

MINUTES, BREWSTER PONDS COALITION, JUNE 7, 2018

Board members present: Gwen Pelletier, Judy Pirani, Sue Searles, Konrad Schultz, Tom Vautin, Dawn Walnut

POND EDUCATION PROGRAM UPDATE

Board meeting opened with an enthusiastic report from Sue Searles, co-ordinator with Karen, about the Pond Education field trip today with Eddy School 5th grade students. It was a perfect day for it; students and teachers and BPC volunteers were thoroughly engaged. Having a speaker for the puppet show added another positive dimension, thanks to technical effort from Karen's daughter. Tom shared that Shirley Vautin had taken a video which would be posted to the website.

Copies of all reports referenced are available upon request.

MINUTES of May 3, 2018 meeting were approved unanimously.

CONFIRMATION OF EMAIL VOTES: Both votes confirmed unanimously

- Vote to purchase cyanoscope kit for /Citizen Scientist Program, \$461.00
- Vote to approve contract with Freeman's Cafe, Captain's Course at \$18 per person for buffet breakfast for annual meeting on August 18. Estimate 70 people. Deposit of 25% waived. Total due on day of event. Final Count due 1 week prior to event.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Revised Financial report for April, with one minor change in description, and Financial Report for May were submitted, reviewed and approved unanimously. During this conversation, Sue expressed concern that we not take on any new projects, beyond the Pond Education program for schools and the Citizen Scientist, until we have recruited more volunteers and Board members. Board members agreed to that concern and acknowledged such is the "heart of developing the strategic plan.

CURRENT PRIORITIES & ISSUES

- **CITIZEN SCIENTISTS (CYANOBACTERIA MONITORING) UPDATE**
 - ❖ Karen Malkus-Benjamin, project leader, submitted a written report summarizing the current status of testing. The program is in the beginning stages, of this the second season, with BPC volunteers testing Pine, Sheep, Cliff, Rafe, Blueberry, Greenland Ponds. Two BPC volunteers are also participating in the APCC testing at the Mill Ponds. In addition well monitoring is being conducted of wells in the

Mill Ponds area. Two of our members have agreed to participate. Ben de Ruyter is up gradient of Walker Pond and Karen has connected with him. Tom reported that Jon Sprogell, whose property is down gradient of Walker Pond, has agreed to participate; Karen has been informed of his agreement and will be in touch with him. During this conversation, Tom advised the Board that this addition to the project is an example of potential project creep of which we need to be cautious so we do not increase the scope of a project unreasonably or that we cannot handle. This increase by Karen, Bryan and Nancy Leland is exploratory and limited, based on a request from Jim Haney and Nancy Leland, lead scientists for the Cyanoforecasting project. *(BPC is supporting the efforts of the Cyanoforecasting team and appreciate their generous contributions to our data analysis that they do at no cost at UNH water quality lab. KM-B post script)*

- BREWSTER CONSERVATION DAY, JULY 14

Discussion of participation in this event, included the following:

- ❖ We have had impressive and active participation events the last three years
- ❖ Down-size our display this year
- ❖ Concentrate on recruiting Board and Volunteer interest
- ❖ Display showing Pond Education Program and Cyanobacteria
- ❖ Copies of materials we have available
- ❖ Perhaps giveaways
- ❖ Scheduled meeting for Saturday, June 30, 10 AM at BLL, to firm up plans
- ❖ Invite volunteers who have participated in Pond Education program and Citizen Scientist to join us that day for planning and participation on Conservation Day.

- STRATEGIC PLANNING

Discussion included the following:

- ❖ This is a big picture/long range plan
- ❖ In the near future we will identify overlapping issues and focus on two to five
- ❖ Develop leadership moving forward,
- ❖ Recognizing that we were founding board and need to add other skills and interests
- ❖ Goal to launch at Annual meeting
- ❖ Tom to write introductory “Executive Summary” and fine tune goals and action plans and to submit to Board for review prior to July Board meeting.
- ❖ Goal to approve document at July meeting
- ❖ Beginning to work now on Board recruitment and identifying funding resources.
- ❖ Thank you to Hal Minis for his facilitation our two workshops and working with us through the process. Vote unanimously to make a \$500 donation to Brewster

Conservation Trust as a thank you and to recognize him at Annual Meeting with the donation.

- RECRUITING FOR BOARD AND COMMITTEES

Discussion included the following:

- ❖ Need to figure out roles for recruiting new members, as well as role each of us would fill in a newly focused Board. Each of us shared what interests us most:
 - Gwen, project leader
 - Judy, administrative & communication
 - Sue, working with volunteers, building volunteer participation
 - Konrad, communications, recruiting business support, meeting with members to discuss their potential/involvement
 - Dawn, education and communications
 - Tom, membership and volunteer development, behind scenes organization development, communications and fundraising
- ❖ Summary of above. We need to recruit more leaders; need to maintain scientist on Board, role that Karen has been filling
- ❖ Agreed to “ACT NOW” in order to identify prospects.
- ❖ Agreed on following outreach efforts ASAP
 - Sue Searles: Lucas Dinwiddie and Sky Freyss-Cole
 - Tom: Jim Foley, Ed Woolen
 - Konrad: David Bennett, Catherine Diao
 - Dawn & Judy Pirani: Bert Jackson
 - Gwen: Laurel Labdon
 - Others to be considered ?
 - Cynthia Baron
 - Sally and/or Bob Bullard
 - Pat Hughes
 - Darbyshires
 - Clare O’Connor-Rice
 - Craig Mance
 - John O’Reilly
- ❖ Agreed greater participation in Chamber of Commerce
 - Attending June 20 “Get to Know”
 - Use Chamber Director Kyle Hinkle, as a resource

- GRANT OPPORTUNITIES AND PROPOSED NEXT STEPS

Board had been provided copy of document provided by Moira Noonan-Kerry for review. Tom and Gwen reviewed and request permission to proceed. Board approved

- ❖ Creation of a 3 person “Development Team” to consist of Tom Vautin, Konrad Schultz, and Gwen Pelletier to work with Moira and the Cape Cod Conservation Trust.
 - ❖ Authorized contracting with Moira for “targeted work” on a limited basis to include especially explorations with the EDDY FUND.
 - ❖ Approved joining the Cape Cod Conservation Trust. Estimated membership approximately \$2,000/annual. Tom to confirm amount
- Tom, Konrad, and Gwen agreed to set up meeting with Moira prior to July Board meeting, asap when Konrad and Gwen return from trips.
- ANNUAL MEETING
 - Discussion included
 - ❖ Officers agreed to continue: Tom, President; Konrad, VP; Secretary, Gwen Treasurer position to continue to be filled as present: Glivinski Associates, Tom coordinating with Glivinski, Gwen writing checks/paying bills. Expenses to be paid based on projects in budget or as approved by Board.
 - ❖ Agenda as in past
 - ❖ SPLASH award. To be determined. Need suggestions
 - ❖ By-Law amendments. Board voted to amend by increasing size of board from 9 to 15. Amendment to be approved at July meeting and then publicized as required.
 - ❖ Rich Delaney, Center for Coastal Studies, has confirmed his being keynote speaker.
 - ❖ Need final count for attendance, Thursday, August 9, 2018
 - OTHER BUSINESS
 - ❖ Potential staff position: Need to define job; decide how to pay; develop reporting relationship
 - ❖ Brewster Farmers Market: Agreed to participate on July 29 with table of info, similar to CC Five exhibit. Judy Pirani coordinating.

- Reports submitted by

Communications Action Team, June 2018

Karen Malkus-Benjamin, Citizen Scientist

Next Board meeting, August 2, 2018

ANNUAL Meeting, August 18, 2018

Need final count, Thursday, August 9, 2018.

Submitted by,
Gwen Pelletier, Secretar