

# **Country Pond Lake Association Meeting Minutes**

74 Wilders Grove Rd. Newton NH 03858

Aug 1, 2018

**Present:** Tully, Greg, Bill, Jen, Tobi, Jeannie, Linda

**Opening remarks by President:** Meeting called to order at 7:10pm.

**Secretary's Report:** Minutes from the last meeting were reviewed and accepted. Motion to accept - Jeannie, 2<sup>nd</sup> Greg

**Treasurers report:**

\$300 has been paid to NH Lakes, CPLA is a Partnership Member.

According to the VLAP invoice, the cost for water testing is higher than originally anticipated. Although there are four testing sites, the deep water sampling is collected at three levels and all three levels are tested for phosphorous. At the cost of \$20 per sample, this adds \$40 to each of the four VLAP sampling dates. The Newton Conservation Commission has voted to pay for the Aug invoice for July sample testing.

Current balance \$1,217.78.

**Committees:**

**Social Media** Tobi recommends short live video streams of CPLA's activities be posted on Facebook to allow members to experience volunteer opportunities. This will also help to keep them informed.

**Weed Watchers** Michele has reached out to Weed Watcher volunteers, assigning them to Routes along the shoreline and asking them to get out and check their areas. She is maintaining an accurate log of dates and findings to assure that all areas are covered regularly.

**VLAP** Our next VLAP sampling event is on 8/12/18. Only persons trained, or those being trained as alternates, are allowed on the boat during collection of samples.

**Correspondence:**

Dana Akers sent an email to the Board expressing his concerns on several issues. Greg sent an email reply to Dana that addressed some of his issues and explained CPLA's objectives and goals. He also made it very clear that at no time has CPLA advocated the illegal use of herbicides.

**Communications:**

Jeannie reported that some members have told her they feel there is a lack of communication to keep them informed. Greg suggested an open Board meeting, once or twice during the summer, to provide members with more detailed information on CPLA's activities and to allow member input and ideas.

Greg made a motion to hold an open Board meeting at the end of August which would include a discussion session with the members. Board Discussion: We don't have the resources to prepare for suggested meetings, revisit for next summer. New motion by Jen to communicate more frequently with members via email and Facebook this year. Second by Tully.

**Old Business:**

Website updates include: Weed Watcher Coordinator is added to the Our Team page, meeting minutes are current, and Weed Watcher training is in the News & Events tab.

After visiting more potential Soak up the Rain sites with Lisa Loosigian of NH DES, Greg stated that we may need to utilize several sites to demonstrate different solutions. An infiltration trench at one property, a rain garden for another resident and a vegetated buffer for a third was proposed as solutions to stormwater management. Tully suggested a visit to back yards where stormwater runs into Ice Pond prior to entering Country Pond. Greg will update us at the next meeting about Lisa's recommendations. Board Members will be needed to provide some volunteer labor when Soak up the Rain is implemented.

The Board has chosen a logo design. Grace will now add coloring and we can soon proceed to order CPLA branded items.

Jeannie connected the parties interested in a Fundraising Committee. They planned to set a date to meet. Jeannie will follow up with them this week.

**New Business:**

Bill, Jeannie and Greg met with Derek Monson of Cobbetts Pond Improvement Association in Windham, to observe their efforts in stormwater management. They have implemented many Best Management Practices (BMPs) to address severe run off issues. Infiltration ponds and basins, swales and raingardens have been installed along various steep road areas. This was a very educational "field trip" and we hope to meet the goal of reducing nutrient load, through similar improvements, for Country Pond.

Greg informed the Board that Sally Soule of NHDES and Julie LaBranche of RPC are preparing a grant application to NH DES for the development of a watershed management plan. The plan will identify the sources and potential solutions to reduce the nutrient levels entering Country Pond to the point where cyanobacteria blooms are much less frequent. Having this plan will allow us to apply for additional grants to implement the solutions identified in the plan.

Tully announced that he is regretfully resigning from his position as CPLA President. Due to his responsibilities running a startup business, he feels that he cannot contribute the time that is required to fulfill the role of president. He will continue to support CPLA as an Advisor to the Board. When Tully's written resignation is received Greg will step up to the position, as stated in our bylaws.

Next Meeting: 8/14/18 7pm

**Adjourn:** 9:12pm Jeannie motioned to adjourn, Linda 2nd