

## **MINUTES, BREWSTER PONDS COALITION, JUNE 6, 2019**

Board members present: Susan Bridges, Wayne Jenkins, Nancy Ortiz, Gwen Pelletier, Judy Pirani, Sue Searles, Konrad Shultz, Dawn Walnut, Guest: Member Robert Condon.

Board VP Konrad Schultz presided over the meeting in the absence of President Tom Vautin.

Board members welcomed new Board member Susan Bridges. She was nominated by the full Board in the previous months discussion during Executive Session.. She accepted the nomination when asked by Tom Vautin.

All documents referenced are available upon request.

### **STANDING TOPICS**

- ❖ Minutes of May 2 approved unanimously with one correction. Judy noted that in the communications report, Judy Stevens had offered to “contribute photos to BPC instagram site”, not “manage” the BPC instagram site.
- ❖ Treasurer’s report accepted by unanimous vote.
- ❖ Administrative Matters: Annual Meeting.
  - Confirmed date of August 10
  - Confirmed speakers: Nancy Leland, Lim-Tex; Jim Haney, UNH re Citizen Scientists Cyanobacteria Projects
  - Gwen in contact with Freeman’s Cafe at Captain’s Course to confirm date, plan meal and set-up.
  - Discussed nominee for “Volunteer of the Year”

### **CURRENT PRIORITIES**

- ❖ Citizen Science Update: Report submitted
  - In answer to questions, Gwen explained that Aerosol program testing begins tomorrow, June 7, with a demonstration at Lower Mill Pond. Hailey Carter, a student at UNH, will oversee the summer testing program. UNH staff and students have built the equipment for the testing. We will have pictures as the program gets started.
    - Relative to the Cyanobacteria, Year 3 program, we just purchased sleeve length gloves for samplers to use if they prefer
    - Konrad shared, having just returned from Florida, that cyanobacteria is a major problem in estuaries there, primarily due to nutrient water releases from Lake Okeechobee to the east and west coasts,.
  - Pond Education Field Trips: Sue Searles reported
    - The final field trips of the year would be next week.
    - The Partnership School will not participate next year due to declining enrollment of older students.

- Jan McGann did an excellent job of taking over leadership and coordinating the program this year.
  - Judy asked for pictures
  - Sue noted that the costs of the bus for the Partnership School was twice what it was last year. With concern about the increase and the implications for next year, the Board asked Sue to pursue an explanation for the increase.
- Pond and Neighborhood Summit: Wayne reported. His report and discussion included:
  - Saturday, June 29 at Brewster Baptist Church. 9 AM
  - Speakers and Venue confirmed: Bryan Horsley, APCC; John Keith, Elbow Pond, Jim Moynihan, Seymour Pond.
  - Refreshments: Nancy---pastries and fruit,; ask BPC about making coffee; checking with Dawn about supply of napkins, etc., which we had in previous years for events.
  - Emails sent this week to listed members of “Pond and Neighborhood groups”
  - Email to go out next week to general membership
  - Anticipate 50 plus attendees
  - Display tables (Table tops); BPC, Health Dept. ? others ?
  - Name Tags: Dawn
  - Registration: Susan B
  - Follow-up telecons to neighborhood and pond groups: Konrad, Wayne, Nancy, Susan Bridges
- Summer Newsletter
  - Judy provided a list of articles, reminded of due date 6/24
  - Re “tick spraying” article, Judy explained that it’s focus will be on treatments that are environmentally safe
- Brewster Conservation Day: General discussion included the following points:
  - Saturday, July 13. Time - 9 am to 2 pm.. Set up 8 am
  - Susan Bridges volunteered to coordinate the efforts
  - Similar to last year
  - Membership materials, displays for programs
  - Shifts of 2 hours, minimum 3 persons each shift
  - Ask members to participate
- Summer Event at the Diao’s. Konrad reported
  - Diaos hosting cocktail party for neighbors and high end donors
  - Konrad also researching assessors database for pond front property owners whose value exceeds \$500,000.
  - Invitation only. Printed invitations with return RSVP via [RSVP@brewsterponds.org](mailto:RSVP@brewsterponds.org)
  - George Heufelder, of the Mass Alternative Septic Test Center has agreed to speak about alternative septic systems

- Need help hand-addressing invitations. Will contact Board members when ready. Expect to mail early July
  - Susan Bridges offered to check with PO about organizations/individuals being able to create own stamp. We could print logo.
- Other Working Group progress reports
- Membership: Report submitted by Marty
  - Fund Raising: Konrad reported
    - Committee will be consulting with potential sponsors and asking for their input regarding potential sponsor packages and the benefits to them. In September/October will begin asking businesses for support and sponsorships and will be giving them Brewster Pond bags with information in them.
  - Communication: Judy Pirani
    - Judy Stevens working on Instagram Feed
    - Have joined BREWSTER COMMUNITY PAGE Facebook group. Posted a video of Sue Searles displaying contents of the bags given to students at the field trips; the post reached almost 800 people--far more than BPC Facebook page alone. It's an opportunity to reach more people in Brewster about the BPC
    - Judy will ask Tom about potential volunteer to redesign the web site
  - Projects and Partnerships: Tom had submitted reports on the following::
    - Elbow Pond Restoration. General comment from Board that issue now is including report re Damsel Flies. Not expected to hold up project.
    - Brewster DNR volunteer team
    - CRM implementation update. Marty and Tom implementation ongoing

❖ **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- Relative to the fact that Tom is stepping down as president, having served now for 3 years and his term ending in 2020, the Board needs to consider who will fill the position; Board members discussed a position description developed by Tom of "Duties and Responsibilities of the President"
- Board members discussed possible nominations for additional Board members.
- Board discussed the need for a staff person as we continue to grow.
- Board discussed the possibility of reducing activities

Submitted by,

Gwen Pelletier, Secretary

Next Meeting: July 11, 2019

Please note: Changed from regular 1st Thursday due to July 4 Holiday