

## **Clemons Pond Association Meeting May 24, 2015**

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Harold Gillman at 10:10am at David Howard & Rich Colicchio's house. Vice President Harold Gillman called for a moment of silence for our Clemons Pond neighbors who are no longer with us and all who have given their lives in service to our country and those who are presently serving. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice President Harold Gillman.

**Introduction of new members and/or loss of previous members:** The association recognized the passing of Victor Zelman and paid tribute to the many contributions he made both to the community and the Clemons Pond Association. Betty Zelman thanked the members.

**Secretary's report:** Sandy Tate read the report and Victor Lerish corrected the Water Quality Report and Pat Clifford corrected the Invasive Plant Report. The corrections will be made and Paul Sweeney made a motion to accept the corrected minutes. Normie Limbert seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

**Treasurer's report:** David Limbert read the report. There is an ending balance of \$657.47 in the account. Walter Novak made a motion to accept the report as read. Bill Tate seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

**Water Quality report:** Victor Lerish was pleased to report that last season's water quality testing season had no surprises for us. Although Maine VLMP and DEP have not crunched all the numbers and generated their summary reports yet, he could say that there were no alarming trends or significant variances in 2014 from results we have been obtaining for the past several seasons with regard to water clarity and dissolved oxygen/temperature profiles. Total phosphorus sampling done in late summer 2014 was 6ppm and because that has been stable we have only been testing for phosphorus once a season to save the association some money.

Our first testing of this season was May 16th, 2015. Water clarity was 5.40 meters (15 feet 8.5 inches). This is a little lower than at the same time last season, but certainly within our normal range. Factors such as recent rain or pollen in the water can affect water clarity. Water temperature was a chilly 63-64 degrees (so be prepared if you are putting in your docks this weekend).

We continue to participate in a long term climate change study with Dr. Dan Buckley of the University of Maine Farmington with data loggers to monitor and record air and water temperature through the summer months.

In closing he wanted to thank Nancy Serrell for her continued assistance in water quality monitoring is invaluable and greatly appreciated.

**Invasive Aquatic Plant report:** Pat Clifford reported that a Level 3 survey of Clemons Pond is difficult because metaphyton peaks at an exact time and we need to be out there for optimal viewing. No invasive or suspicious plants were found. There were 18 native species found.

There is a Water Column Newsletter VLMP (Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program) publishes annually on their website. Fall 2014 issue profiled a lake west of Augusta, Lake Annabessacook that volunteers found milfoil that was atypical in appearance but confirmed by DNA. A courtesy boat inspector found a piece floating.

Intro to Invasive Plant Programs can be found on their website. There will be programs held on: Tuesday June 23<sup>rd</sup> in York, Friday July 10<sup>th</sup> in Belgrade, Tuesday July 28<sup>th</sup> Stoneham.

A documentary video "The Hunt for Aquatic Invaders" was released in 2014 about invasive aquatic plants and the importance of volunteer participation in screening was shown to the members. It showed a comprehensive survey that was done in Moosehead Lake completed in 2013. This was a huge project

involving VLMP staffers and volunteer patrollers from all over Maine. Clips highlighted plant patrol workshops, courtesy boat inspections, interviews with participants and VLMP staff. It also showed some infested lakes and the management techniques used to harvest and control infestations. The video was released to raise awareness and as a call to action to encourage more volunteers to participate

**Web Master's report:** Web statistics from David Howard as conveyed at the Clemons Pond Association. All statistics below are since the Fall 2014 CPA meeting

- Visits to website: 1,902 (+9%)
- # page views: 3,336 (-3%)
- # users: 1,503 [this is a new metric, combining new & returning users]

Trend: More people visited the site but fewer pages were visited.

Top 5 pages visited, in descending order:

1. Home
2. Neighbors
3. Meetings
4. Gallery
5. News

Top 5 states from which visitors originated, in descending order:

1. ME
2. MA
3. NH
4. NY
5. RI

**Loon report:** Chris Shields reported that one of the adult loons died in late September. It appeared that the loon was attacked by the other loon. The remains were taken to the Audubon Society in Wells to be autopsied.

#### **Old Business:**

**Annual Dues:** Vice President Harold Gillman reminded members that the annual dues were now payable for the 2015 year.

**Dragonfly Planting:** The subject of planting dragonfly larvae will be taken up at the Fall meeting.

**CPA Facebook page:** After some discussion of those interested or not interested in having a facebook page for the association, it was decided that at this time having e-mail addresses for members would be sufficient to notify members of issues. It may be looked at again at a future date.

#### **New Business:**

It was discussed and agreed upon that a nominating committee would not be necessary for the coming year's new officers. Harold Gillman made a motion and Louise Novak seconded the motion that upon the agreement of the officers now put forth to the members the new officers for the year 2016 will be: Douglas Bradley – President, Walter Novak – Vice President, David Limbert – Treasurer, Joanna Lerish – Secretary. The vote was unanimous.

**LakeSmartProgram:** Treasurer David Limbert spoke about a program in which the membership can participate it is sponsored by Maine Lakes Society. LakeSmart is the flagship of the Society's lake conservation efforts. Focusing on lakefront property owners, LakeSmart educates, assists, and recognizes property owners who maintain their shorefront land to adopt or improve measures that manage stormwater on site and prevent groundwater flows of septic effluent to lakes. LakeSmart awards

are presented in its distinctive blue and white signs to homeowners that demonstrate that they have taken action to protect Maine Lakes. Their website is <http://mainelakessociety.org/lakesmart-learning/>

**July Picnic:** Walter and Louise Novak have volunteered to have the picnic at their cottage. The date is July 18, 2015 at 1:00 pm.

E-Mail Invites – Sandy Tate  
Set-up – Paul Sweeney, Harold Gillman,  
David Limbert  
Cooks – Pat Clifford

Shopping – Pat Clifford  
Clean up – Betty Zelman, Victor Lerish,  
Chris Shields  
Trash – All

**Meetings:** Victor & Joanna Lerish will host the Spring 2016 meeting. Bill & Sandy Tate for the Fall 2016 meeting.

**Other Business:**

- A welcome letter will be delivered to BJ Day about the July picnic
- A message from Sally Williams that the book and plant sale was today at the library

Vice President Harold Gillman asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Walter Novak made a motion to adjourn. David Limbert seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous. Vice President Harold Gillman adjourned the meeting at 11:50 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Tate, Secretary