

**The Hogan Whitney Pond Association (HWP) Inc.**

2023 Annual Meeting

**Saturday, June 24, at 9 AM**

Oxford Rec Center

223 King St, Oxford, ME 04270

**Association Officers**

<b>President – Tom Donovan</b> 154 Hogan Pond Lane (Oxford, ME)	<b>Vice President – Bruce Wilson</b> 36 Dunn Lane (Oxford, ME) <b>Vice President – Norm David</b> 58 Oak Lane (Oxford, ME)
<b>Treasurer – Rich Auren</b> 184 Hogan Pond Lane (Oxford, ME)	<b>Secretary – Mark Young</b> 158 Hogan Pond Lane (Oxford, ME)

All officers except Mark were present at the meeting.

**I. Greetings & Pledge of Allegiance (Tom)**

Tom greeted all attendees followed by Pledge of Allegiance

**II. Call to Order (Tom)**

Tom called the HWP meeting to order at 9:04 AM

**III. Introductions name, pond (Group)**

All Board & Audience attendees introduced themselves mentioning whether from Hogan or Whitney Pond and how long they had been living at their camp. I believe Mrs. Perham was the longest tenured resident at 70+ years

**IV. Last Meeting Minutes (Tom)**

Copies of minutes from the last (2022) meeting were available for attendees via hard copies and on the HWP Facebook site. **Motion** to approve the minutes seconded & passed unanimously.

**V. Treasurers Report (Rich)**

- Rich provided Income/Expense report for 2022:

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Income/Expense  
1/1/2022 Through 12/31/2022

12/10/2023

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Category Description	1/1/2022- 12/31/2022	OVERALL TOTAL
<b>INCOME</b>		
Association Dues	5,400.00	5,400.00
LEA \$\$	8,797.00	8,797.00
Milfoil Fund	1,330.00	1,330.00
Other Inc	5,000.00	5,000.00
Watershed Fund	875.00	875.00
TOTAL INCOME	21,402.00	21,402.00
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Legal	460.00	460.00
milfoil	15,740.00	15,740.00
Misc	4,714.53	4,714.53
Post Office Box	92.00	92.00
Watershed	1,920.50	1,920.50
TOTAL EXPENSES	22,927.03	22,927.03
OVERALL TOTAL	-1,525.03	-1,525.03

- Current account balance is \$7397.07
- HWP dues are \$75 year. There are about 190 properties in the Hogan/Whitney Ponds watershed. About 1/3 of these property owners pay dues on annual basis
- Dues can be paid using PayPal account [hwp.maine@gmail.com](mailto:hwp.maine@gmail.com), Venmo or check/cash. We are also looking into setting up payment via QR code and through web site.
- **Motion** to accept the Treasurer's report was seconded & passed unanimously.

**VI. Open issues**

**a) Dam (grade control) status (Adam Garland, Oxford TM)**

- Adam was unable to attend the meeting but provided the following report for the grade control progress. In summary, progress is being made but has been slowed down by additional requirements for awarded grants. Summer of 2024 is expected start date.

**Town Manager Report:**

- The Town continues to work with VHB Engineering on the grade control projects.
- Engineering/design has been completed for the grade controls and access road portion of the project.

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- Bids packages have been prepared by VHB for the project
- The Town has secured access to the site of the grade controls
- All State level reviews have been completed
  - MDEP
  - Archaeological fact find/review
- Army Corp of Engineer reviews have been completed
- The Town has applied and been awarded a Congressional Grant for \$800,000 (thank you Senator Susan Collins and staff) to be used for this project (Town match of \$300,00)
  - Though the award of this grant is wonderful it has caused significant delays. The grant is overseen by Housing and Urban Development (HUD) who has several additional requirements that must be satisfied prior to the Town moving forward with the project. The Town has engaged VHB to help navigate these new requirements and reviews. The Town has had several meetings with HUD and VHB to date and continues to make progress. At this time the Town is being informed the review process may take things well into the fall season. If final approval is not received until fall, the project will be delayed until the summer of 2024.

Even though the project is currently moving forward slowly, the Town is thankful for the progress and secured funding. The Town certainly looks forward to completing the project as soon as possible.

**b) Milfoil status (Rich)**

- Maine DEP concerned about keeping milfoil out of Whitney Pond. They provided us a grant of \$5725 for 2023, lower than amount our association typically receives (\$8797 for 2022, \$8455 for 2021)
- New England Milfoil (NEM) coming last week of July, at cost of about \$8300 for the week. We usually hire them for two weeks but there are not sufficient funds.
- Mats placed down years ago in certain areas of Hogan Pond need to be removed. Rich prefers handpicking over mats but willing do either. There are plenty of mats at his house for anyone wishing to place in front of their property.
- Sylvia Wilson heading up plant control monitoring team which patrols Whitney Pond and checks out plants. Water marigold is not milfoil.

**c) Watershed status (Bruce)**

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Katie Goodwin (Project Scientist at Ecological Instincts) gave PowerPoint presentation on completed Phase I watershed project and upcoming Phase II project plans:

- Main concern is phosphorous from soil erosion getting into the ponds
- Water clarity: Hogan (4.1m), Whitney (5.1m), state average (6.8m)
- Phosphorous: 12 ppb (same as state average)
- There were 95 candidate sites identified during initial survey

**Phase I (2019/20)**

- estimated 134 tons/year of sediment prevented from entering ponds
- estimated 111 lbs/year of phosphorous prevented

**Phase II (2023/24)**

- \$133,340 project: \$77,910 Maine DEP, 55,430 Non-Fed Match
- Homeowners eligible for up to \$750 matching grant for projects up to \$1500
- Large project on Rabbit Valley Road to redo culvert
- Erosion mulch will be available to homeowners
- Faulty septic systems can cause phosphorous runoff into ponds
- Alewives prevent algae

**d) Tax Exempt (501c3) status (Tom)**

**i. Maine Secretary of State 2023 Annual Report (\$35)**

- HWP was at one time a qualified Tax Exempt (501c3) association but didn't submit annual reports (Form 990) to the IRS. If you don't file a required return or notice for three consecutive years, your exempt status will be automatically revoked.
- HWP needs to file IRS Form 990 annually to maintain tax exempt status

**ii. Apply for IRS Federal approval – 1023EZ (\$275)**

- Tom submitted 1023EZ application to IRS at cost of \$275. Our application was approved on 05/30/2023 and HOGAN WHITNEY POND ASSOCIATION is now exempt from federal income tax under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 501(c)(3). Organizations exempt under IRC Section 501(c)(3) are further classified as either public charities or private foundations. IRS determined our association is a public charity.

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**VII. New business**

**a) State of Maine Legislation (Senator Richard Bennett)**

- Senator Bennett was unable to attend the meeting but provided Tom with a status of following legislation:
  - i. LD1826 - Maine Invasive Species legislation**
    - Enacted, Mar 29, 2022
    - **Governor's Action:** Signed, Mar 29, 2022
  - ii. LD164 - An Act to Fund the Lake Restoration and Protection Fund**
    - Enacted, 7/25/2023
    - **Governor's Action:** Signed, 7/26/23
  - iii. Other pending/approved legislation**
    - Studies being conducted on other pending legislation

**b) HWP web site**

- Bruce has started to look into setting up a web site for our association. The address/URL for site will be: [www.hoganwhitneypond.org](http://www.hoganwhitneypond.org)

**c) Election of Officers**

- Sylvia Wilson spoke of upcoming Lake Smart presentation meeting on July 3, 2023 at Gabby's property (78 Oak Lane)
- All current board members were re-elected for additional two year terms including Mark Young who was not present. **Motion** to elect was seconded & passed unanimously

**VIII. Question/answer session**

- Mike Wise suggested that the association should recruit volunteers to make push to collect additional dues. Many Hogan and Whitney Pond property owners that don't attend HWP meetings are unaware of progress being made by the association.
- Gentleman from 66 Partridge Lane said this was the first HWP meeting he has attended and was impressed by all topics that were covered.

**IX. Adjournment (Tom)**

**Motion** to adjourn meeting was seconded & passed unanimously (11:07 AM)

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Next year's meeting will be June 29, 2024 at 9:00 AM most likely at Oxford Rec Center

Minutes taken/submitted by Tom Donovan ([tdono1234@aol.com](mailto:tdono1234@aol.com))