Pond fills quickly so you have to draw it down faster than it fills. Historically the pond can drop about 4' lower. If you open the gate all the way it's going to take a week, a week and a half to go down. If animals are just "hopping around" it will have little impact. Fall is the best time to do the draw down. Spring is a no go due to snow melt, nesting loons, etc. There is a strong desire from the shore front owners to do draw down after Columbus Day Weekend. If we do the drawdown at this time, then, by the 1st of December the pond should be full again.

Drawdown is for the purpose of repairs and to control plant growth along the shore.

Dam repair does not need to be done this fall, but does need to be done in the near future. Best time to do drawdown and repairs would be after all tourists are gone - after October 15th.

Walter Johnson and the town are employing Barry Eastman to 'work' the dam. Galen would like to see him have a crew to do the repairs quickly and efficiently. Bob agreed. Job should be complete before it starts to freeze. Barry Eastman is the only one with the gate wheel. The work has been done by others before Barry and the question arose as to "do need a backup?" Barry is not as young as he once was and the question came up as to who would handle the dam in Barry's absence? It was suggested that if you want to find Barry, he can be found at Chesley's weekdays between 6:30 and 7 AM.

There was a one foot drawdown in the spring for the suckers. Nobody knows who ordered or requested the drawdown. Bob is interested in finding out who did this! We want to keep the dam safe and would like some predictability. What does having the water rights mean? Bob will find out and report back to the board with the assistance of Anne Knight, Blake Ireland and Nancy Isikoff.

What if somebody gets upset because of the water draw down and tries to sue WOPWA? This was a question posed by Blake Ireland and hopefully we can find some kind of answer with Nancy's assistance.

Bob will try to locate the transfer documents.

Let's move forward and get it resolved so we are not discussing it again next year. Nancy Falby and Blake Ireland will assist Bob Maloney.

Any other open issues:

- a) Loon "Banding" will be delayed until 2015. Harry Vogel has been very busy this year with the loon births. The Loon Chick according to some, is still on White Oak Pond. Harry will do the banding next year with Roger Uhler if possible and if Roger is unavailable then Galen Beach.. The purpose of banding is to keep track of patterns of travel. In addition, the sale of lead fishing tackle has been outlawed in New Hampshire. There will be no more lead sales in NH after 2015.
- b) Committee Responsibilities:
 - a. Nominating Committee- TBD—Need volunteers
 - b. Secretary: Jude Ruhm
 - c. Merry Perry Fund: Kevin Frank, Rich Cocchiaro and Bob Maloney
 - d. Set up and food committee for Annual Meeting: Kathy Weymouth
 - e. Weed Watchers: Margie Bogdanow-overseer
 - i. Asking all waterfront owners and members to share in this responsibility
Nancy looking for information - Galen suggested looking for Eurasian Milfoil. No Milfoil, no algae, but can get a late algae bloom.
Never had a serious algae bloom. If you see a large bloom, take a water sample to get analyzed. Saino bacteria is the only serious invasion ... contact DES.
 - f. Water Quality: Galen Beach & Nancy Voorhis
June & July Testing - Pretty good. At or below the median state except for the 9 East Holderness Tributary and the dump tributary. They have the highest level of conductivity with Chloride also high at these locations. Next testing scheduled for August 21st.
Biggest in-flow is from Lanbrook swamp, which flows through and into Squam.
 - g. Membership: Lois Stratton
Printed new brochures--only mistake is Will Brown listed as "Mike". To be corrected with the next ten years.

Early distribution, White Oak Motel, White Oak Pond Landing, SLA, Squam Market, Golden Pond, Walter's Basin, Library, Post Office, Livery, Conservation Society, Town Hall, Realtors - Peabody & Smith. Joan is going to assist Lois. The New Brochures are here ... everyone take some.

"Possible" New Mailing for 2014 Membership before end of September. Include return envelope. Get a one-time stamp for return address.

Include Mary Perry fund on other side.

Jude to get seal paper conservation sides:

Printed on both sides



- h. Best Time for Board and Annual meetings for 2015 (Day and Time)
 - i. Since we try to set our dates a year ahead of time, it is difficult to avoid conflicts with local charities and their annual meetings. We will set our first Board Meeting for June 27th 2015. We will wait to set the dates for the Annual and next meeting until we find out other meeting schedules.

There is an Excel spreadsheet which shows the terms of the WOPWA Board Members and when they expire; Roger and Bob will work on that.

Galen Beech will go to Squam Lake Association to see EB James with Bob Maloney.

Roger Uhler - Galen and Nancy do a fantastic job of water sampling. They are dealing with the weather, the boat, and the water. Sampling is very important to all and thank you!

Kevin Frank - Thank you to Bob Maloney for your communication with the members and innovation.

Lois Stratton will get with Amy Sharp to get a new tax map of the watershed area. Ann Knight will help Lois.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m. by Bob Maloney, President.

Respectfully submitted,

Jude Ruhm
Secretary