

White Oak Pond Watershed Association
Board of Directors Meeting
September 2, 2017
Margie and Michael Bogdanow Home – 194 Coxboro Road

APPROVED - 6/23/18 Board Meeting

President Margie Bogdanow called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. All in attendance introduced themselves.

Meeting Attendees: Galen Beach, Margie Bogdanow, Michael Bogdanow, Peter Brown, Janet Cocchiaro, Steven Cohen, Bruce Falby, Kevin Frank, Dolores Hopper, Walter Johnson, Anne Knight, Caryn McHose, Lois Stratton, Roger Uhler and Joan Vicinus,

Board Meeting Minutes – 6/24/17

Janet reported that the minutes should state that Galen Beach is on the Water Quality Committee instead of Janet. The minutes were approved with this one correction.

Annual Meeting Minutes – 7/29/17

The July 29, 2017 Annual Meeting Minutes will be reviewed at the 2018 Annual Meeting.

Treasurer's Report – Walter Johnson

Walter reported that as of 8/31/2017, revenues from dues, sale of t-shirts and interest were \$2,040.03 and expenses were \$1,461.06 leaving a balance of \$4086.10 The Treasurer's report was approved as submitted.

Mary H. Perry Conservation Fund Update – Kevin Frank

Kevin reported that a reminder of the Perry Fund did not go out with this year's dues reminder. Anne reported that she now sends a dues reminder email to members in the spring followed by hard mail letters to those who had not paid by the Annual Meeting. After discussion it was decided that Anne will continue her approach and a separate email will be sent early in November to all members requesting support for the Perry Fund. Kevin will write the letter and Margie will see that it gets emailed to everyone.

Water and Weed Watchers Update – Galen Beach and Nancy Isikoff

In Nancy Isikoff's absence, Joan reported that at this year's weed watch, Nancy would like to organize volunteers to watch for weeds in different sections of the lake rather than having the volunteer group try to cover the

entire lake. SLA would train the volunteers as has occurred previously. All agreed this is a good idea.

Galen reported that Nancy Voorhis would like to see more people trained to do water quality testing and will send out an email in May requesting for volunteers. She also stated that the Hopper boat is working very well and Dee reported that she and her husband are pleased to be able to put the boat to good use.

Liaison Positions for Local Organizations

- a. Squam Lakes Natural Science Center – Anne Levin
- b. Loon Preservation Society – Tom Hopper
- c. Squam Lakes Association – Nancy Isikoff
- d. Squam Lakes Conservation Society – Anne Knight

It appears that the liaisons continue to be interested in being the representatives, however they are not always the ones to get the most up to date information. It was agreed that all members should share what they learn that is relevant to WOPWA.

Joan and Anne K. attended the Annual Meeting of the Loon Preservation Society and reported that the loons did not do well this past year especially on Squam Lake where there was only one surviving chick. The theory is that there are more contaminants coming into the lake from the inlets that are making the eggs less viable. If anyone is interested in knowing more about this issue, it was suggested they talk to Harry Vogel of the LPS. It was also reported that one of the two chicks that hatched on White Oak Pond last year did not survive possibly due to an eagle.

Membership and Brochures

After discussion, those in attendance agreed that the purpose of the brochures should be as an educational mechanism rather than as a marketing tool. They should be utilized to reach out to new families in the area and to those who utilize the pond and to alert them of our mission. Two hundred brochures were printed this last time and distributed to 15 different locations including some commercial establishments. There are only a handful of brochures left. Anne K. stated that she will be sending welcoming letters along with a brochure to new families in the area. It was approved to purchase 100 new brochures and to distribute them to all but the commercial enterprises.

Roger expressed concern about how we should be spending WOPWA's money and whether cutting back on water quality testing is a good idea? He suggested that we consider what is important to the Association. It was stated that funds are available for extra water quality testing and given the

report of the increase of contaminants in Squam Lake, we might look into what that testing would entail. Peter Brown agreed to look into the feasibility of this suggestion.

Open Issues

T-shirts

It was reported that there are only a few children sized t-shirts left and that some people have committed to purchasing more. Steven Cohen suggested stated that perhaps we offer a free t-shirt with donations of a certain amount of money to the Perry Fund. It was suggested that we wait until next spring to get an idea of how many are wanted and to get pre-orders since there are so many various size options. T-shirts will be an agenda item for June's board meeting.

Geese

There seem to be more geese on the Pond and staying later in the season. It is strongly advised that no one feed the geese and that everyone continue to do their own thing to keep them off their property.

Fireworks

Margie distributed a copy of the Lake Winona Handbook that is posted on their web site that includes a policy on fireworks among other educational information. It was agreed that the handbook is quite useful and WOPWA should create one. Galen and Dee volunteered to work with Margie on drafting a handbook that would include a position on fireworks.

Winter Liaison in Holderness

Margie feels that since she is not a year-round resident, it would be helpful to have a "winter liaison." Bob Maloney has volunteered as well as Janet and Walter who are also year-round residents. Margie requested that they communicate with her and then she will communicate to the rest of the membership information she feels is appropriate.

Other Open Issues

It was asked if Kevin Colburn is the correct person to be maintaining the water level at the dam. Kevin F. stated that not only does he have the municipal responsibility, but also is diligent and passionate about the water level. Kevin believes that the policy about the drawdown in the spring needs to be adjusted to start on 5/1 or ice-out rather than 6/1. He has communicated this Bob Maloney who was planning to communicate to the town. Margie will check on the status of the change in policy. Both Janet and Kevin F. watch the water levels and communicate well with Kevin C.

Meeting adjourned at 11:25 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Dolores (Dee) C. Hopper
Secretary