

Merrymeeting Lake Association

Annual Meeting Minutes

June 27, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. at the new location of the MMLA Meetinghouse. Approximately ninety members attended including the following Officers and Board Members: Mark Sullivan, Russ Weldon, Jan Allard, Bill Bassett, Jan Bell, Nancy Bryant, Chris Cairns, Sue Glenney, Sue Kowalski, Tom Mottl, Chap Nystedt, and Walt Silva.

- Welcome, Introductions, and Updates: President Mark Sullivan welcomed everyone to the newly improved MMLA Meetinghouse. He introduced Board members. Mark updated the group on the news as described in the newsletter. Due to the foresight of the late Donald Bryant, we traded our first right of refusal on the purchase of the last house on South Shore Road for a new deed restriction that ensures that there will never be access through this property to adjacent land. There was also success with the Owl's Head lawsuit in the effort to reduce density of development. The Lake Host program continues to be very effective in keeping invasive plant species out of MML thanks to the efforts of Sue Kowalski and Nancy Bryant.
- Water Quality Program: Volunteer Greg Poston gave an informative presentation on the weekly water monitoring which takes place May–October in conjunction with the UNH Lakes Lay Monitoring Program. We appreciate the ongoing work of Greg, Bill McGrew, and Bill Malay on this important project. Feel free to talk to them when you see them out on the pontoon boat with the new MMLA banner. Check out the water quality report on our website: mmlake.org
- Ongoing Efforts: Roadside Cleanup was the best ever with Sue Glenney's leadership and our updated database for getting the word out. We have seen successes with the Watershed Conservation Fund, Membership Drive, and Clubhouse renovation.
- Block Party: Bill Bassett invited everyone to the Block Party on July 11 at 4:30 at Cove Cottages, rain or shine. The Nevers Band will perform and burgers and dogs will be provided. BYO chair and beverage. This is a team effort with many volunteers helping out.
- Financial Review: June 2014-May 2015, gross profit was \$36,106 and total expense was \$33,510. The total balance is \$100,237. An anonymous donation of \$12,000 was received for loon preservation and habitat.
- Website Project: Tom Mottl introduced UNH students Mike and Leah who demonstrated their work in improving our MMLA website. They are providing us with a rich and comprehensive site, and they recommend that we seek out summer interns in the future to maintain it.
- Survey: A survey was emailed this spring to all members where we had contact information. The number one priority was Roadside Cleanup, and the first choice of a fireworks date was July 4. The Board has listened and responded.
- Town of New Durham: Russ Weldon presented concerns regarding the state of the Town, including personnel turnover and issues involving the Police and Fire Departments. Selectman David Bickford was in attendance and mentioned ongoing work with the Unassigned Fund Balance. Russ and Mark encouraged members to follow developments via meetings, the Town website, and the Baysider newspaper; and to give their input.
- Election of 2015-16 Board: There were no nominations from the floor, and the following slate of candidates was unanimously approved.

Officers

President: Mark Sullivan
Vice-President: Bill Bassett
Secretary: Dick Duffy

Treasurer: Norma O'Brien

Directors (12)

Jan Allard
Jan Bell
Nancy Bryant
Chris Cairns
Susan Glenney
Sue Kowalski
Tom Mottl
Brenda Mullaney
Charles ("Chap") Nystedt
Tim Roy
Walt Silva
Russ Weldon

- Q and A and Comments: It was asked if another bulletin board might be considered. Mark explained that there were no volunteers to maintain it and that it was in disrepair. We now use new signs thanks to Bill Bassett plus our website and emails. It was suggested from the floor that Sunday is not a good day for Roadside Cleanup because of church and family obligations. Mark Sullivan and Selectman Bickford were thanked for their participation in today's meeting. It was recommended that different Town department heads be invited to future meetings. We asked that people notify us of changes to contact information so that we can update the database.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:59 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Christopher Cairns
Temporary Substitute Secretary