

Minutes, Brewster Ponds Coalition, March 5, 2020

Board members present: Susan Bridges,, Steve McKenna, Wayne Jenkins, Nancy Ortiz, Gwen Pelletier, Sue Searles, Tom Vautin. Marty Burke, Rob Condon, and Konrad Schultz by telephone.

Copy of referenced documents are available on request.

STANDING TOPICS

- ❖ Minutes of February 6, 2020 were approved unanimously
- ❖ Voted unanimously to accept Treasurer's report and Financial Statements for January
 - Relative to BLUEBERRY AND SOLS POND account, Rob noted lack of activity and asked if there is a "sunset clause" for Association accounts with which BPC has an agreement. Tom shared that this was the first agreement and it did not; however subsequent agreements do. Konrad also explained that BLUEBERRY AND SOLS POND is in the process of planning other work. He also shared that the Association has a fundraiser every year to build up an account for future projects.
- ❖ Incoming mail: Notice of Compact of Conservation Trust.
 - Steve McKenna will attend.
 - Note that Compact has increased hourly rate for consultants services from \$44.50 to \$47.00
 - Note that BPC is entitled to 20 hours of services which we have not used. Steve will discuss with Mark Robinson..
- ❖ Approved following expenses:
- ❖ Marty Burke: \$55.00 Postage
 - Sue Searles: \$1135.06 Pond Education Supplies
 - Nancy Ortiz: \$145.03 Table Cloths
 -

CURRENT PRIORITIES

Website Redesign

- ❖ Konrad pointed out that the new Website is now "live". Board members had already viewed it, complemented, and thanked the team. Konrad added that it had been a major team effort with Marty, Tom, and Judy contributing. He also noted that Sue Searles and Gwen had provided content and recommended pictures.
- ❖ Rob asked about the fee per month for the company hosting the domain. Konrad indicated that is less than \$150 annually, but did not have the precise amount at hand.

- ❖ Konrad added that there are still pages to be added and setting up analytics with Google for tracking information/replies.
 - ❖ Marty suggested that a “Mail Chimp” be sent to our members.. CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE. All agreed.
- Citizen Science: Marty and Gwen submitted a written report.
 - ❖ Cyanobacteria-Aerosol

UNH has been delayed in completing the Aerosol Monitoring Report. It had been promised by last week and report to Board would have been this meeting. It is now promised tomorrow, March 6. Gwen and Martty will review with UNH and then share with Aerosol team members first and then with the Board..

Rob asked about reasons for delay--explanation technical issues at UNH.
 - ❖ Cyanobacteria-Water

Bryan Horsley, who oversaw the testing the water samples at the APCC lab 2019 season, left APCC at the end of February. Until APCC has hired another staff person, Jo Ann Muramoto is overseeing the program. Marty and Gwen met with Bryan prior to his departure and developed the MEMO OF UNDERSTANDING between BPC and APCC for the 2020 season. Copy included in Board package.
 - ❖ Good news! APCC announced today that the position has been filled. Kevin Johnson, who had been the summer intern for Season 2019.
 - ❖ Marty and Gwen have developed a schedule for recruiting and training for the 2020 season.
- Upcoming Events
 - ❖ Brewster Conservation Day. July 11

DNR has asked BPC and APCC to be the lead agencies, located in the center of the location. The next planning session is March 12. Tom will not be able to attend. Sue Searles and Nancy Ortiz agreed to do so soon
 - ❖ Winter Meeting: Spring Social and Volunteer Fair, March 28th.

Wayne Jenkins and Steve Mckenna outlined the plans

9 tables, Welcome and 8 displays

Pond Education; Citizen Science; Membership and Businesses;
Event Planning; Conservation Day and Farmer’s Market;
PALS and Trail monitoring and Beautify Brewster;
Communications and Technology; Projects and Grant Writing
Name tags

Door prize, Kayak donated by Susan Bridges. Nancy will get tickets
At sign in, attendees will get name tag and ticket.

Details of day outlined.

Susan Bridges shared poster she had created.

- ❖ Beautify Brewster: 4/25 Marty and Nancy
- ❖ Brewster in Bloom: May 1,2,3.

- ❖ Other Working Groups Progress Reports
 - ❖ Fundraising: Susan Bridges
 - Brewster Book Store invited BPC to share space during Brewster in Bloom. Opportunity to recruit volunteers. Consider counting as an “In Kind” donation from the BOOKSTORE.
 - Re donations from business. Consider partial cash donation plus In Kind. For instance: Agway considering donation of \$500 or \$1,000. Offer them combined Cash donation of \$500, plus In Kind donation of \$500 in plants. Plants could be used by Neighborhood Association for “Rain Garden/Storm run-off.” In Kind donations can lead to a long term relationship with Businesses.
 - Rob suggested developing long term relationships/partnerships with utilities
 - Susan Bridges pointed out that current business sponsors are now listed in the Share Drive. 4 businesses actually donated and 2 more have said yes.

 - ❖ Communications
 - Judy had submitted a written outline SPRING 2020 NEWSLETTER with proposed Story Topics with suggested writers. Folks agreed to write. Deadline March 23 for April 1 publication.
 - Judy had volunteered to be responsible for the Historical Society’s Farmers’ Market on BPC’s assigned date of August 2. Susan Bridges indicated that Judy had asked for someone to assist and indicated the HS had asked if BPC could have an activity for children.

 - ❖ Recruitment Committee: Marty, Susan B, Steve
 - Committee reported that they are working on talking to folks, not yet ready to report to Board.
 - Rob raised the issue of his being Assistant Treasurer with expectation that he would become Treasurer next year. He lives in Brewster only part time and could not reasonably perform all the duties/responsibilities. Need to resolve this problem.

- Susan Bridges reviewed other Board member issues: Judy Pirani's departure--need for technology experience; Tom's departure--Treasurer. Need to increase the number of Board members.
- ❖ Grant Committee: Steve, Tom, Judy
 - Steve shared that he is in conversation with Chris Miller, DNR about a possible joint application with BPC to address stormwater runoff at the Walker's Pond Town Landing
 - Steve will continue conversations with Mark Robinson, Compact of Conservation Trusts, about assistance under our membership with seeking grants.
 - Susan B. asked about possible grants to address run-off at Lower Mill Pond. Not sure if the site is private, neighborhood, or town owned?
 - Steve shared that Brewster Conservation Trust has a property abutting Slough Pond under agreement for \$125,000. BCT asked if BPC might be interested in contributing to costs because it has pond frontage. After a lengthy discussion re contribution directly from our Fund Balance or attempting to raise funds for contribution from our membership. By consensus, the Board agreed to have Steve respond to BCT that we are interested in participating; however, we need to determine an amount we would contribute and how we would raise the funds.
- ❖ Membership: Marty submitted a written report.
- ❖ Other: Board was asked to support a petition Article to be on the warrant for Brewster's Annual Town Meeting in May.
CLIMATE EMERGENCY & NET ZERO DECLARATION.
Copy attached. Board voted unanimously to adopt and support it.

Submitted by
Gwen Pelletier, Secretary

Next Board Meeting: April 2, 2020 at Brewster Police Station, Community Room