



Clough Pond Association

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Minutes: Regular Meeting of June 27, 2009

A Regular Meeting of the Clough Pond Association was held on Saturday, June 27, 2009, starting at 4 p.m. at the home of Polly Touzin. Prior to the start of the meeting everybody was invited to partake of the potluck dinner that was set up on tables. And a very nice one it was thanks to all of you that brought goodies. And a special thanks goes out to Polly and Matt for hosting this meeting in their yard.

Roll Call and Declaration of Quorum

President Andy Knowlton called the meeting to order and requested a roll call. All in attendance identified themselves. Andy declared that we had a quorum.

Addition of Last Minute Agenda Items

None

Minutes of Last Meeting

Minutes of the last meeting were available on the website before the meeting and distributed to everyone prior to the start of the meeting. A motion to accept the minutes was made, seconded, and approved by voice vote.

Secretary's Report

Secretary's Report: Tom reports that everything he has to report has already been included on the agenda for this meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Jean distributed copies of her report prior to the start of the meeting. Jean highlights the fact that we did receive the \$1,000 grant from the Loudon Conservation Commission as requested and at a time much earlier than we have received it in prior years. That was in response to our asking for consideration in the timing of the award and the cutting of the check. That in turn was a response to changing requirements we now face from the NH Lakes Association whose own budgetary issues required a change in their business process regarding the timing of such grant award payments to them. Special thanks to the Loudon Conservation Commission for their help in this matter. And an extra thanks to them for continuing to support us and the Lake Host program at this generous level. And another special thanks goes out to Polly Touzin for her role in persuading the Conservation Commission to continue funding this program at the \$1,000 level.

Jean reports about name changes with our bank, TD Bank North. She re-confirmed that there are no monthly service charges on our account since we are non-profit, and reports that after 26 years we are on the last book of checks and will have to order new ones pretty soon. Go figure how we used up all those checks so quickly.

Jean also reported on renewed, new and changed memberships.

Balance in treasury as of meeting date: \$1,902.87.

Motion made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report subject to audit. Passed on voice vote.

Committee Reports

- Lake Host Program Update.

We were surprised to have neither Steve Abbe, our Point Person for the Lake Host Program, nor Nancy Rondeau, who has been a conduit between Steve and the Board in the past, present tonight. As a result the Board and other Association members present attempted to provide and update on the program.

Note: At this time Andy read a letter from Nancy Rondeau resigning from the Board of Directors. Motion to accept that resignation was made, seconded, and approved by the Association. A question remained whether this was an action that the Association could take or whether it required action from the Board of Directors. The Board will take that up at a future meeting.

A discussion followed regarding Steve Abbe's timesheets as Paid Lake Host (not his role as Point Person which is a volunteer position). Tom reported that he had not seen any of Steve's timesheets as required by the Board. While NH Lakes has no issue with an individual being both a volunteer Point Person and a paid Lake Host (putting one in the position of approving one's own timesheets), the Board decided that it wanted a second signature on the paid Lake Host's timesheets for the protection of the Association. When Tom discussed this with Steve it became apparent that the time frame between when the timesheet had to be in to NH Lakes and the end of the pay period was very short and it was unlikely that Tom and Steve could make that paperwork connection in time for the payroll to move forward normally. Tom took the initiative to allow Steve to submit the timesheets without his signature with the caveat that they would then be presented to Tom for post-submission approval. Tom reports that Steve had not yet submitted one timesheet for secondary approval and Emma points out that at least 2 timesheets should already have been submitted to NH Lakes.

Another discussion followed about the hours we are providing ramp duty. Our total funding this year for that program is down from \$3,000 to \$2,000. While we received the same \$1,000 from the Loudon Conservation Commission as in the past, the NH Lakes Association grant was cut in half, from \$2,000 to \$1,000. Their funding sources are down this year along with everybody else's. To accommodate that reduction we plan to scale back our daily hours from six to four and to virtually eliminate any hours from August when ramp traffic is the lightest. We asked Steve to track this closely and to adjust duty times in accordance with available funds, rainy days, etc. to maximize the impact that our ramp time can get without running out of funds before the end of the season.

Tom volunteered to check in with Steve to find out where he stands with his hours, budget, volunteer hours, etc. and report back to the Board.

We are still looking for volunteers. So if anybody wants to volunteer at the ramp

please take the initiative and contact Steve.

- NH Volunteer Lake Assessment Program Update.

Curt Darling provided us an update on this program. Curt handed out a summary of the latest report. He has the full report that all are welcome to review. He notes that his summary contains website addresses for access to information about good management practices. Curt notes that we test only once for phosphorous while DES would like us to test three times each summer. But the \$100 cost per test is keeping us from expanding this further. Curt takes water samples in specific spots around the pond and brings them to DES for testing. He also takes a chlorophyll sample. A DES biologist also comes out and does additional testing at least once per year.

Curt reports that recent figures indicate that we are doing pretty well these days with our phosphorous in the pond. Too much phosphorous can lead to algae blooms and numerous other problems.

Once again Curt noted that anybody is welcome to come out with him when he does this testing. Curt also put in a plug for the Weed Watcher's program and the need to keep milfoil from the pond. A discussion of cyanobacteria ensued.

Curt noted that it looks like the stocking of trout in the pond is down this year, at least from the data that F&G has posted online. Could explain the rumors that fishing success of off this year on the pond.

What about the checking at the beach for water quality? We believe that this is done by the state rather than the town. It remains unclear though who is supposed to take the samples. We think that the Police Chief is the focal point for information about this testing.

Another topic related to water quality concerns fireworks and how they may contribute to the pond. Fireworks contain phosphorous. Curt pointed out that there are websites in his handouts where information about this can be found.

There was again a discussion about a goldfish in the pond. Essentially a carp. They are known to eat other fish and we dearly would like it removed. If anybody catches it, remove it.

Old Business

- None.

New Business

With the approaching storm Andy accelerated the agenda.

- We proceeded directly to the discussion of dog poop around the pond. Including runoff from adjacent lands etc. There is a link to DES information on the subject of dog poop on the CPA website.
- We believe that there is pending legal actions regarding the situation on the collapsed wall on Berry Road.
- We did not get to the issue of a Nominating Committee. That was overlooked and will have to be addressed post-meeting.

August Annual CPA Meeting – At Roanne's. Time and Date to be determined.

Adjournment: Just Sort of Happened as the Rain Began and Everybody Left