

**Parker Pond Association
Annual Meeting
June 29, 2019**

The PPA Annual Meeting was held on June 29, 2019 at the Grange Hall in Vienna. A Potluck dinner preceded the meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 by President, Gerry Tinguely

A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve the minutes of last year's Annual Meeting.

New Business

Lake Smart Program

Deb Cayer gave a report on the Lake Smart Program. Lake Smart is an education and reward program to support lake front property owners in doing things on their property to support the health of the lake. It is a voluntary program where, upon invitation, trained observers will screen properties and give suggestions of things property owners can do to protect the lake. In so doing, the property owner will receive a plaque stating that the property is "Lake Smart". A slide presentation showed visual demonstration of how properties can be Lake Smart.

Six properties were surveyed. Three received the Lake Smart plaque, the other three have issues that will be remedied and those properties re-evaluated. Three families were presented with their Lake Smart award certificates.

Lidie Robbins gave a handout with five things land owners can do to help the health of the lake. The thrust of her presentation was to be vigilant and observe or be on the look out for signs of run-off, watch what happens when it rains. An invitation was made to use the services of the Youth Conservation Corps.

Water Quality

Deb Cayer reported on water quality. The 30 Mile River Association is doing the testing.

Water Clarity – 8 meters

Dissolved Oxygen – 10 (at 11 meters) (2018 level was 9.3)

9.7 (at 17 meters) (2018 level was 8.5)

This is a concern as lower oxygen levels lead to the release of phosphorus into the water endangering the health of the lake.

Deb pointed everyone to the 30 Mile River website to find more information.

New Property Purchase Loan

Gerry reported that the state of the loan required for the purchase of the "Spillway Property" which started out at \$45,000, has been reduced through donations to approximately \$15,000. Gerry explained that continued fundraising will be aimed at paying off this lone, but other expenditures are also necessary.

Loon Island Project

Dan Onion reported on the progress of campsite care on Loon, Birch, Spruce and Bill's Islands. Picnic tables, fire pits and pit toilets have been installed with the help of the State engineers.

The Loon Island cabin is need of repair. The project entails replacing the sills and siding. Much of the lumber was moved out to the island over the ice last winter and stored under tarps or placed in the cabin.

Work began in earnest on June 1st. The cabin was jacked up so that the old rotted sills can be removed and replaced. Many talented, knowledgeable volunteers are helping with the project. The State has put in monetary support for supplies. Anyone who wants to volunteer is encouraged to email Dan Onion.

Treasury Report

Waine Whittier reported that the balance on the loan for the spillway property stands at \$15,645. The treasury balance is \$14,774.

Membership

Bill Rosenberg reported that membership is growing.

Of the 70 families that are members, 50 have donated to the loan for the land purchase. This is good sign of participation.

The newsletter is in electronic format. This will save printing and postage costs.

Bill then focused on the PPA website. He showed a slide presentation of items found on Loon Island during the renovation of the cabin. Photos of these items and descriptions can be found on the PPA website.

Stewardship

Amanda Dow-Smith reported that the headland trails were cleaned of blow-down debris.

Markers are in good shape, and possibly some more markers would be put up as some have requested them.

A discussion was held about people dragging kayaks from the headland parking area to the lake. Lidie said she would look at the area and attempt to reconnoiter with Kennebec Land Trust to find a solution. This led to a discussion of boat launches in general. Dan Onion reviewed his discussions with State organizations who would build such a boat launch – such as on Echo Pond. So far no land has become available for such a project. Suggestions were made from the floor that many people are now using kayaks, and maybe a convenient kayak launch would be a good thing rather than having people dragging their crafts down through the woods.

Bill made a motion for the Board to investigate the development of a launch site on Parker Pond for non-trailer boats – kayaks, canoes, vessels with electric power (trolling motors). Waine said that the motion was too focused, and that the board should take up the issue of such a launch or boat launches in general at future board meetings. The motion was withdrawn.

Invasive Plants

Lidie gave a report. Two species of invasive plants have been discovered in nearby lakes in Belgrade and Cobbossee.

Boat inspections are very important in keeping invasive plants out of the lake. She called for volunteers to do invasive plant surveys and for the Lake Smart program.

If you see a new plant you don't recognize, let the PPA Board know, and it will be checked out quickly.

Information is available on the 30 Mile River Association website.

30 Mile River

As the 30 Mile River report was mostly covered earlier by Lidie and Deb, Dan Onion made a plea for generous donations to the organization so they can continue their work.

Lidie described a new program. The 30 Mile River Association has purchased 14 kayaks and a trailer and are offering kayaks to teach people how to use them. Cost is free for Maine residents and \$15 for non residents.

Lake Usage

Bob Weimont could not attend the meeting, so Gerry reported that the Quimby Lane boat launch agreement has been renewed for another three years.

Election of Officers

Waine made a motion to amend the bylaws to waive restriction of the term limit of the office of President of the PPA. The motion was seconded. A vote was taken and the motion passed.

Waine moved that the slate of officers projected on the screen as offered for next year's term be approved. The motion was seconded, and voted in the affirmative.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Lidie Robbins gave a report on the study by University of Maine researchers who sampled sediment from the deep part of Parker Pond. Their research was concerned with the ratios of various metals (iron, aluminum, and others) to the release of phosphorus into the water. What they discovered was that these ratios indicate that Parker Pond is more vulnerable to such releases. Parker Pond was put on the “Threatened List”. This qualifies Parker for grant moneys to help remedy runoff situations that put external sediments into the lake. [Addendum – Lidie applied for and has received these grants as of August 2018.]