



## *Saturday Pond Watershed Association*

40 Ridgewood Terrace

Otisfield, Maine 04270

### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES**

**NOVEMBER 9, 2014**

Present: Ellen Attaliades, Steve Markarian, Bruce LeBlanc, Eric Williams, Carl Anderson and Susan Haber

- 1) **Review of Minutes of the July 12, 2014 Annual Meeting / Follow-Up Needs** - The minutes of the July 12, 2014 SPWA Annual Meeting were approved as submitted.
- 2) **Treasurer's Report** - Steve Markarian distributed the Treasurer's Report, which was accepted as presented. A discussion was held regarding the annual newsletter. Susan Haber will investigate having the printing company put labels and stamps on the newsletter.

Steve Markarian distributed the most up to date membership list. It was noted that there were fewer members than there have been over past years. This may be related to the fact that we now only send out an annual newsletter and the timing of its dissemination. The Board discussed potential ways to increase membership including the feasibility of the two larger subdivisions-Great Oaks and Pond View Estates, joining as Associations. There are 45 house lots at Pond View and 15 at Great Oaks. This will require further discussion by the individual Associations.

- 3) **Watershed Updates:**
  - A. **Wildlife** The following wildlife has recently been spotted on the pond: eagle, Golden Eye ducks, assorted ducks. The loons have likely migrated for the winter.
  - B. **Dam – Follow-up on Annual Meeting Plans regarding November 2013 letter to Board of Selectmen** - There has been no movement from the Board of Selectmen on the Watershed Association request dated November 8, 2013, to lower the dam on an experimental basis. It was mentioned that the Conservation Commission was considering holding a public forum on the topic. At the same time, the SPWA has not received a formal report this year from the Dam Keeper, Dan Peaco. Carl will contact Dan and ask him if he might be able to attend the next planning meeting to give his annual report.
- 4) **Review of Watershed Association Plans for FY 2015 (7/1/14 thru 6/30/15)**
  - A. **Association Organizational Needs**
    1. **Review of By-Laws / Development of Operating Rules for Attendance** - Ellen Attaliades distributed a packet of information including the SPWA By-laws and a Draft of Potential Operating Rules. Concern was raised regarding the required quorum for the Annual Meeting. A change was proposed to reduce the size of the quorum since attendance at the Annual Meeting has decreased. It was also suggested that a requirement be added for Trustees regarding attendance at meetings. If a Trustee misses three consecutive meetings without good cause, then he or she may be removed and replaced with a new member to

fulfill the remaining term, at the Annual Meeting. Wording of the amendments should be sent to all paid SPWA members 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting.

2. **Board Recruitment** - It was with great sadness that the Trustees learned that Carl and Cathy Anderson will be leaving Otisfield and moving to Rhode Island. Carl has been a valued member of the Saturday Pond community, served on the Board of Directors for years, and has been the “eyes” of the Association with his water quality monitoring and monitoring of ice-out.

Jerry Haber volunteered to help Steve Markarian with water sample and secchi disc collection. The Trustees will need to make plans specific to future Board recruitment.

**B. Water Conditions**

1. **Water Testing – Clarity and Phosphorous** - Steve and Carl distributed the water quality data from last summer. The secchi readings were lower compared to last year, possibly due to the amount of rain in the spring and summer, which has increased the turbidity in the Lake.

The Board discussed some concerns many residents had last summer with the operation of a boat by a guest at Pond View Estates. Individuals should feel free to contact the owner with their complaints.

2. **Lake Surveyor Training** - Susan LaFleur accompanied Mary Grace Barber and Pixie Williams on their annual invasive plant survey of the Pond. Pixie will send a summary report of her findings.

- C. **Watershed Association Communication - Newsletter Plans** – Deferred to the Spring planning meeting.

- D. **Watershed Outreach** - Deferred to the Spring planning meeting.

5) **Other Items**

In light of our Board recruitment discussion, the current role of the slate of officers was reviewed as:

Steve Markarian - Treasurer

Carl Anderson - Vice President

Susan Lafleur - Corresponding Secretary

Susan Haber - Recording Secretary

Eric Williams will continue to put all minutes and newsletters on the website.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan Haber