

# CANAAN LAKE ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

CANAAN MEETING HOUSE

Saturday, July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2015

10:30 AM

## 1. Welcome

President Jan Forbush called the meeting to order at 10:31am. There were 27 attendees present. Jan welcomed all in attendance and expressed a special thanks to the Cardigan Mountain School for providing the lunch for our Annual event and all the groups that provided educational displays (NH Lake Association Lake Host Program, Water Quality, Loon Preservation, Mascoma Community Healthcare, Inc). She also thanked the members of the Board, Sue Baldwin, and Carolyn Baldwin for their efforts to make this a special day. A very special thank you was extended to Michael Paine for his service over these many years as treasurer and secretary of the Lake Association as he announced his supersession from these positions at the end of the year.

As the head of the Lake Association, the President took a moment to remind all members of the laws governing all bodies of water in New Hampshire as they apply to Canaan Street Lake:

- Boat travel not to exceed 6mph within 150 ft. shore.
- Boats must maintain 150 ft. distance from shore, swimmers, docks, boats, etc.
- Travel on the lake in a counter-clockwise fashion.

A special note of condolence was extended to the families and friends of Thayer Paine and Jeanie Richie, two long time members of the Association, who passed away this past year.

## 2. Approve Minutes of 2014 Annual Meeting

Minutes from the 2014 Annual Meeting had been made available prior to and at this meeting. The President opened the floor for discussion and questions and as there were none, asked for approval of 2014 minutes as submitted.

- Moved: Carol Williams
- Seconded: Dave McCusker
- Approved: All in attendance

## 3. Reports

### a. Audit

Michael Paine reported that James Fenn, business manager at the Cardigan Mountain School, had reviewed all financial records of the Canaan St. Lake Association and found them correct and in order. The Association's total bank balances at \$10,542 on December 31, 2014. This is an apparent reduction of \$1,016 from the 2013 amount. This drop was caused by an agreed delay in the Canaan Town contribution of \$1,800 until Jan 9, 2015. Michael Paine requested approval of the audited statement.

- Moved: Scott Berry
- Seconded: David Weber
- Approved: All in attendance

### b. Treasurer

The 2014 Financial report (budget to actual) and the proposed 2015 Budget were made available to all in attendance. Michael Paine reported that the major expenditures for 2014 were:

- NHLA Dues \$500
- Lake Host costs \$1,713
- Water Testing \$266
- Contributions to Loon Preservation & Town Swimming Education program \$200 each.

The 2015 Budget mirrors previous years and projects a surplus of \$32. He request approval of the 2015 annual budget.

- Moved: David McCusker
- Seconded: Carolyn Williams
- Approved: All in attendance

c. Lake Hosts

Ann Berry reported that currently the Lake Host program has three paid Lake Hosts and 14 volunteers. More volunteers are still needed to cover all the weekends in the boating season. She reported that last year the Lake Host program earned \$4000 in volunteer value hours, performed 272 boat inspections, and received \$1300 from the NH Lake Association in matched award dollars. There was a special thank-you to Amy St Pierre, of Crescent Campground, for her efforts to inspect all boats and educate their owners of boats launched at the campground.

d. Weed Watchers (Jan Forbush for Kris Burnett)

Weed watchers have been actively patrolling the lake and there have been no reports or signs of any invasive species. A special note was made of DES weed watching training program on July 15<sup>th</sup>

e. Water Quality

John Bergeron provided a recap of the Water Quality report to all in attendance as well as provided a full written report (attached). He noted the following:

Our beach problems are E. coli and cyanobacteria. E.coli may be caused by fowl, animal, or human feces, while cyanobacteria may be caused by phosphorous, sunlight, and warm weather. There is an upward conductivity trend in the lake, which is related to road salt. Cyanobacteria are seen as a blue green algae bloom in the water. In high concentrations this can be harmful. It is in all lakes in very low concentrations, and we have not seen high concentrations here. Current problems are not at an alarming level, but public education about feces, phosphorous, and road salt needs to continue.

Minimizing stormwater runoff will reduce these problems. Septic tanks, warm blooded animal and fowl waste, fertilizers, sand, and dirt, are all sources of contaminants and phosphorous. Stormwater is commonly the vehicle that brings these items into the lake. Diversion trenches, earth barriers, and shrub buffers will reduce the quantity that reaches the lake. Keeping septic tanks cleaned, picking up dog waste, and discouraging geese and ducks minimizes available contaminants and phosphorous. Lawns planted right up to the lakes edge attract geese and allow stormwater to flush rapidly into the lake. A strip of low vegetation should be planted between a lawn and the lake.

To maintain a phosphorous and sediment buffer along the lake's edge, a 50 foot zone is protected by law. It is not permissible to clear existing vegetation within this area, except for a single walkway, and trimming for views, three feet above ground. Limited tree cutting is allowed, but stumps and rocks must not be removed. No mechanized equipment is allowed in this area, since they compact the soil and reduce absorbency. Sand, which is a source of phosphorous, may not be added to the waterfront unless permitted by DES. Stormwater drain pipes may not discharge directly into the lake, even small residential drain pipes. No fertilizer is allowed within the 25 feet of lake. If you use lawn fertilizer elsewhere on your lot, please use zero phosphorous fertilizer, such as 32-0- Application of lime is an acceptable practice, and lime will allow grasses to take up existing phosphorous from the soil.

If you have boats or your guests bring boats, it is important to have all boats cleaned, drained, and dried before moving between water bodies. Small drops of water are all that is required to support transfer of invasive plant or animals. Drying for three days after cleaning and draining will kill almost all hitchhikers.

Rich Roesch, Mike Mezzacapo, and John Bergeron recently collected lake water samples for analysis. Elizabeth Jutila and John Bergeron will collect the next samples on July 20 at 10 am. We welcome you to join us; please contact one of us.

John also reminded attendees that there are also winter activities that can affect water quality. For example, ice fisherman cannot dump bait buckets into lake as this may introduce invasive species. A member of the audience proposed that the Association develop an education program for ice fisherman. This topic will be taken up at the next Board meeting.

#### **4. Website – canaanlakenh.org.**

Mike Paine spoke about the Lake Association website that is currently part of the Town of Canaan site. He noted that there is a need for photographs to update images and announced a Photographic Competition in 2016. All can submit lake/beach party photographs for consideration and the winner will get prominent positioning and credit on the website.

#### **5. Election of officers:**

A new slate of officers for the Lake Association was submitted for approval.

|                 |                    |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| President:      | John Bergeron      |
| Vice-President: | Charlotte Abington |
| Board Member:   | Joy Michelson      |
|                 | Elizabeth Jutilla  |
|                 | Claude Lemoi       |

Moved: Lola Baldwin

Seconded: Dudley Smith

Approved: All in attendance.

Special appreciation was expressed from all in attendance to Jan Forbush and Dave McCusker for the work they have done over the past year.

#### **6. Loon Report**

Dudley Smith presented a recap of the status of Loons on Canaan Street Lake. He reported:

- Last year there were two chicks on the lake but unfortunately both were killed
- There was a loon on nest but the egg was later found in the lake and therefore non-viable.
- Kilton Pond in Grafton has a nesting pair for 1<sup>st</sup> time

There was a suggestion from the audience that a floating nest be built/purchased. This will be taken under advisement.

#### **7. Any Other Business**

- Mike Sampson spoke about Mascoma Community Health Center; a local initiative to build a comprehensive primary care center to service the 5 Mascoma Valley communities.
- A plan to expand the beach parking 2x and create barriers to funnel all boats to a single launch area (left side) was discussed. A member of the audience mentioned that there is a current issue of a large rock in the proposed launch area that prevents launching of large (pontoon) boats. This matter will be further explored.

#### **8. Next Annual Meeting - Saturday, July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

#### **9. Adjourn**

The President thanked everyone who had contributed to the success of the annual meeting and of those who attended. A motion to adjourn was approved by all in attendance.