

Country Pond Lake Association Meeting Minutes

74 Wilders Grove Rd. Newton NH 03858

Aug 14, 2018 7 pm

Present: Tobi, Greg, Linda, Alicia, Bill, Jeannie, Jen

Opening remarks by President:

Meeting called to order at 7:15. Greg states that he is happy to take over the role of President and looks forward to CPLA doing all we can for Country Pond. Currently, he is working with Sally and Julie at NH DES to hold a "Soak up the Rain" presentation for CPLA members.

Secretary's Report:

Minutes from the last meeting were reviewed and accepted. Motion to accept – Bill, 2nd by Tobi

Treasurer's report:

Water sampling invoices have been paid. June testing was paid by CPLA, July paid by NCC, August will be donated by Alicia (CPLA) and Nancy (NCC), and September is expected to be paid by CPLA funds. Current balance is \$1097.78. CPLA's URL domain name is up for renewal. Jen will pay the \$85 fee, already budgeted for 2018.

Committees:

VLAP: Alicia took the water sampling results and updated a spreadsheet for ease of reference. In summary, July 8th testing indicates that Total Phosphorous levels at the surface level are slightly lower than results in June. However, at the deep spot the deeper layers have increased in phosphorous concentration. There are no identified "hot spots" evident to indicate a nutrient load point, and the surface levels of all four sites tested are roughly the same. Dissolved oxygen readings require equipment that CPLA does not have. Sara Steiner, NH DES, measured this during the June training. She has offered to re-measure DO next year.

Social Media: Tobi reports that more people are following CPLA's Facebook page. He will post the "Soak up the Rain" event and ask for an attendance response due to space limitations.

Weed Watchers: Greg obtained the log from Michelle, and all areas are being covered by the Weed Watcher Team. Jen has identified, through DES, the invasive loosestrife flowering weed. A notification will be sent out to members and friends, including suggested removal techniques.

Communications:

Our MailChimp account provides a graph indicating 45 – 65 % of our recipients are opening the content from CPLA. This is a very high open rate and indicates that our members and friends are very engaged in the email content.

Old Business:

Jeannie sent a letter to Cobbetts Pond Improvement Association, cc'd to NH Lakes, thanking them for sharing information and hosting our "field trip".

A 604b grant application to develop a watershed management plan will be submitted in September. There are at least two other applications that will be considered for the grant; only one applicant will receive the grant. A decision from the NHDES is expected in October.

A color version of the chosen logo will soon be available. Jen made a motion to make Grace Daly an honorary member for 2019 due to all the work she has done to create the CPA logo, Jeannie 2nd with unanimous approval from Board members.

New Business:

Although Greg is assuming the role of President and it would be good to get the news out, there are other important topics to immediately communicate to our members and friends. We will send out the officer announcement after the invasive weed and Soak up the Rain presentation information as they are time sensitive. The Our Team page of the website will be updated to reflect the change in officers.

Tully has offered to purchase road signs asking people to keep our area clean, particularly around the Newton boat ramp where visitors leave litter. The Board decided that the signs should note that they are provided by CPLA but should not suggest that CPLA has “adopted” the area or is responsible for picking up the trash.

Website additions will include a link to “Soak up the Rain” presentation by Julie, NH DES, on September 4th at 7pm at the Kingston Library.

A request has been submitted to KCC for 2019 budget to include equipment costs for water sampling.

Establishing a Fundraising Committee will require someone to lead the effort and may not be established until 2019.

Adjourn: 9:06, motion to adjourn, Jeannie – 2nd Greg