

White Oak Pond Watershed Association

Incorporated

Holderness, New Hampshire 03245

October 2, 1980

MINUTES OF THE 8TH ANNUAL MEETING- AUGUST 11, 1980

President Taylor opened the meeting in the Squam Lakes Science Center at 5:10 P.M. Twelve members were present.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as circulated.

The President then asked the Secretary to report on the ballot for changes in the By-Laws extending the allowance for consecutive terms of Officers and Directors. Bill Perry reported that 22 ballots had been returned, all in favor, none opposed. There being no objection from the floor, it was moved, seconded and

VOTED: to affirm the changes in the By-Laws as voted in the mail ballot.

The Secretary's report was then accepted as distributed by mail.

In the light of the vote on the By-Laws it was judged appropriate to move directly to the election and installation of officers and directors as proposed by the Nominating Committee.

Mary Perry reported for the Nominating Committee consisting of Ruth Knapp, Chairman, Sidney Lovett and herself. The Committee proposed the slate previously circulated by mail with 21 ballots returned all in favor, none opposed. In keeping with the new By-Laws, the Committee proposed the re-election of this slate of Officers and Directors for additional two-year terms. It was moved, seconded and

VOTED: To affirm the mail vote of the membership in favor of the slate proposed by the Nominating Committee:

For:

PRESIDENT	HAROLD TAYLOR
VICE PRESIDENT	RICHARD PETERSON
SECRETARY	WILLIAM PERRY
TREASURER	RITA REARDON

DIRECTORS:	RICHARDSON BLAIR
	BLAKE IRELAND
	RUTH KNAPP
	SIDNEY LOVETT, JR.
	LEROY PARKINS
	ROBERT WICKSMAN
	PAUL WHITMAN

The order of termination of the terms of Directors to conform with the rotational requirements of the By-Laws was left to the Board.

President Taylor then summarized the events of the past year with emphasis on the excellence of the new dam. He proposed a Resolution expressing the thanks of the Association to Rowland Keith acting in behalf of Susan Bacon Keith for his generous cooperation with the Association in the interests of the broader community. He highlighted Mr. Keith's frequent consultation on matters of water level, timing and extent of drainage, use of cofferdams, etc. It was then

RESOLVED: that the Association thank Mr. Keith in writing (Resolution is attached) and

VOTED: that Rowland Keith be made an Honorary Member of this Association.

The President then called on Mr. Blair to present to the meeting the information he has gathered about swamps with special reference to Lamb Swamp. Mr. Blair spoke to the significance to the community of enhancing the integrity of wetlands such as Lamb's Swamp which constitutes a large and vital area of White Oak Pond watershed. He pointed to the assistance given by this Association toward the completion of the Wetlands Inventory by the Town's Conservation Commission, and deplored the failure of the Town to follow up with a wetlands ordinance. He pointed to the risks inherent in small exceptions regarding fill and to the yet larger risks in the recent proposal for fill for trailer pads on Squam.

Mr. Blair then outlined the functions of swamps in the ecological balance of a pond and its environment:

- 1.) They act as a sponge holding water in times of flood and releasing it in times of drought.
- 2.) They act as a filter leaching out phosphates and other impurities.
- 3.) They form a vital link in the food hierarchy and life cycles of flora and fauna.
- 4.) They provide a natural sanctuary for wild life and a resource for enjoyment for the community.

Mr. Blair hoped that the Holderness conservation Commission would take an interest in providing for the future of the wetlands and the swamp. He pointed to resources and interest in the University of New Hampshire regarding ecology, hydrology and limnology of swamps and mentioned the pressing dangers of such fill as proposed for trailer pads nearby on Squam.

Mr. Tink Taylor remarked on the tendency of such fill to muck out on the soft bottom leading eventually to burdens on the Town's budget. He reported that the Conservation Commission had been successful in persuading a developer to withdraw his proposal for trailer pads and to redraw his plans. Mr. Taylor added that a map of the borders of the wetlands was posted in the Town Hall.

The Secretary then moved that Mr. Blair's information and concern be referred to the Association's Conservation Committee. The motion was seconded. After some discussion Sidney Lovett restated the motion to read that the Conservation Committee be empowered to make further study of alternative approaches to the preservation of wetlands and Lamb's Swamp. This wording being accepted by the Secretary, it was

VOTED: that the Conservation Committee chaired by Mr. Paul Whitman undertake such a study.

Paul Whitman then invited Richardson Blair, Mary Perry and Sidney Lovett to join him in this study.

Following a general discussion of growing interest in protecting wetlands throughout the Lakes Region, Sidney Lovett suggested that the President write a letter to the Holderness Conservation Commission urging consideration of ways of preserving the remaining wetlands. Tink Taylor felt that such a letter would be welcome and suggested it be sent to the Conservation Commission with copies to the Board of Selectmen and the Planning Board.

VOTED: that the President send such a letter to the Holderness Conservation Commission citing the important functions of swamps in particular. (See note below).

Mr. Ireland then gave the Treasurer's Report (attached) on behalf of the Treasurer Rita Reardon. The Report was accepted with thanks by voice VOTE.

It was then moved, seconded and

VOTED: that the Association contribute to the Science Center and apply for group membership as appropriate, the Officers to spend up to \$50. for these purposes, and that a letter of thanks accompany the donation.

Mary Perry then exhibited a sample T-shirt emblazoned with a WOPWA logo designed by a friend of her son. She reported that Ruth Knapp has kindly offered to put these shirts on sale in the Holderness Book Store, open until Columbus Day. After that date Mrs. Knapp will accept orders at RFD 1, Ashlad, 03217. Shirts are in tan or white; the nominal charge is \$5.50. A copy of the design of the shirts is attached to these minutes.

Following this light interlude, the President asked for further new business.

Mr. Ireland suggested it was time for the Water Committee to go back

to the State for new data on water quality and to endeavor to get the Pond included in the Squam Lakes testing program. It was the sense of the Meeting that the Water Committee should report at the next Association meeting.

In response to an inquiry by Tink Taylor, members expressed appreciating for Officer Benny Baker's vigilance in enforcing the horse-power limit for power boats. Paul Whitman pointed out that we are still lacking an official sign at Miss Main's beach notifying the public of horse-power limitation.

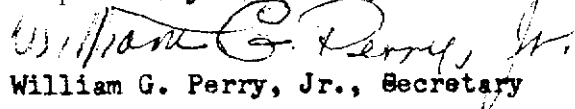
At the request of the President, Paul Whitman then described his walk around the Pond at the time of its drainage. He reported sand beaches, rocks and many springs. Bark from the '38 hurricane logging was widespread and, in some areas, over 5 feet to further depths unknown. Logs remain in the water and were seen floating.

Tink Taylor indicated that these logs were the property of the U.S. Forest Service but could be salvaged and sold by citizenry. Paul Whitman concurred in the feasibility of some salvage and agreed to explore the matter.

Sidney Lovett reported on the expiration of his term on the SLA Board and asked that he be replaced as Liaison Officer. He indicated also that Louise de Sousa of the Wetlands Commission of Center Harbor was willing to share experiences with this Association but had been unable to attend this meeting.

The Meeting adjourned at 6:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,


William G. Perry, Jr., Secretary

Note: At a subsequent meeting of the Board of Directors it was agreed that the letter regarding wetlands be addressed to the Board of Selectmen with copies to the Conservation Commission, Planning Board and to the Squam Watershed Municipalities Committee (a 5 Towns Committee). The letter is attached.