

WHITE OAK POND WATERSHED ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES
July 28, 2018
Holderness Public Library

last updated 07/26/19
Approved: at 7/27/19 Annual Meeting

President Margie Bogdanow called the meeting to order at 10 am. Margie reminded the membership of WOPWA's Mission: to promote the conservation of the natural, scenic and historic resources of the watershed, and to protect the quality of the waters and tributaries of the pond. She expressed appreciation to the library for hosting us as we all continue to explore the Holderness community and thanked Joan Vicinus for organizing the refreshments. Margie wanted to acknowledge our lost ones over the past year – Anne Ireland and Lois Stratton – and to extend condolences to their families on behalf of WOPWA. All were welcomed and introduced themselves.

Meeting Attendees: Galen Beach, Margie Bogdanow, Michael Bogdanow, Will Brown, Janet Cocchiaro, Seven Cohen, Doug DeCluitt, Maribeth DeCluitt, Bruce Falby, Kevin Frank, Kim Godfrey, Dee Hopper, Tom Hopper, Bonnie Hunt, Nancy Isikoff, EB James, Walter Johnson, Anne Knight, Sharon Komarow, Roger LaRochelle, Anne Levin, Susan Levin, Peter Lovett, Bob Maloney, Caryn McHose, Bert Saul, Bryan Sweeney, Mimzie Uhler, Roger Uhler, Nancy Voorhis, Joan Vicinus, Kathy Lovett Weymouth, Peter Lovett, Celia Woolverton, Brandon Stafford

Annual Meeting Minutes

The July 19,2017 Annual Meeting Minutes were approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report – Walter Johnson

The Treasurer's report was accepted as submitted (see attached). If making a donation to the Mary Perry Fund please make out a separate check to SLCS and specify Mary Perry Fund on the Memo line.

Photos – Janet Cocchiaro

The husband of the late Clare Mowbray (who took many underwater photos of White Oak Pond) gave the photos and copies of her book "Under White Oak Pond" to Cindy Foster who wanted to share them with WOPWA. For anyone interested in taking any of the photos or books, it is requested that donations be made to WOPWA or the Mary Perry Fund. It was suggested that the remaining books be given to the library.

Loons – Margie Bogdanow

As an update, sadly it appears that both chicks did not survive this year.

Water Quality and Possible Boat Purchase – Nancy Voorhis, Nancy Isikoff and Galen Beach

Nancy wanted to remind us that what happens on the shoreline definitely impacts the water quality and presented a “Do’s and Don’ts for Maintaining Healthy Lakes” article. She reported that, as of 2017, the quality of White Oak Pond is not significantly different from the previous year. The previous elevated levels of phosphorus and chlorophyll have moderated and the pH in certain places is lower than ideal especially at the dump inlet and off East Holderness Road. Conductivity and chloride level are higher than state average that could be caused by road salts and/or failing septic systems. The Water Quality Committee therefore recommended to the town’s road agent to have the salt application decreased on East Holderness Road. The road agent participated in a course on protecting the environment and has been very responsive to our concerns. The full report is posted on the WOPWA website.

It was suggested that the Do’s and Don’ts article be posted on the web site or put into a brochure to help educate the community.

Nancy Isikoff shared with the community what is involved in water testing and that it is more time consuming and labor intensive than some might think. Given that they have to test various locations on the pond, with heavy equipment, a few times a year, it is not practical to do so without a motorized boat. The Hopper’s boat has been utilized for the testing for the past several years, after Blake Ireland’s’ motor on his boat seized and Kevin Frank’s motor became unreliable. The Hopper’s boat is up for sale and the water quality committee was concerned they would not have a boat to use. They raised the question of whether WOPWA should think about allocating resources to purchase a boat, in particular, the Hopper’s boat. As the conversation began, Celia Woolverton (a new member) shared that she had a boat and offered WOPWA the use of it for water testing.. After some exploration, it seemed that the boat would be adequate for water testing and that we should continue our practice of borrowing boats for now. However, we agreed that we need to keep on our radar the possibility that may not always work and we may need to budget more for water testing over time.

Nancy also mentioned that the Water Quality Committee is requesting another volunteer to work with them, not necessarily to do the actual testing but to help in other ways. Water testing only happens three times a year. Celia Wolvertown volunteered to join this group.

Membership – Anne Knight

Anne reported that 100 more brochures were printed and have been distributed. This past year there were 50 WOPWA members. Today Anne is collecting checks for this year’s membership and requesting that the forms be completed/corrected. She will mail out the membership forms to those

members who did not attend and/or haven't paid. Please let Margie know if there are friends or neighbors that don't want to be members but would like to be on the mailing list – she will accommodate them. Nancy will also add the ability to sign up for the mailing list to the web site.

Celia has a key to the chain across the water at the dam and wanted to know what to do about putting up or leaving down the chain. There was discussion about whether we are trying to make the area feel friendly or restrictive. We were then reminded that the chain was put up to control access of motorboats to the pond. The board will discuss this issue and bring forward a recommendation.

Nomination and Election of Officers and Board Members – Margie Bogdanow

Margie expressed thanks to Bob Maloney for his many years of leadership and to all members coming off the board and those who are moving into new roles.

Coming off the board as Members after their 2 consecutive 2 year term limits were Roger Uhler and Bruce Falby. Also coming off as an Officer after 3 consecutive 2 year terms is Vice President Kevin Frank, who missed by one additional year to match Bob Maloney's record as President, and thus Bob's record survives (those were difficult years to attract a President and VP).

Continuing on the Board are Galen Beach and Steve Cohen serving the 2nd year of their 1st term, as is President Margie Bogdanow serving the 2nd year of her 1st term.

Nominated by the Board to stand for election as Officers at the Annual Meeting were: for Secretary, Dee Hopper and for Treasurer, Walter Johnson (both 1 year terms), for VP, Bruce Falby (2 year term). Also nominated by the Board as Members of the Board were Janet Cocchiaro, Anne Knight and Joan Vicinus to serve their 2nd 2 year term and Celia Woolverton, Peter Brown and Kevin Frank to serve their 1st 2 year term.

There was a motion to accept the slate of officers as presented. It was seconded and approved.

Community Liaisons

Margie reported that the community liaisons to some of the other organizations crucial to our mission have been very helpful. They are as follows:

SLCS – Anne Knight

Science Center – Anne Levin

Loon Preservation Committee – Tom Hopper

In addition, Margie would like a liaison with SLA. Janet Cocchiaro volunteered to be the SLA liaison.

Mary H. Perry Conservation Fund and Squam Lake Conservation Society – Roger LaRochelle and Kevin Frank

Kevin Frank explained that the Mary Perry Fund is a way to financially assist those desiring to put land in conservation since there are costs associated with the process. The goal is to have \$25,000 in the fund. Up to 20% (\$5000) could be given to those people wanting to put their land in conservation. The fund is presently over \$18,000. So far two requests for financial assistance for easements have been approved.

Update Squam Lake Association – EB James

EB James, Executive Director of SLA announced that the SLA annual meeting is Saturday, 8/4 from 4 to 6 pm at the Fisher Barn. He provided an update about Squam Lake. A few specific updates include: Thirty percent of Squam Lakes Watershed is conserved and as of 2014, they have worked on 14 projects that included over 1000 acres. They received a grant from Americore and had 10 people to work for 6 weeks of summer helping with milfoil mitigation. SLA is going solar – they will be loading the roof with solar panels.

Bonnie Hunt is on the SLCS Board and will be hosting a joint SLCS and WOPWA get together at their home on 8/10 from 5 to 6:30. All are invited.

Other Business – Margie Bogdanow

Dues and contributions – The board recommended the following:

- \$300 dues to the Lakes Association
- \$100 donation to the Loon Preservation Committee
- \$100 donation to the Historical Society
- \$100 to the Library

The recommendations were approved.

Wildlife Updates

- Sightings around the watershed include: bears, minks, bobcat, otter, fox, deer and turkeys.

New Business

- WOPWA is now on Facebook – it's a good way to keep up with what is going on.
- There is an email list of all WOPWA members that will be made available to the membership to give people an opportunity to communicate with each other as Tom has been doing regarding the loons.

- The question was raised as to the status of the White Oak Pond Motel – it seems there is an agreement of sale that is scheduled to close at the end of September.
- Mimzie reported that a wooden canoe paddle was found on their property, also a yellow inflatable raft was found and Dee reported having a kayak hatch cover.

Margie reminded all that the paddle headed by staff from SLA will be at 3:30 this afternoon. Those interested should meet at the dam.

Meeting adjourned at 11:25 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Dolores (Dee) Hopper
Secretary