

Meeting Minutes

Lake Bomoseen Association, Inc.
Board of Directors

Revised: 9/20/16

By: John Hale, Secretary

Date: September 15, 2016

Location: Castleton Community Center
Rt. 4a, VT

Attending Board Members:

Gary Chapman

Davene Brown

Jay Sabatano

Ellen Oppenheimer

Alan Rashes

John Casella II

Steve Bender

Bill Wood

Steve Moskowitz

Bob Franzoni

Wenda Bird

Absent Board Member(s):

George Davis

Luca Conte

Terry Moran

Also Attending:

David Weaver, Project Coordinator - Lake Hortonia Property Owners Association

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- The meeting was **called to order** by President Franzoni at 6:50 p.m.
 - The **Minutes of the August 11, 2016 meeting** were approved as presented.
 - The **Treasurer's Report** the Balance Sheet (9/7/16) and an Income Statement for the fiscal year to date (7/1/16 to 9/7/16) was presented and discussed:
 - * The segregation of Water Quality Committee Plant Survey \$20,000 was questioned. Ellen O. confirmed that these funds were formally appropriated for a plant survey by the Board, a required first element to anything we may choose to do next, and should not be re-appropriated at this time.

Treasurer's Report (cont.)

- * Bob F. reported that while the eco-harvester has been sold, funds are not yet in hand and the transaction is not included in these statements. The sale price is about \$49,000.

A specific Motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously, to thank Luca Conte for his leadership and perseverance in completing the eco-harvester solution.

The Treasurer's report was approved as presented.

- * The Board moved, seconded and passed unanimously, the **appointment of John Hale as Treasurer** with effect from October 14, 2016. Steve B. recommended that a formal reconciliation be prepared before handing over responsibility to the new Treasurer.
- * **Water Quality Committee** Bill W. reported on the Lake mapping effort underway using the new equipment and software. He showed the initial results in PowerPoint: there are maps of the underwater topography (depth), vegetation density, and bottom composition. All of this data is important because milfoil only grows in depths of 15 feet or shallower and only in mucky bottom.

With these tools and this survey, we know specifically where the milfoil problem areas are, and can not only focus on those locations for treatment but also disregard areas that are not infested or infestable.

Bill W. and Terry M.'s initial conclusion is that "The total area of milfoil growth is stable but the rate of growth will change from year to year based on climatic and other conditions." What exactly causes the year to year change is unknown to modern science so far.

Bill W. and Terry M. spent about 20 hours crisscrossing the entire Lake to generate the maps. The Board applauded Bill and Terry for their dedication.

Note: David Weaver, Project Coordinator for the Lake Hortonia Homeowners Association said that his group has approved the purchase of this same software.

- * **Greeter Program** Ellen O. reported that this year's grant of \$34,270 was well managed and a great success with two enthusiastic managers, both retired educators, who want to return next year, and with a record 2,229 boats inspected. Zebra mussels and milfoil were found but no Asian clams. MJ Hochberg is reconciling the grant Exit Report.

Greeter Program (cont.)

Ellen mentioned that the State is offering an Aquatic Nuisance Grant applications for which will be online at the end of November; and a Lake Restoration Grant, the details of which are to be presented in a seminar at the Asa Building in Rutland on Sept. 21st. The Tactical Basin Plan will be explained on Oct. 3rd at a presentation at the Rutland Opera House. She suggested that a specific Board member should assume overall management of Grant Management.

Ellen also reported on her attendance at the Vermont Lakes and Ponds conference: aeration of lake bottoms is now being more seriously considered by the State for approved use; and lakes are asking for permission to use an old chemical - 2-4 D, which is 1/3 the cost of Renovate or Sonar is also under serious consideration by the State.

Ellen reported on the recent Float Bridge east causeway repair. It appears that the contractor used the wrong size of aggregate rock - too small - and that a number of private citizens are questioning the situation with the Town and the State agencies. It was generally agreed among the Board that the LBA should not intervene in this issue.

- * **Membership** Steve M. reports that the current membership number is 306 out of approximately 1,000 possible: 31% participation. Bob F. and Davene B. are working on an idea of a mailing to all 1,000 Lake property owners to include a dues bill and membership application. John C. offered that we need to be in action like this to show prospective members why they should join. Bob and Davene will have more and more concrete ideas to report at the October meeting.

Note: David Weaver reported that there are 110 members of their Association out of a possibly 240: 46% participation.

- * **Tax Map Study** Steve B. reported is success in getting copies of all the tax maps of the Lake from the Castleton and Hubbardton Town Clerks; and complete ownership data of the Hortonia properties. He has the entire Castleton 2,600 property owner list and the codes to search for "lake front" and "lake access" properties which he is now manipulating for a full report at the October meeting.

- * **Summer Social Events** The final two events for this summer are the Chili Cook-off on Sept. 22nd at Woodard Marine Showroom from 5:00 to 7:30. And the Wine Pairing Dinner fund raiser at the Lake House on Oct. 11th starting at 5:00 p.m.

Note: It was pointed out that the Wine Pairing date is Yom Kippur this year. Davene apologized, said she had discovered Rosh Hashanah and changed the event from that date, but was unaware of the Rosh Hashanah conflict.

Davene B. and Wenda B. were thanked for another wonderful summer of events.

- * **Summer Educational Events** These three or four monthly events are held over the summer and Wenda B. mentioned that she will be stepping down as Coordinator: Davene offered to continue to book the Keheo Conservation Center; and Bill W. offered to be one of next summer's speakers.
- * **President's Report** Bob F. Is scheduled to meet with Ann Bove soon to explore ideas for joint action. One idea to be discussed is the Greeters handing out garbage bags with the LBA logo for boaters that pass through. The State now has and will be distributing informational posters about the Asian clam threat.
- * The **website** is up and running while still under construction:
<http://lakebomoseenassociation.org> .
- * **Taconic Ramble State Park** Ellen O. reported that the final paperwork and approval has been completed for the creation of The Taconic Ramble State Park. Ellen has worked with property owner Kit Davidson to ensure that the 420 acres of this property will be held in trust by the State of Vermont for future generations to enjoy.
- * The meeting was adjourned at about 8:30 p.m.

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