

**Minutes for  
QQLA Board of  
Directors Meeting**

**Date: November 19, 2019**

**Location: Nielsen's home, 6:30 p.m.**

**Moderator of meeting: Bill Seabourne(co-Vice President)**

**Members present:**

**South Pond:** Steve Lockney, Don Taft, Carrol Yorcyk, Doug Vizard, Marita Tasse, Bill Seabourne, Judy Nielsen, Skip Nielsen, Don Taft, Connie Montross, Jeff Clark, Michelle Clark

**North Pond:** Bev Lund, Annette Lazili, Randy Weiss

**Guests:** Jack Fucci, Susan Sondstrom

**Meeting Called to Order: 6:40 p.m**

**Approval of minutes from October 24th meeting:**

Minutes from October meeting preapproved electronically

**Treasurer's Report:**

There was a lively discussion of several aspects concerning the possible renewal of the QQLA certificates of deposit including interest rates, the length of the CDs, and their number and amount. Since we did not have the Treasurer's report, the Board decided to postpone a vote on renewing the current CDs until Randy investigated the possible rates.

**Welcome to guests:**

Co-Vice President Bill Seabourne welcomed our two guests: Jack Fucci, the C.E.O. of the Y.M.C.A camp, and Susan Sondstrom, resident of North Pond.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**1. Lakes Preservation:**

**Spencer Wastewater Treatment Plant (S.W.W.T.P)**

Doug Vizard reported that he did not have new data on phosphorus levels and inflow and outflow from the S.W.T.P but hoped that it would be accessible in the next week. The committee on the S.W.T.P scheduled a meeting on Tuesday, November 26<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 at Don Taft's residence.

**2. Weed Treatment**

(Note: This agenda item was discussed as the last item on the agenda. Doug sent copies of the maps to members before the meeting.)

Doug Vizard reviewed the results of the fall mapping of weeds done by E.S.S. There was a lengthy discussion about the areas that needed treatment, the types of weeds, the possible treatments dependent on specific factors and the cost of treating those areas, along with possible fund-raising ideas. The members reviewed the types of

weeds- fanwort, and milfoil- and the areas in both ponds affected by sparse, patchy or dense cover. It was suggested that Diquat be used for most of the areas infested by milfoil. However, it was also suggested that a small area in South Pond (1.3 acres) be treated with a longer lasting but more expensive chemical in order to determine its effectiveness. This chemical destroys the root systems of the weeds.

Although the Board did not vote on a specific amount or plan, the consensus was that Q.Q.L.A would allot roughly \$18,000.00 for the treatment of weeds and that Carl Nielsen and E.S.S, should go forward with the development of a proposal for the treatment of the milfoil in all the areas marked in blue. Due to several factors, including the shallowness and flow of the water of the area marked in red and, therefore, the subsequent lack of effectiveness of Diquat, members did not support a treatment of that area in North Pond. The Board agreed that residents of North and South Ponds should remove fanwort by hand.

### **3. Flow Barrier update**

Skip reported that the flow barrier gate is closed presently and will be closed from December 1<sup>st</sup> until the ice breaks up in the spring.

### **4. Alum Treatment**

Skip reported that the Finance Committee and Board of Selectmen in Brookfield support the \$25,000 request and he believes that the request will be approved at the town meeting in June. The Board of Selectmen so indicated in a letter of support. He also reported the success of the request for \$15,000 at the 11/18 town meeting in East Brookfield.

### **5. Beach maintenance**

The Board discussed and approved a motion to approve an amount not exceeding \$2000 in order to place one portable toilet at the North Pond boat ramp and another near the South Pond beach during the off-season. Michelle offered to arrange for those portable toilets.

Don Taft explained the ongoing and complicated situation regarding maintenance of the South Pond beach. Although the state of Massachusetts owns the property, it licenses its use to Brookfield. Brookfield, however, has not met several conditions of that agreement.

### **6. Membership: (Meg, Carlene)**

Since both Meg and Carlene were absent, this topic was postponed until the next meeting.

### **7. Fundraising**

There was a lengthy discussion of fund-raising efforts and results:

- Bill reported that a second fund-raising letter (11/13/19) had been sent to QQLA members who had not participated thus far. Although he was not able to report the exact amount raised thus far, he did state that the average donation had increased to approximately \$125-130. He also planned to send another letter in which he would include

information about the planned weed treatment (principally in North Pond) and the application to the State for funds from a 319 grant for the alum treatment in South Pond.

- Randy offered to create a “thermometer” to indicate the progress of fund-raising. He will also include an article in the newsletter about fund-raising.
- A subcommittee on possible fund-raising events was formed including Michelle Clark, Randy Weiss and Don Taft.
- Jack Fucci, the C.E.O. of the Y.M.C.A camp, promised a donation of \$5,000 to the Q.Q.L.A for the alum treatment. The Board members expressed their deep appreciation for the generous contribution.

#### **8. Communication/Education:**

Randi reported that the judges for the photo contest would meet on 11/25/19. He also stated that he intended to publish the next newsletter by the 1<sup>st</sup> of December.

Bill thanked Michelle for writing thank-you notes to the donors to the Q.Q.L.A fund-raising efforts.

#### **9. Social/Recreation/Community Events:**

Don reported on the status of the donations and distribution of turkeys and gift certificates to needy families in Sturbridge, East Brookfield and Brookfield. He has donated much time and effort to this project.

Don also spoke with Christina from Oakholm and reported that the Spring Fling, Cinco de Mayo, will be held at Oakholm on Sunday, the 3<sup>rd</sup> of May.

#### **10. NEW BUSINESS:**

Since the Clarks have switched lakes, the members discussed the possible need to have more North Pond residents on the Board. Susan Sundstrom graciously accepted to be a new member of the Board. The Board made a motion and approved her membership on the Board.

#### **11. Next Meeting Date and Location**

The next meeting will be at the Seabourne residence on Wednesday, January 15, 2020 at 6:30. Since neither Judy Nielsen nor Connie Montross, will be able to attend, Susan Sundstrom kindly agreed to take the minutes at that meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie Montross and Judy Nielsen, co-recording secretaries