Brewster Ponds Coalition **6FEB2025; 6:00 - 8:00 PM**
Board of Directors Meeting **Video Conference**

Present: Susan Bridges; Tim Chase; Rob Condon; Ron Essig; Karyn Frey; Kevin Kearns; John Keith; Marcia Kielb; Jane Savio
Meeting called to order: 6:02 PM

Standing Topics:

1. **Reviewed and approved minutes of the 9 January 2025 Board Meeting**: Motion made and seconded to accept the minutes as written; 7 ayes; 1 abstention
2. **Confirm and document email votes between Board meetings:** none
3. **Incoming mail:** FMLA again – Rob dealing with this issue
4. **Treasurer's Report:**
   a. Financial statements: Rob presented the financial files, noting that the BPC has $230,413.00 in assets. For the month of January, there were $5271.00 in expenses, and $4823.00 in donations.
   b. Approval of expenses: Motion made and seconded to accept the treasurer's report; unanimous vote in favor of its acceptance.
   c. Mailchimp: there have been no invoices and no record of payment on our account statement; Jane to check with Mailchimp
   d. Neon: Invoice for $160 for Neon to be investigated, as the board thought that was more than the agreed-upon price.
5. **Miscellaneous administrative matters:**
   a. Inquiry for Harwich re: our Pond Pledge Program – they are looking to develop a similar program
   b. Harwich interested in the Pond Guide. – Susan to meet with them to help organize.

New Business:

1. **Land Evaluation Committee:** none of our members who applied were selected; no one from Conservation Trust was selected
2. **Mapping of septic systems:** the town is looking for 3 people to work with the Natural Resources Advisory Committee to map septic systems surrounding our ponds. Karyn volunteered.
3. **Wastewater Survey:** Lindsay Alworth is looking for us to disseminate a survey she is conducting. The Board decided to put this on hold.

Current Priorities

1. **2025 Budget Discussion:** Rob presented the 2025 budget, including Income of $96.300 and Expenses of $115,020. A motion was made and accepted to increase the budget by $5,000 to reflect the cost of a previously approved pond study which brings the total expense budget to $120,020. Motion made and seconded to accept the revised budget; unanimously approved.
2. **Citizens' Petition:** to fund a CWMP – goal is to get it on the spring Town Warrant.
   . Citizens Petitions for the spring town meeting require only 10 signatures to be added to the warrant. To send a message to the select Board, the BPC hopes to get many more.
   a. The BPC's Citizen's Petition has been reviewed by Town Counsel and deemed to be worded correctly
   b. The BPC will send a news blast to our members who are registered to vote in Brewster providing a copy of the petition and asking them to stop by the library 2/14 in the PM or 2/15 in the AM to sign the petition.
   c. Petitions must be submitted by 2/19. Susan will deliver the BPC's signed petition to Town Hall on 2/18,

Committee Reports:

1. **Membership:**

Last year at this time: $60K; 349 donors; avg donation $175
This year at this time: $47K; 241 donors; avg donation $297
Team to pursue contacting previous donors who have not donated this year.

2. **Phosphorus Travel Study Update:**
   a. 3 new wells were drilled at the Ortiz and Condon properties earlier this month
   b. Testing to be performed 7FEB2025; approximately 1 month to receive results
   c. Drilling 1 new well at each property will occur in April
3. **Citizen Science:**
   APCC has provided revisions to protocol concerning scum observations and threshold monitoring; Ron, Karyn, and Marty to meet 10FEB to discuss these changes and potential outcomes
   The team is looking for more volunteers for sampling this upcoming season

Executive Session: None

Wrap-up:

- Recap decisions, action items, and follow-up assignments
- Next Board Meeting – 6 March 2025
- April Meeting 3 April 2025

Meeting adjourned: 7:57 PM

Submitted by: *Karyn Frey, Secretary*