



Saturday Pond Watershed Association

40 Ridgewood Terrace

Otisfield, Maine 04270

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes- October 17, 2010

11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Trustees Present: Ellen Attaliades (President), Steve Markarian (Corresponding Secretary), Carl Anderson (Vice-President) and JacintheSirois (Treasurer)

Absent: Marilyn Freeman (Vice-President) and Dave Steuer (Secretary)

Guests: Anne Bernard, Jerry Haber, Susan Haber, Karen Kelly, Dave Lafleur, Sue Lafleur, Bruce LeBlanc, Steve McHugh, Michael Mills, Al Sirois and Barry Vaill

The meeting was called to order at 11:10a.m. by Ellen Attaliades.

1. **Introductions** of all present were made / **Review of Minutes of July 17, 2010 Annual Meeting / Follow Up Needs** - Ellen presented a summary of the minutes of the July 17, 2010 Annual Meeting.
2. **Treasurer's Report** - Jacinthe presented the latest report on the Association's financial standing, reviewed the transactions made since our July 17th meeting. Seven (7) member dues have been added to our balance bringing it to a grand total of \$2,255.91. Thus far 15 members have paid their dues for 2011.
3. **Association Updates:**
 - A. **Wildlife:** A few people at the meeting reported seeing a coyote, many wild turkeys, a fox, scat from a raccoon and, of course, our two loons. Carl, our loon counter, explained the procedure for the loon count which is done annually, usually in July, in accordance with the Audubon Society who sends out specifications as far as the time and date of the count.
 - B. **Dam:** Nothing new to report. Last summer's comprehensive report from Dan Peaco was referenced. The water level remained stable throughout the summer. Al Sirois stated that the water level on the pond was still 11/2 feet higher than had been historically. This is due to a decision made years ago to increase the water level in order to provide better boating conditions.
 - C. **Horses** - Nothing new to report since the summer's activities.

4. Review / Status of SPWA Goals / Plans for 2010 - 2011

A. Water Conditions

- 1) **Water testing** - Carl Anderson, our contact person for water testing, will continue to test for water clarity. See attached report and map showing the triangulated areas where the testing takes place. Carl will also participate in a training for phosphorus testing.
- 2) **Lake Surveyor Training** - Jacinthe will contact Scott Williams (MVLMP) regarding the next upcoming training of volunteers for future invasive plant surveys. Susan Haber, Abby Marble and Ellen Attaliades (as a back-up) have expressed interest in participating in this training.
- 3) **Otisfield Lakes Association Meeting / Otisfield Lakes Survey Report / Review of Pixie Williams' Saturday Pond Report** - Carl, Barry, Al and Jacinthe attended the OCC (Otisfield Conservation Committee) meeting on October 13th and presented a brief summary of the meeting. The main focus of the meeting was to provide information about preserving the quality of ponds by limiting the damage done by motor boats. The emphasis was put on the size of the motors as the most important factor damaging the plants and pond bottom. See attached report.

It was agreed that a meeting with representatives from each of the pond's organizations (Pond View, Great Oaks and the SPWA), representatives from other segments around the pond and perhaps the Town will be scheduled to continue the discussion regarding safety on the pond and its preservation.

- B. **Watershed Association Communication** – It was agreed that one of the SPWA's primary goals for this year was to educate people in the watershed about the General Boating Laws of the State of Maine. Jerry Haber reviewed a draft of a brochure which included a summary of the laws (one page plus a map) along with an excerpt of the Boating Laws of the State of Maine. After discussion, it was decided to condense the report to one page and to ask that people water skiing and tubing depart from deeper waters and not from their dock/shoreline accompanied by an explanation of how this could potentially decrease the damage being done to the bottom of the pond. This information will be included in our spring newsletter (closer to the summer season) and fliers will be handed out to boaters during the upcoming summer months. Jerry will revise the brochure to be reviewed at our Spring Meeting.
- C. **Watershed Outreach – Plans for the Annual Meeting 2011 Breakfast** – deferred to our Spring Board of Trustees planning meeting.

5. **Proposed Boat Ramp update** - Ongoing with no final decision arrived at by the DEP.
6. **Pond View Contribution** - Due to the mission of the SPWA and the fact that the association does not carry liability insurance, the decision was made for the SPWA to not contribute toward the legal expenses recently incurred by Pond View. However individual contributions can be made and would be truly welcomed. Please contact Barry Vaill at email - bcvail (at) yahoo (dot) com or 5 West Shore Drive, Otisfield, Maine 04270 if you are interested in making a contribution.
7. **Spring Meeting** – The Spring meeting of the Board of Trustees will take place at Mike Mills and Anne Bernard's home. The actual date to be determined later.

Ellen thanked all members for their participation during the meeting and adjourned the meeting at 1:20 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Jacinthe Sirois, Treasurer

Minutes reviewed and approved by Ellen Attaliades, Steve Markarian, Carl Anderson and Jacinthe Sirois