

**Brewster Ponds Coalition  
Board of Directors Meeting  
April 7, 2022 6:00 - 8:00 PM  
Video Conference**

**Attending:** Susan Bridges, Mary Mauterstock, Konrad Schultz, Rob Condon, Nancy Ortiz, Ron Essig, John Keith, Marcia Kielb

**Absent:** Marty Burke, Cameron Ferguson

**Meeting called to order 6:03 PM**

**Standing Topics**

1. Review and approve the minutes of the March 3rd Board Meeting - Nancy - approved unanimously.
2. Confirm and document email votes between Board meetings (if any) - Nancy - none
3. Incoming mail (if any) - Nancy - thank you for scholarship from Bennett Hartley and thank you for \$5K donation from BCT
4. Treasurer's report - Rob
  - a. Financial statements - see Board folder - Rob - \$9,018 donations for March. Current balance is \$161,524 which is an increase of \$8,800 from February. Balance of all accounts is \$192,791 (includes associations). March business partners donations are \$3,750. The project reserve is \$20,669 and the Crisis reserve is 65% of budget.
  - b. Approval of expenses and reimbursements (if any) - Rob - none
5. Misc. administrative matters - All - none

**New Business:**

1. Conservation Day - BPC voted to accept the invitation from BCT, DNR, and the Historical society to co-host. Mary will attend the kickoff meeting on 4/14. BPC has been asked to display the "big flush".

**Current Priorities**

1. PALs data - analysis and dashboard - John Chris Miller from the DNR wants the PALS data from the six tested ponds analyzed and the results published. He is open to the idea of BPC doing the analysis and making the data available to the public. Due to the limited once a year testing of ponds (in late summer) by PALs, it is difficult to discern trends. Trend lines are useful but readers like summaries. Only one test per year is a caveat. A pond picture showing the testing site, although taking up space, could be interesting for the public. Susan suggested including cyanobacteria results. John mentioned that cyanobacteria is briefly mentioned. Discussion ensued regarding the presentation of the pond data "scorecard". Should all data be presented? Or just a summary? Should a pond picture citing the test site be included? All agreed the "traffic light" (red, yellow, green) approach was easy to understand. Ron suggested adding a correlation coefficient. Rob fears the general public will be confused if too much

complicated data analysis is included. Rob volunteered to write an easily understood sentence to explain the science data to the public. Konrad agrees the analysis should be kept simple. BPC should work with the Cape Cod Commission to have an "end point". The Cape Cod Commission has a wide range of data points in a new report including satellite data indicating cyanobacteria sites. Konrad will get the name of the contact person at the Commission. John mentioned that the presence of chlorophyll can be picked up by satellite, however, the results are dependent upon the depth of the pond. Shallower ponds have a light brown color which can impede accurate information. John would like the PALs data to be presented at the Pond Summit. To this end, John will meet with the Cape Cod Commission and decide on a format for presentation and review with Chris Miller. Susan mentioned that the PALs data is not on the Pond Summit agenda. John believes an updated status of pond testing will be useful background information to tie into the septic nutrient problem.

There is a \$50K item on the fall warrant for an update of the 2009 Horsley Whitten report. BPC believes BPC could update the data at no cost and apply the \$50K to another pond project.

Bioremediation Study. Tom Vautin has launched the floating island study and Cameron is assisting. The Charles River Floating Island Group contacted Tom re: being part of their project. Chris Miller will need to meet with Noelle in Conservation regarding obtaining the required permit for the study. BPC will conduct the study in a Brewster pond that offers fewer variables, therefore good controls. The pond must be small, impaired, and have no outlet or inlet of water from other sources. The floating islands could occupy a 3-5% area of the pond which is very large. A smaller area for the islands is more practical. Myricks or Schoolhouse Ponds are great possibilities. Widgeon Pond near the Ocean Edge golf course is very small and highly polluted due to the proximity to the golf course. John suggested that pond as a possibility as well.

2. Search/nomination committee. Susan is requesting suggestions for potential board members. Communications needs a chairperson. Keven Kearns, a retired professor from the University of Pittsburgh who has a second home in Brewster has expressed an interest in volunteering or becoming a board member. Konrad suggested inviting him for coffee after his mid-May arrival in Brewster and Susan suggested inviting him to our May board meeting. Susan reminded the board of the ongoing spreadsheet of potential board members.
3. Pond Summit - Four expert speakers from various concentrations will present at the 6/17 Pond Summit. Representatives from the town are hopefully going to attend this meeting.

## **Events**

1. April 7, 11:00 BBC - Adult Program - Paul Anderson. Those in attendance agreed the event was a big success and well attended. Paul gave a very interesting and informative talk.
2. Beautify Brewster - April 23th, rain date 4/24 - Nancy is chairing this event.

3. Brewster in Bloom - April 29 - May 1st - Nancy, Mary, Susan, Marcia, and perhaps other board members volunteered to oversee the table in front of the bookstore. Marcia will wear the Shelley the Turtle costume.

**Committee Reports** - Written/verbal reports as needed Konrad thanked all board members for their contributions to the Spring newsletter. All agreed the newsletter was well written. The 32 page Pond Guide is currently at the printer. 5K copies have been ordered. The Grist Mill has been added as a location for distribution.

Board members were reminded that BPC events are listed in the shared drive. There is a 4/20 deadline for the May blast of events. Rob suggested a volunteer party for all BPC's wonderful volunteers. This event will be held outside in the warm weather. Locations such as Ocean Edge and a private home on a pond were suggested.

**Outreach, Pond Projects & Partnerships** - Updates as needed - none

- **Next Board Meeting - May 5, 2022** - Google Meet
- **June Board Meeting - June 2, 2022** - Google Meet
- **July Board Meeting - July 7, 2022** - Google Meet

**Meeting Adjourned: 7:45 PM**

**Submitted by:**

**Nancy Ortiz, Clerk**