

QQLA Board of Directors Meeting
Date: November 16, 2020
Location: Zoom Meeting, 6:30 PM
Moderator of meeting: Bill Seabourne (co-Vice President)

Members present:

South Pond: Meg Noyes, Doug Vizard, Marita Tasse, Bill Seabourne, Judy Nielsen, Skip Nielsen, Don Taft, Connie Montross, Jeff Clark, Michelle Clark

North Pond: Sue Sasdi, Bev Lund, Annette Lazili, Susan Swanstrom, Carlene Weiss, Randy Weiss

Meeting Call to Order: 6:30 PM via Zoom.

Minutes, Co-Recording Secretary: (Judy) (Connie)

Preapproved electronically

Treasurer's Report:

Carlene sent the members the complete update on financial status via email after the meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Lakes Preservation:

Spencer Wastewater Treatment Plant (SWWTP).

Doug Vizard stated that the data from the SWWTP indicated that the multi-year program to reduce phosphorus and cut effluent was running on course and meeting objectives thus far. The measurement for phosphorus was .141 mgs. per liter, under the desired .2 level. Influent is stable regardless of rainfall. During late 2021 and early 2022, SWWTP will start on the plan to install the treatment system in 2022/2023. According to Doug, 2022 is a milestone year for testing and approving the system.

Weed Treatment, 2021:

No mapping was done in 2020. However, Doug Vizard reported that Carl Nielsen of ESS will meet later this month (11/25/2020) with Jeff Bridges, the Sturbridge town manager to discuss the comments from E.P.A. on the rejected application in order to update and strengthen the request for Sturbridge funds for a new 319 grant. (Judy contacted Carl during the meeting. Carl is reviewing the data and the comments from the state on the first application and considering how to improve the treatment.)

Status of flow barrier

Skip Nielsen reported that he made tools to extend the crank shafts beyond the new walkway's bridge railing. The new railing was in the way, making the gate inoperative without the new tools. He noted that the flow barrier was currently down because of the bridge construction. The flow barrier will remain lowered during the winter; it is usually lowered on 12/1.

Alum Treatment

Based on information provided in emails before this meeting, the upcoming meeting of Carl Nielsen and the town manager in Sturbridge, and subsequent hoped-for approval of funds from Sturbridge, it is expected that QQLA will apply again for a 319 grant in 2021.

Membership:

Carlene reported that there were 135 members, including 13 new members. Susan Swanstrom suggested that members call lapsed members about a renewal of membership.

Fundraising:

The consensus of the Board was that a fundraising letter be sent out after the newsletter in January. Bill will craft a letter that includes information on renewing membership or becoming members in addition to an update on the QQLA projects and the need for funds.

Communication

Randy Weiss reported that he would be putting together a newsletter for the end of 2020. He requested that anyone with photos of the history of the lakes send him copies for the newsletter. Randy, Meg, Doug, Carrol and Marita will review photos from the QQLA archive.

The theme for the photography contest has been changed to a holiday theme; there were too few submissions for the Halloween-themed contest.

Social/Recreation/Community Events:

Don Taft stated that it was too early to plan for social events due to the uncertainty about COVID restrictions.

Don has collected 31 turkeys so far and distributed 19 to the Senior Center along with \$100 in gift certificates. East Brookfield will take 8 birds and Brookfield will receive 15-20 birds. He reported that the donation drive has gone well so far.

Bill Seabourne reported that Slim's Sewer Service was providing the Porta-Potties for \$115 a month with an additional cost of \$10 dollars in the winter months for anti-freeze.

Several members noted that the ongoing ramp/bridge project included features to improve handicap access, parking and traffic flow.

Several members of QQLA, including Michelle Clark, Susan Swanstrom, and Don Taft, reported that the South Pond Beach Committee would be meeting in November. Bill Seabourne will put an update on the Beach Committee on the January agenda.

NEW BUSINESS:

The question of the status of the old campground in Brookfield was raised. Jeff Clark reported that at a Brookfield town meeting, a community member and Native American, Silver Fox spoke to the need for researching and preserving the site in so far as it is part of a Native American site.

Next meeting:

January 19th at 6:30 via ZOOM.

Susan Swanstrom graciously agreed to send out the ZOOM invitations.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:45.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie Montross, Co-Recording Secretary