

## MINUTES, BREWSTER PONDS COALITION, Jan 2, 2019

Board members present: Marty Burke, Wayne Jenkins, Nancy Ortiz, Gwen Pelletier, Judy Pirani, Sue Searles, Tom Vautin, Dawn Walnut. Konrad Schultz by Skype.

All documents/reports are available on request.

### **Standing Topics**

- Minutes of December meeting were approved unanimously.
- Treasurer's Report. Tom reported that financial reports are not available because of end of year closing around holiday. He will post when provided by Glivinski and Board will review at next meeting.

### **Current Priorities**

- 2019 Membership Appeal Update  
Marty submitted a written report which included list of work of Membership committee over the last month, cleaning up the membership list. Report included detail re "subscribers", donors to date this year, and "subscribers" who have not yet donated. Included in the report was history of this year's donors compared to previous years. Committee will be making calls to non-donors. Based on the report, Board reviewed the process and committee members responsibility. Board members agreed to make calls to assist committee members. Marty and Dawn will post spreadsheet of members to be called and Board members will indicate members they know and will call. Donations to date \$19,565, less than last year at this time in appeal. 169 donors.
- BPC 2019 Budget  
Tom presented an updated version of the proposed 2019 budget based on discussion at last month's draft. Board reviewed and approved unanimously with agreement to review going forward. Need to review is based on fewer donations to date and fact that current income for year is less than projected budget. Board acknowledged that budget item for staffing is contingent on being able to obtain grant to support the position.

### **Operating Plan/Committee progress reports**

- Operating Plan  
Tom provided updated copies of the 2018-2019 Operating Plan and Working Group Structure. He asked Board members to add to them as appropriate. Tom and Marty noted that Jay Olin has resigned from the nominating committee.

- Membership: Committee: Covered in report above.
- Development and Fundraising:  
Konrad reported the following thoughts and actions by the committee
  - ❖ BPC should keep track of recently approved “Tax on Rental Property” bill approved by Legislature and signed by Governor. The bill includes creation of funds for water protection and may have the possibility of funds for freshwater issues for which BPC could apply either independently, with other relevant nonprofits or with the Town. Gwen committed to asking Senator Julian Cyr and Rep Sarah Peake for a copy of the bill.
  - ❖ The Committee has a meeting scheduled for Sunday, January 13th, at the Brewster Library at 1:00 PM. Members planning to attend: Konrad (coming to Brewster,) Tom, Judy, Susan Bridges, Catherine Diao, Clare O’Connor Rice.
  - ❖ Committee planning summer event: perhaps a garden party or showcasing work at Blueberry Pond or Elbow Pond.
  - ❖ Volunteers will have many opportunities, i.e. selling tickets, soliciting business sponsorships
- Education and Programs
  - ❖ **Citizen Science:** Marty provided a written report. Summary addressed attendance by Mary, Judy, and Gwen at Cape Coastal Conference in December and excellent presentation by Jim Haney about the Cyanobacteria testing program. Committee is working to coordinate plans for summer program. Meeting with APCC in February.
  - ❖ **Pond Education:** Sue provided a written report. Summary indicated program is well organized for this year. Sue and Jan are coordinating with teachers. Pond field trips have been scheduled and volunteers have committed to assistance.
    - It was noted at this point that sponsorship for the buses for the field trips should be an excellent opportunity for businesses to become involved.
  - ❖ **Winter Members Meeting**
    - Wayne reported that he has secured the Brewster Baptist Church for March 2 at 9 am for approximately 50 people. Tom agreed to talk with management of Cape Alfresco re the possibility of getting Frittatas earlier than we did for previous event there since they need time to cook.
    - Dawn reported that plan is for program to focus on volunteerism with current volunteers to be invited to speak about their experience. Program or committee leaders to make recommendations
      - Citizen Scientist (Perhaps Chuck Madansky. Dawn will ask him)
      - Pond Education, Membership, Communication, Fund Raising, Beautify Brewster

- ❖ **Pond Summit:** Wayne reported that he has reserved the Brewster Baptist Church for the Pond Summit on June 29 at 10 am. Plans for this event will be developed.
- Communication

Judy reported that the committee has been busy recently with both RIPPLES for the Annual Appeal and for the newsletter just released.

  - ❖ She has put out a call for volunteers to help the committee with use of instagram and revising the website. If she has no success from our membership, she will approach CC Tech and 4 C's.
  - ❖ The committee is working on a revision of the POND BOOKLET. This is another opportunity for the Fundraising/Development Committee to recruit business sponsorship.
  - ❖ Current volunteers are writing articles and providing photos for our publications and use on the website.
- Projects and Partnerships
  - ❖ **Elbow Pond Restoration:**
    - Friends of Elbow Pond has had a preliminary meeting with the Conservation Commission and found them supportive. It is anticipated that the formal application, the NOTICE OF INTENT, will be filed in March, with a public hearing soon thereafter.
    - Friends of Elbow Pond member John Keith has drafted an agreement between Friends of Elbow Pond and the Town, relative to use of the Town's Weed Harvester for the work to be done. Tom and Wayne will review draft, consulting with John Keith and with Chris Miller of DNR before Friends of Elbow Pond presents to Town.
    - It was noted that although BPC is not a party to the work to be done, our goal is to provide support and to learn about the process in order to provide guidance to other neighborhood groups.
  - ❖ **Town of Brewster, DNR**
    - Tom has had conversations with Chris Miller about BPC Board members assisting in ways that could be helpful to getting the "newly designated/ Conservation Department/old Fire station" ready for the Conservation/DNR department to move in. Chris was amenable to the idea. These conversations will continue.
    - Additional discussion about ways to involve volunteers. Perhaps we could recruit volunteers from our membership to assist the department with work

related to ponds. We could perhaps recruit a “volunteer army” if there are tasks with which volunteers could help.

❖ The Compact of CC Conservation Trusts

Tom reminded Board of Compacts Board meeting tomorrow, January 3. As a member BPC is invited to have a representative and an alternate attend. Tom will go as representative. Gwen volunteered to go this time. In the future, Board will decide who will be appointed representative. Compact Board meets quarterly.

❖ Proposed working group on impact of ADU’s on water quality.

Sue reported that she has not been contacted again re creation the group.

● Capacity-building updates

Board discussed possible new members of Board. We will continue efforts to identify and recruit new members to Board. A couple of us will have conversations with possibilities. Tom will post the “Potential Leadership” list to the Board Package for February.

**Other Business**

- Nancy shared that Laura Kelly, Cape Cod Aquifer advocate, will be speaking to the Brewster Select Board meeting, Monday, January 7. Nancy plans to attend the meeting and invites others to join her.
- Board unanimously approved copy of minutes for Annual Meeting, August 2018. Minutes will be placed in file for 2019 Annual meeting for formal approval by membership at that time.

Next Board Meeting: February 7, 2019

Submitted by,  
Gwen Pelletier, Secretary