

Board Meeting Minutes

Country Pond Lake Association

May 1, 2025

Meeting called to order at 7:05 pm via Google Meet

Present: Greg Senko, Linda Foss, Tobi Howell, Joel Daly, Sue Zipkin, Liz MacNeil, Bill Cashin

Minutes: MM&S to accept meeting minutes from 03-25-25 as written.

Treasurer's report:

- Form 990. Sue has not filed yet but has everything prepared. It is due at the end of May.
- Sue never received the gambling commission check. She contacted them and they will arrange direct deposit with CPLA's bank. The funds should be deposited within 1-3 days.
- CPLA received a check for \$5,000 from the Town of Newton for the Lake Host Program, and a check for \$3,650 for Newton's portion of the watershed assistance grant funding.
- Sue said that three members had renewed their dues.
- The bank balance, including the gambling commission funds, is \$42,576.06
- Application for additional insurance. Sue asked the insurance agent to confirm that the premiums quoted are still valid, as the current quotes have expired. Greg asked Sue to send him the summary, and they will review the quotes together. Sue asked what the insurance effective date should be. Greg suggested July 1, as we expect to have a vendor selected by that time.
- Sue reminded Linda to add to the by-laws a clause stating that a maximum purchase of \$500 can be made by an officer or Board member without a vote for approval. Sue will email Linda an example.

VLAP:

- The first samples will be taken this month on the 18th. Bill will pick up the bottles and Alicia will assist with the sampling.
- Bill reported that Sarah Steiner has announced her retirement from NH DES

Social Media:

- Tobi posted the following on FB: Boat ramp funding announcement March 27; Earth Day cleanup announcement April 15, Earth Day wrap-up and thank you April 19, Earth Day Lake Health tips April 22.
- Tobi's video of deer running across the ice has received 1,800 views so far.
- Linda said that she saw an email from NH LAKES promoting a gaming night where they would receive a portion of the casino's proceeds, so perhaps we could do the same.

Lake Host:

- Liz offered to help manage Lake Host this year. She will take the Coordinator training course online and will work with Joel.

Communications:

- An email blast was sent on March 27 announcing that we have secured funding for the boat ramp project.
- Linda has an email prepared to announce the annual meeting and will send it as soon as we confirm the meeting space and complete the proposed by-law changes.

Old Business:

- Earth Day Cleanup. We had a good turnout for the Earth Day cleanup with 30 bags of trash collected. Tobi sent a thank you to all via FB.
- Annual Meeting. Greg checked on the meeting room at the library. The room has been partitioned off to about half of its total size as there is damage to an outside wall due to a car collision. The library staff offered to move the rolling bookcases to make more room for the meeting.
- The divers who have worked on Country Pond for the past two years have confirmed that they will come to the annual meeting. Greg asked if they could create a couple of slides for their presentation. Greg added that he will do a list of FAQs to be sure all questions are answered.
- Presentations. Bill – VLAP, Joel and Liz – Lake Host, Sue – Budget including ramp costs and grant. Sue said she would like to separate the ramp project from other expenses. Greg said that it is okay to separate them, but the project costs should be presented at the meeting to show how big a commitment it is.

New Business:

- Member-at-large nominations. Greg noticed that Jennifer West was still listed on the website as a member-at-large. He contacted her and she confirmed that she cannot participate in board activities at this time. Greg asked if the board could think of anyone who would be interested. Joel said that it would be helpful to have someone representing the Merrill Ave. and Hook Ave. neighborhoods.
- Spiny naiad treatment funding. Greg said he would like to ask the campgrounds to contribute to funding for additional invasive removal in their beach areas.
- Ramp project bid request. Greg will create a bid request based on the engineering plan bid request and will send it the NH DES for approval. The original plan had included \$10k for construction oversight. Sally Soule said that does not need to be bid upon, and that CPLA should work directly with the design engineer. She will write a letter for CPLA's file justifying why we are not including that in the bid.

- Sue said people are concerned about the boat ramp closing. She asked if there are other places on the lake that people could launch or take out their boats. Greg said that it is CPLA's responsibility to keep ramp users informed. It was agreed that we should notify the public as soon as we have a firm start date so that people can make other arrangements. The ramp construction is planned for November after the draw down.
- Greg said part of the vendor selection criteria will be to find someone who will work on our schedule to minimize inconvenience for ramp users. Sally said it may be a good idea to include some sort of performance guarantee in the bid request to ensure the contractor keeps to our schedule.

Next Meeting: Wednesday May 28, 2025 at 7PM

Meeting adjourned at 7:47 pm