

Minutes, Brewster Ponds Coalition, October 3, 2019 6 PM

Brewster Police Station

Board Members Present: Marty Burke (via phone), Rob Condon, Wayne Jenkins, Steve McKenna, Nancy Ortiz, Sue Searles, Konrad Schultz, Tom Vautin, Susan Bridges

Standing Topics

Minutes of September 5, 2019 were unanimously approved.

There were no E-mail votes.

Discussed E-mail received from non-member Judy Isele in Connecticut requesting information about harvester in addition to numerous other questions. Konrad to follow up.

Treasurer's Report unanimously approved as submitted. There were no submitted expenses.

Miscellaneous administrative matters:

Gwen (not present) asked that we authorize Gwen, rather than our accountant, to file an amendment to our bylaws increasing the maximum number of board members from nine to fifteen. This change was approved at the 2018 annual meeting, but never filed with the state. The request must be filed with the Attorney General's office by 11/1/2019. Authorization was unanimously approved by the board.

Current Priorities

1. **Communications** – Per Konrad, Judy is one month ahead of schedule for draft of Ripples publication. Konrad will try to negotiate a lower quote from Curley that is presently \$800 higher than 2018 bringing the total publishing expense to \$3,800. In addition

fundraising letters will be sent to current and old members and owners of pond view properties. The letter signing “party” will be November 3, 2019. Location to be decided.

The board agreed that the Fall newsletter was well done.

The Board reviewed copies of the current Pond Guide and was reminded by Konrad of plans to have the guide updated and ready for distribution before next summer at the visitor center in Town Hall and other sites. To this end, Konrad and Susan B met with Chris Miller and Ryan Burch of the DNR to discuss ways to make the Pond Guide a more valuable tool. Chris, particularly, had many good ideas for improving the guide, including a better map and a section with rules related to all ponds, rather than separate rules for each pond. The Board also looked at a draft of the “Good for Brewster/Good for Your Business” fundraising brochure that Konrad and Susan B have been working on. A separate sheet will include a specific details and pricing levels for what a Business Partner will receive and a form for a business to complete. The proposed plan is that the updated Pond Guide will include space for business partnership recognition (full page, half page, etc.) It is anticipated that the brochure will be self-funded through business donations. Konrad also suggested that we offer high level donors the opportunity to have their business logo, with click through capability, on our website. Wayne expressed concern about including business logos on our website. Konrad suggested that the Board look at how this has been done by other non-profits, including Habitat For Humanity and APCC.

2. Citizen Scientist Update – Per Marty BPC had a great year with 18 volunteers testing 13 ponds in rotation. Final testing results are forthcoming. Gwen and Marty will set up meeting with APCC to discuss 2020 testing. Concern was expressed for storing equipment in Gwen’s garage over the winter. Tom wants to work with the BOH

regarding posting results. BPC received lots of compliments regarding the testing efforts.

3. **Projects** –

Elbow Pond - Ryan Burch was enthusiastic about the 55 lbs of phosphorous removed from Elbow Pond.

Owl Pond - BPC to set holding account maximum amount of \$5K for Robinwood neighborhood (Owl Pond). This was determined to be the amount needed to improve water quality. The remaining amount raised by the neighborhood is for improvements not related to BPC's mission.

Cobbs Pond - Marty met with Tom from the Cobbs Pond Association who is interested in future water quality projects.

Slough Pond - Konrad has been working with Slough Pond neighbors on run off from a storm drain that is polluting pond. The neighbors must pay the town a small amount of approximately \$75 to clean a drain.

Canoe Pond - Susan B briefed the Board on a discussion she had with Sally Bullard about BPC holding Canoe Pond Association pond remediation funds in our tax-free account. Susan indicated to Sally that holding remediation funds would be possible, but that we would like to meet with members of the Canoe Pond Association to see if there are additional ways we can help them as well.

Alum Treatment Upper Mill - Board expressed concern for herring should the alum treatment of Upper Mill Pond go forward. Board also questioned if other issues such as run-off and water quality of Walker's Pond should be addressed prior to applying the treatment. Chris Miller of DNR is committed to applying the treatment. The

Board has not decided whether or not to address concerns with Town.

4. **Partnerships** – discussion put on hold due to meeting time constraint, however, some assignments made while discussing the Operating Plan.

5. **Annual Operating Plan** - Tasks were assigned for the 2019-20 Operating Plan. Highlights included the decision to hold the Pond Summit every other year and to concentrate on meeting with individual pond groups and associations during the remainder of 2019 and 2020. It was also decided that the March meeting will be a Volunteer Fair to be held on March 28th. A draft of the updated Operating Plan can be viewed in the November 2019 Board Meetings folder.

6. **Other Working Group Progress Reports** – postponed for November Board meeting.

Meeting adjourned 8:15 PM

Next Meeting: November 7, 2019

Submitted by:

Nancy Ortiz, Assistant Secretary

