

## MINUTES, BREWSTER PONDS COALITION, JUNE 4, 2020

Board members present: Virtual meeting by video Susan Bridges, Marty Burke, Rob Condon, Wayne Jenkins, Nancy Ortiz, Gwen Pelletier, Sue Searles, Tom Vautin, Konrad Shultz .

All documents referenced are available on request.

### Standing Topics

- ❖ Minutes of May meeting unanimously approved
- ❖ Treasurer's report
  - Financial report approved unanimously.
  - Tom announced that he and Rob had agreed that Rob would take over Treasurer position this month with Tom continuing as his assistant. Board voted unanimously to approve this transition, to authorize Tom to make arrangements with Cape Cod Five to change the signatories on the CCFive bank accounts (BPC, Elbow Pond, and Blueberry Pond) to Rob Condon and Susan Bridges. Tom noted that a resolution from the Board will be needed for CC Five. He and Gwen will coordinate that
- ❖ Brief discussion of previous decision to donate \$2,000 to the BCT toward the purchase of pond front property at Slough Pond. Board voted to support by making the donation from BPC NEIGHBORHOOD POND PROJECT line item in budget.

### Current Priorities

- ❖ Board recruitment and succession planning (executive session)
  - The nominating committee presented 4 candidates they are in the process of interviewing for Board membership. . Committee will follow up with final interviews and will make nominations at a future meeting.
  - . Board reviewed two documents drafted by Marty
    - Board Responsibilities
      - Agreement for minor edits and to be reviewed and voted to accept at the next meeting.
      - To be a "living document" with current date on it and to be subject to editing/changing periodically as needed.
    - Committees for 2020-2021
      - After brief discussion, agreement not to make decisions at this time, to wait until new board members are appointed.

## Upcoming events

- ❖ Annual Meeting, August 8. Previous decision for Virtual Meeting
  - Susan announced that Annual Meeting Committee has met with representatives from BOOM to discuss development of Virtual Annual meeting
    - Committee members: Susan, Konrad, Wayne, Judy
    - Copy of proposed agreement in Board package reviewed
    - Concerns about total costs for items listed, beyond consultant fees.. Susan to have further conversations with BOOM consultants to clarify.
    - Some parts of the meeting can be pre-recorded. Perhaps all of them..
    - Votes required at AM can be done through MailChimp
    - Question of whether to have a Q & A with the speaker.
    - Splash award
    - Sue Searles nominated Karen Malkus-Benjamin, noting that she was the person who initiated both of our successful programs: The School Education Program and the Pond testing for cyanobacteria with the University of New Hampshire and Lim-Tex.
    - Judy Pirani nominated Chuck Madansky for the amount of work he has done with Cyanobacteria testing at Nickerson State Park as a part of the BPC program. Gwen noted that he had been recognized at the annual meeting before Splash Awards were created.
    - Board voted to award Karen-Malkus Benjamin. Sue Searles to follow up with Karen
  - Speakers: Board members agreed focus should be on “Effect of climate change on FRESHWATER PONDS.”
    - Marty suggested several possibilities: Jim Haney, UNH; Sophie Fox or Steven Smith, CCNS; Melissa Lowe, Audubon; Alexandra Vecchio, MA Audubon, Danielle Perry MA Audubon, Don Keeran and JoAnn Muramoto, APCC. Marty to continue conversations and make recommendations at the July meeting.

Submitted by Gwen Pelletier, Secretary

8 PM Gwen left the meeting and Nancy Ortiz took over minutes.

### **Upcoming Events Continued:**

- Native Plant Workshop at Crocker Nurseries has been postponed until July or August.
- Eco Paddle - Ryan Burch of SUPfari needs to be contacted to set up a date.

### **Communication - 7/1 newsletter articles (6/15 deadline):**

- Crocker Nurseries - Susan B. to set up a date for Native Plant Workshop.
- Marty to write a Citizen Science article on Lower Mill Pond aerosol, food web project, and Cyanobacteria project.
- Lower Mill Pond erosion article will be postponed until the project is more advanced.
- John O'Reilly profile and Walker's Pond project to be included in newsletter.
- Upcoming annual meeting to be held virtually.
- \$2K donation by BPC to BCT for purchase of land abutting Sough Pond to be mentioned in Newsletter

### **Lower Mill Pond Erosion Project:**

- 5/29/20 Nancy O. collected Seymour Pond Erosion project detail from Jim Moynihan and met Rob, and Susan B. for onsite visit.
- 6/2/20 conference call between Jim Moynihan, Rob, Nancy C., Nancy O., and Susan B. to get more information on the Seymour Project. Rob volunteered to come up with a preliminary design to pass by John Keith.
- Decided that meeting with LM group and Wayne at Blueberry Pond upon Konrad's return next week would be helpful in completing design.
- Noelle Bramer Aguiar should be contacted at some point to ensure the LM plan is outside of the 100 foot buffer zone.

### **Fundraising/Development:**

- Konrad discussed coming up with an overall plan for the future and finding different avenues of funding. Where are the sources of revenue? Where is the "low-hanging fruit"?
- Tom suggested having an offsite board meeting to continue discussion because the topic was too involved for a general board meeting.

## **Citizen Science:**

- APCC is testing eight ponds (an additional pond has been added). Lab work is being done at APCC office by Kevin Johnson and Rebecca Miller (Chris Miller's daughter).
- Lower Mill Pond is being tested every two weeks by Nancy Leland, Marty and Gwen for the food web project.
- APCC is testing Elbow Pond to use as a baseline reference since, unlike Lower Mill, there is no herring run. Town is not sure if the harvester can be taken out at the end of June due to Covid. May be able harvest in September.
- Marty will put the aerosol report in the newsletter. Final report from Jim Haney is in the shared drive under 6/4/20 board meeting.

## **Wrap-up:**

- Board recruitment recommendations were discussed.
- Upcoming events - Wayne, Konrad, and Susan B.
- Native plant workshop and eco paddle.
- Lower Mill erosion group to meet at Blueberry Pond and continue to develop plan prior to contracting Noelle at Conservation.
- Board voted to give Karen Malkus-Benjamin the 2020 Splash Award.
- Marty to write an aerosol article for the newsletter.
- Board decided to continue to use "Google meet" for the next board meeting on 7/2/20 at 6 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Submitted by,  
Nancy Ortiz, Assistant Secretary

NEXT MEETING: July 2, 2020