

QQLA Minutes for Board of Directors Meeting

Date: MARCH 26, 2018

Location: Meg Noyes Home

Chair: Doug Vizard, president

Members Present:

South Pond: Bill Seabourne, Carrol Yorczyk, Marita Tasse, Doug Vizard, Scott Peckins, Brian McCleary, Meg Noyes

North Pond: Randy & Carlene Weiss

Meeting called to order: @ 6:55 PM

Prior Minutes approved: electronically and posted on the website

Treasurer's Report: Carlene Weiss submitted a hard copy and unanimous vote to accept.

First PayPal contribution came through the QQLA website. Paypal charged their small fee despite original claim there would be no fees for non-profit organizations such as ours. Randy will follow up.

PROJECT REPORTS:

SOUTH POND PRESERVATION:

New Bridge Project & Flow Barrier:

Discussion: A review and comment on the 3/22/18 Public Hearing by MA DOT Highway division. Concern as the project's presentation claims, (paraphrased) "There will be no alteration to the capacity of the flow barrier", this before any discussion. The QQLA's prepared 'questions' were read into the hearing's record by Randy Weiss. A review of the hearing was posted on the FaceBook page & will be included in the April 2018 newsletter.

Among many issues discussed tonight regarding the bridge project, and flow barrier's place in the overall project, the DOT claim that raising the barrier's height will make it a 'DAM', and therefore too expensive and complicated to execute. The definition of this term was discussed and researched- MA Dept of Conservation and recreation Definition (302 CMR Section 4: Definitions 10.04) shows any retention 6' or less in height is NOT a dam. Current flow barrier is 4.5' tall, so adding 1.5 feet brings the barrier to 6' total.

It was noted that the DOT reported having a 'hydrology' study completed, but that said study 'did not address the added height to the flow barrier.' (again a paraphrase).

The 'conclusion' of the hearing: the QQLA needs to continue to push for the addition of the 18" to the barrier.

NORTH POND PRESERVATION:

SWWTP:

Discussion: Much of tonight's meeting was spent discussing the EPA's Public Hearing of the Permit for the Spencer Waste Water Treatment Plant (SWWTP) which was held in Spencer 3/26/18 (yesterday). A review of this meeting was placed on our FaceBook page & will also be included in the April Newsletter.

At the EPA hearing the QQLA attorney, Jamie Vander Salm, read into the record the '7 points' that had been prepared in advance. Meg Noyes, Carl Nielsen of ESS Group, and Randy Weiss made additional comments on the record.

Action: The period for submitting 'comments' extends to Wednesday, 3/28 (two days past the hearing – one day after tonight's meeting).

Members present discussed points to include in their own 'comments' and agreed to try to get other members to submit comments as well.

Randy: will place an urgent request on the FaceBook page.

Weed Treatments: The cost of weed treatments has not been researched in many years. The ESS group has been handling this for the QQLA for some time successfully, but at a significant expense. It was suggested that other options be researched. No resolution or specific action was called for at this meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- ◆ Membership: (Carlene, Marita, Meg, Pat, Carrol)
 - 102 member families have renewed for 2018. A 'follow-up' letter and member form will be circulated with the April Newsletter.
 - **Phonebook:** Carlene reports ongoing work to update the member list with alterations and corrections. Aim is to have the revised phonebook available for hand out at the MAY

'welcome to summer' cookout. There is no current cover photo – one will have to be chosen.

- **PRINTER:** The membership committee visited the Center of Hope in Southbridge. Their 'print' division is called "Vivid Print" – a quote was obtained which is significantly lower in price than prior newsletters. The April newsletter will be printed by "Vivid".
- ◆ **Spring Fling Social** – confirmed for April 15 at E. B. Flatts – Evite sent – 34 members say they are coming to the party. Details discussed - Bill Seabourne continues to compile replies and communicate with the restaurant.

COMMUNICATIONS

- **Newsletter:** Randy
 - Will get finalized ASAP now that hearings are completed. Expect to print and send in time for members to see the listing for the Spring Fling.
- **Website:** Hank/Randy
 - With info from the two public hearings the website's current updates were devoted entirely to these two subjects.

OLD BUSINESS

YMCA update:

There is a new camp director, Stephan Lockney. Acting for the YMCA he has paid the membership dues. We're looking forward to future contact.

C4R: Unfortunately the 'public awareness' meeting they held for the new 'blue trails' conflicted with one of our public hearings, therefore the QQLA sent no members to attend.

Next BOD Meeting: Tuesday, April 24 Location to be determined.

Adjourned: 9:05 pm.

Respectfully Submitted: Randy Weiss – fill in recording secretaries.