

WOPWA Board of Directors Meeting
MINUTES
June 25th, 2015
Home of Bob Maloney and Bonnie Hunt
Final (as approved at Aug 22, 2015 Bd Mtg)

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 AM by President Bob Maloney.

Board members present were Bob Maloney, President; Kevin Frank, Vice President; Will Stratton, Treasurer; Galen Beach, Susan Levin, Blake Ireland, Lois Stratton, Kathy Weymouth, Roger Uhler, Bruce Falby, and Kevin Frank. Also present was member Nancy Voorhis.

Board Members not present: Jude Ruhm, Corrine Hirsch, Marty Hirsch, Margie Bogdanow, Michael Bogdanow

Review of the minutes from the last Annual Board meeting – August 26th, 2014. The Minutes were unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report & Dues Collection

Treasurer's Report – Started year with **\$2,401**

We took in **\$1,350** in dues, interest and craft sales.

Our expenses totaled **\$1387**, which is in excess of our revenues by **\$28**.

Our expenses include \$_____ in donations, \$_____ in water testing and \$_____ administrative fees.

Our closing balance as of June 24th, 2015 is **\$2,373**.

Mary Perry Fund started the year with **\$14,316**. Our closing balance as of May 31st 2015 is **\$14,913**.

The White Oak Pond Watershed Association fiscal year is July 1 through June 30th.

There were no questions regarding the Treasurer's report, it was unanimously approved.

Membership Dues and Website Updates

Nancy began the discussion by passing out a couple copies of the current membership/ mailing list and indicated that she will email out copies.

With regard to membership, our dues were up significantly from last year and similar with prior years but membership is still somewhat below our unstated goals. A decision was made to put together a solicitation for new members that will go to watershed property owners that will also include this year's dues request and a summary of the Mary Perry Fund as prepared by Kevin Frank. Nancy will finalize work on that Mimzie Uhler on the watershed property owners mailing list so it can be used for this mailing. In addition, there was a significant amount of discussion with regard to various classifications and it was decided on a preliminary basis, that we would include the following categories in the solicitation

1) Supporter \$10

- 2) Member \$25
- 3) Sustaining Member \$50_____ \$75_____ \$100_____ \$50,000 _____
- 4) Donation to the Merry H. Perry Fund \$_____ 100_____

A “lifetime” membership was also discussed but no decision was made to include this option at this time. In addition, Nancy agreed to prepare a new form of letterhead with the directors listed down the left side with their e-mail addresses and not phone numbers.

Lois will work on the final draft of the letter to go out with help from Bob, Kathy, Lois and Nancy

Water Quality Update

Galen reported that anecdotally the water quality seems good based on her observation of turtles and salamanders that survived last falls drawdown to inspect the dam. Nancy reported that the official VLAP report with the water quality data and summarized results is at the website. Roger thanked Kevin for his continuing efforts to keep the existing motor (on the boat used for water quality sampling) running but reported that there continues to be problems with it and they were unable to get it to start for the June sampling. He suggested that a replacement is needed. Blake offered to donate a 6hp motor that has not been used in years. I agreed to pick it up and take it to Jean’s Mobile Marine to be tuned up to see if it will work properly. Thanks to Blake Ireland for a terrific donation. Nancy and Galen commented on need for one additional volunteer to help with sampling and/or driving samples to Concord.

Weed Watchers (early report)

No one present to report on the weed watching but the hope is to get everyone who spends time on the pond in a boat involved in weed watching.

Annual Meeting Food Committee

Kathy Weymouth volunteered. Bob said he would suggest coffee & food to be available when we get there. Reserved the Historical Society room from 8-12. Meeting will start at 9. Doors open at 8:30 for arts & crafts show.

Thank you to Kathy for taking on the responsibility of the Food Committee for the Annual meeting. Bob will ask attendees at the annual meeting to bring something to the meeting

Mary H. Perry Conservation Fund

Other than the financial report by Will and the current balances, nothing new to report

Dam Update:

A coffer-dam was set up late last fall and the town found damage at the bottom of the dam. In addition there appears to be a need to repair the culverts under route three and Walter is trying to coordinate all of this work so that to may be able to be done at the same time with DES and DOT.. Will Brown suggested that we work with the town to be sure that the drawdown for the work follows the DES guidelines, which include drawing down slowly and early enough to allow time for the pond to refill before winter. Bruce Falsby clarified that the town’s rights/responsibilities are to maintain and repair the dam and that

WOPWA has the water rights and therefore has the responsibility for the raising and lowering of the water level.

Bob & Galen will meet with Walter to determine where we are and what action will take place this year. On a side note, one of our directors mentioned that the property the dam is located on may be for sale. The director will speak with the land owner to get preliminary information about whether they might be receptive to creating a right of way or a sale to the town or WOPWA association. Kevin agreed to write an article with recommendations on the timing and rate of drawdown for the repairs that are consistent with the DES Guidelines that could be voted on by the membership at the Annual Meeting and could then be presented to the town as representative of the WOPWA's interests in how the drawdown for the dam repairs are done.

(this was not discussed at the meeting so should not appear in the minutes)

Nominating Committee

Recommendations – All directors were asked to consider new members for the board as Lois would like to step down as Membership Chair and Jude needs to resign as Secretary for other reasons. Bob stated he would like to step down as President and become the 'Communications Director' but in the absence of anyone else interested in being President, agreed to remain as President for one more year until another candidate can be found.

SLATE OF OFFICERS for 2015-2016

To be voted on at the Annual Meeting:

President - Bob is willing to serves President for 1 yr.

(Kevin doesn't have to be voted on; he has one more year in his term)

Treasurer - Will Stratton Secretary - no nominations although Ann Knight stated she would be willing if no one else stepped up_____.

Bob – I really have enjoyed this and would be almost happy to be President for another year (I think).

Annual Meeting

Discussion was held on who to invite to speak at the Annual Meeting. Suggestions made were:

-Walter Johnson to speak on the issue of the Dam and the culverts

-Iain MacLeod (SLNSC) to speak about tracking ospreys

- Sid, Jeannie West and Dick Davenport (local Historians) to provide some historical perspective and stories about White Oak Pond

It was agreed that the historical panel might be of most interest to WOPWA folks so someone (who?) will ask if they can speak

Other Business

Ann Knight brought up the issue that loon raft wasn't put out this year and that it would be nice to have someone responsible for that task each year.. Nancy agreed to ask Ted if he would be the "loon raft champion".

Committees

Nominating Committee: Bob Maloney & Blake Ireland

Mary H. Perry Fund: Kevin Frank, Rich Cocchiaro and Bob Maloney

Annual Meeting Food Committee: Kathy Weymouth (2014), Corinne Hirsch (2015)

Weed Watchers: Everyone

New procedure suggested by Margie last year, which we are going to implement. Margie recommended that all or most of our members on the pond at various times, that each of us try to watch for vegetation and in fact, bring questionable items back so that they can be quickly identified.

Water Quality: Galen Beach & Nancy Voorhis and Roger Uhler

New Business for Members Meeting

Annual Meeting & Social

- Date: July 28th, 2014
 - Location: Holderness Historical Society **(Rental Agreement Signed)**
 - Times: 8:30 am Setup
- 9 am social time
9:30 am meeting
- Planning Committee Members (See Food Committee Above)
 - Guest Speaker?

Final 2014 Board Meeting: (Location to be confirmed—for now—See below)

- August 16th, 2014 at the home of Bob Maloney—Saturday @ 10 AM

Other Items:

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Maloney, Acting Secretary
with review and edit by Nancy Voorhis