

DRAFT

WOPWA Board Meeting

August 18, 2007

Location: Anne Ireland's White Oak Pond Rd.

Those in attendance: Will Brown, Anne Knight, Lisa Lovett, Ted Vansant, Marty Hirsch, Anne Ireland, Will Stratton

Absent: Dave Peterson, Bill Southard, Marjory Bogdanow, Sara Young, Galen Beach, Nancy McDonald, Caryn McHose 1

Meeting called to order at 11:20 a.m.

Board members were requested to review minutes of 2007 Annual Meeting and send any corrections/edits to Lisa Lovett as soon as possible.

The topic of water access signage has been added to the agenda

Treasurer's Update:

\$1040 received in dues as of 8/18 with 33 paid members (4 less than last year at this time). We had 37 at this time last year (correction to Annual Meeting notes).

NH Lakes Association has raised its dues from \$250 to \$300, although we paid \$250 after the Annual Meeting. We're committed to the Lakes Association.

Will Stratton moved we pay the additional \$50 in dues since we are committed to the Lakes Association as our lobbying association; Ted Vansant seconded. Motion passed.

The benefits of the NH Lakes Association membership are:

Education, Lake Host Program, Speakers Bureau, Volunteer for education, and Legislative updates via email. Portions of their newsletter "Lakeside" can be reprinted on our website. Also, there is a link from the WOPWA website.

Will indicated that \$1000 has been set aside and restricted for the Mary Perry Conservation Fund per the Annual Meeting.

Water Quality Report:

Galen was unable to attend the meeting so her report came via Marty's phone call to her:

Water quality is fine – tested in July and will be tested again in August. Samples are now delivered to Plymouth. Chloride is in good shape; and haven't seen cyano bacteria since beginning of summer.

Will Brown asked about the sampling process ... and Ted explained that we have ten years of data stored on the Dept. of Environmental Services (DES) site.

Nancy Voorhis and Galen consistently take water samples at consistent locations around the lake.

Mailing List Database:

Anne asked what we should do with the mailing list cast offs and how shall we update the database. The Town of Holderness maintains accurate information on who owns what property for tax purposes and we should make use of that information and not try to maintain our own records about property ownership.

Ted moved that we should maintain one list of everyone in the watershed and indicate which ones are paid members. Members who are non-residents (although renters) or are other organizations also should be included on the list. Motion seconded by Marty. Marty amended the motion that the database list should be verified and aligned with the Town records every two years; Ted seconded and the motion passed.

Lisa Lovett will put the entire list on one spreadsheet with categories for the people on the list indicating if dues has been paid and if the member is a watershed resident or not. She will verify the data with the Town.

Website Update:

According to Anne, Nancy Voorhis met with Adam Vicinus last weekend (he created the website). Nancy is our new webmaster. Thank you Nancy!

The site consists of a few photos, links to sister organization and to water quality data, copies of bylaws and old minutes, and an area for announcements/news. People have expressed a desire to have our website be more interactive and perhaps allow blogging for members only. The members only area on the website would mean each member would access the site via a password. Ted/Anne will make these suggestions to Nancy and also get other scanned documents to her for placement on the website.

Adam applied and paid for domain.

Anne Knight suggested we acknowledge Adam for his work (obtaining the domain name and creating the website) by sending him a gift. Marty suggested we reimburse him for his time and the cost of the domain application (\$25).

Ted suggested we give him a lifetime membership in the organization.

Anne K suggested \$100-250 dollars... Marty suggested give him one of Mimzie Uhler's or Anne Ireland's picture/photographs of the Pond.

Marty moved we give him \$100 dollars and an honorary membership for one year. Anne Ireland seconded – Motion passed.

WOPWA Archives – “The Box”

Anne Knight or whoever is President maintains the WOPWA box or records.

As WOPWA grows older so do the many files...

Some records are more important than others – such as Anne met with George Levin who has the original deed for the dam and documents that explain that WOPWA owns the water rights but the Town owns the dam.

Should these records be filed somewhere – safe deposit box, at the Library, Holderness Historical Society?

Should archival material be scanned and placed on the website?

Who will be the WOPWA Historian?

Anne Ireland suggested we ask Kevin Frank if he would like to be the historian?

Will Brown, Kevin Frank and Galen Beach will be asked if they would like to go through the historical documents, scan some for the website, and contact the Historical Society about handling our archives. Will Brown will spearhead this effort and will contact Kevin Frank and Galen. Anne Knight will check with the HHS and inform Will B about what they say.

Conservation Fund – Mary Perry

Approved fund of \$1000 that Will Stratton has set aside.

The Mary Perry Conservation Committee is: Rich Cocchiaro, Bob Maloney and Kevin Frank (chair). Ted is suggested that the committee come to the Board with guidelines for awarding the funds, etc. by the June meeting of the Board. We decided it is not necessary for the Treasurer to be on the committee.

Squam Lakes Conservation Society

The Society's mission is to preserve the unique quality and character of the Squam watershed by protecting lands for present and future generations.

The White Oak Pond map was looked at. Will Brown will update the map.

Any news on Rick Fabian's property?. Anne Ireland said that it was not mentioned at the SLCS meeting earlier today.

White Oak Pond Motel

Bob Rothschild has withdrawn his offer to purchase the White Oak Pond Motel although it is possible for a buyer to tear down the motel and have 5-6 lots and keep the main house intact. ✓Bob Rothschild offered what he thought was fair and what would allow him to break even – not make a profit.

It is back on the market for \$2.4 million.

WOPWA signage beside the dam related to the ramp:

Anne Knight learned from the McHugh's that they have motel guests bring boats to use on the pond – and Bob moves the big rocks that he placed to block the ramp when they want to use the pond.

Anne Knight spoke with Bob...to see if he had any concerns

Public records say that the ramp is the Pond's public access point although Rothschild's own the land. Bob has concerns about garbage, parking and safety (car's sticking out onto Rte. 3) at the site. He agreed that WOPWA can put up sign that will specify that

people keep the area clean, 4 car maximum for parking, and caution about bringing vegetation and millfoil into the Pond.

Caryn McHose agreed to make the sign last year and Ted Vansant agreed to help get it done this year (this Fall?). Bob would like to approve the sign's contents before it is created and posted.

Fire department has a valid concern/issue with the fact that someone would have to move rocks for an emergency – if someone is hurt on the island, or any medical emergency on the pond. We need to include on the sign, “use at your own risk”
Check with Town as to sign regulations - Dick Mardin – code enforcer and fire chief – but do not raise the Town's awareness about rocks blocking the entrance to the lake.

The WOPWA Board will meet June 7, 2008 at Anne Knight's house.

Annual Meeting will be held July 19, 2008 at Rothschild's.

(Suggest planning lunch for 25 rather than 50 since not everyone who comes to the meeting stays for lunch – AK).

Will Stratton made motion to adjourn – Ted Vansant seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m.