

Clemons Pond Association Meeting  
May 29, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 10:15 by President Doug Bradley, at Joanna and Victor Lerish's house. President Bradley called for a moment of silence for our Clemons Pond neighbors who are no longer with us and for all service men and women who gave their lives in service to the country and who are currently serving. Walter Novak led the Pledge of Allegiance.

New neighbors on the pond introduced themselves: Elizabeth Rounds, who purchased property along Neighbor's Way, and Margo and Steven Feeney who recently purchased 224 Notch Rd.

Secretary's Report: Joanna Lerish read the minutes from the September 6, 2015 meeting. Walter Novak moved to accept the minutes as read. The motion was seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Treasurer's Report: David Limbert read the report. There is an ending balance of \$555.71 in our account. Chris Shields moved to accept the report as read. Normie Limbert seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

Water Quality Report: Victor Lerish reported that for the second year in a row, the VLMP and DEP have not sent us summary statistics from the past testing season. Victor stated that the 2015 testing season results showed no alarming trends or variances from the past several years of water quality testing. The first water quality testing of the season was done on May 28 and the clarity was good (6.2 meters). Oxygen testing was not done because the DO meter was not working properly. Victor will go for his annual certification in a few weeks and ask them to check the probe. The phosphorous level was 5 parts per million last year, which was excellent. Climate change data collection for the University of Maine in Farmington will continue. There was discussion regarding the current water levels.

Invasive Plant Report: Pat Clifford reported that no invasive plants were seen on the pond last August. There are concerns about invasive plants on the Ossipee River.

Webmaster's Report: Dave Howard reported on new trends for the period 9/7/15-5/28/16: Visits to site: 1,612 (-15 %); # Users: 1,014 (-33 %); #Pageviews: 3,641 (+9 %). Top 5 pages in descending order: Home, Neighbors, Gallery, Pond Business/Meetings, Environment. Top 5 states in descending order: ME, MA, NH, NY, RI

Loon Report: Chris Shields that last summer's chick was seen on the pond until around Thanksgiving of 2015. She and Nancy Serrell made repairs to loon landing approximately three weeks ago using found materials. The loons have been seen going on and off of the landing but no eggs as of yet. Loon count will take place in July.

Old Business:

1. Doug Bradley reminded people that 2016 dues were due.

2. Website move: Dave Howard reported that the website successfully transitioned to a new platform around January, 2016. There is a pdf file offering guidance for navigating the new site. Please let Dave know about any questions, concerns, or suggestions for the site. As a service to the community, he asked people to submit names of local contractors who they would recommend for different services. Dave thanked Rich Colicchio for his help. Congratulations to Dave and Rich for creating the new site.

3. LakeSmart Program follow-up: Doug Bradley reported that he and Judy are planning to incorporate some LakeSmart concepts around their home this summer. Sally Williams reported that Maggie Shannon will be talking about the Lake Smart program on June 11 at the Hiram Historical Society. Information about the meeting is on the website.

4. Historical Committee report: Sally Williams did not have updates.

5. Dragonfly planting: Doug Bradley reminded people that we will address the dragonfly issue at the September meeting. He asked that everyone be aware of dragonfly activity on the pond over the summer.

6. Fall meeting will be held at the home of Sandy and Bill Tate.

#### New Business:

1. Website update: Dave Howard reported that he has been doing research regarding a move to a new website provider, Interserve. It has a good history and positive reviews, and could save the association money. Our current contract runs through June 17. He suggested that we try Interserve for one year and see how it works. Louise Novak moved that we try the new website for one year. The motion was seconded. There was discussion regarding any loss of functionality. Dave will test out the site prior to June 17. The current provider will not negotiate cost. The motion passed unanimously.

Dave asked if there was interest in adding a historical timeline about the pond to the website as Rich Colicchio would be willing to put one together. There was discussion regarding previous attempts to put together historical materials. Bob Hazen offered to talk to his mother, Mae Hazen, about any historical materials that she could share.

2. Annual Picnic: The picnic will be Saturday, July 16 at Charlie and Ava Saurman's house. Louise and Walter Novak will be back-up. Dave and Normie Limbert will do the notification; Pat Clifford has the paper goods and will shop; Normie and Dave will bring their grill and tables; Doug and Pat will cook. Sandy and Bill Tate will help with set up; Normie will help with clean up.

3. Meeting locations: The spring 2017 meeting will be at Dave and Normie Limbert's house. The location for the fall 2017 meeting is to be determined.

#### Other Business

1. Abandoned docks: Paul Sweeney reported that there are two abandoned docks/floats at the end of the pond. There was discussion as to how to dispose of them. A suggestion was made to get them out of the water, let them dry out, cut them up, and have them hauled away. Doug will

contact the town to see if the town would be able to provide a truck to haul the materials. Walter made a motion that \$40 be set aside to cover disposal fees if necessary. The motion was seconded by Dave Limbert. The vote passed unanimously.

2. New construction on the pond and shore land zoning: In light of the new construction, there was discussion regarding the importance of the shore land zoning regulations to protect the health of the pond. There was discussion regarding the potential benefit of additional phosphorous testing in order to have additional spots on the pond for comparison. Victor said that he would contact the head of Maine VLMP to ask if additional phosphorous testing would be useful. After much discussion, a motion was passed to allocate \$100 for additional phosphorous testing if the head of Maine VLMP thinks additional testing would be of value. The vote passed unanimously.

There was discussion regarding the role of the pond association with regards to the association's responsibility to address problems on the pond related to shore land zoning. A suggestion was made to invite the town code enforcement officer to our next association meeting to educate people about the laws.

3. Nancy Serrell asked if dues should be increased. Dave Limbert said that he will do a budget analysis and present it at the fall meeting.

4. Sally Williams reminded association members about three dates: May 30, the annual plant sale at the library; June 11 to hear Maggie Shannon; June 25- a garden tour to benefit the historical society with a rain date of June 26.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Walter. The meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanna Lerish, secretary