

Pleasant Lake Preservation Association

Annual Meeting

July 28, 2016

Deerfield Town Hall

President John Duffy called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M., with a great crowd in attendance.

- Joseph Farrelly presented NH Lakes Association and asked all in attendance to consider making a contribution.
- Sue Higgins made a motion to approve the 2015 Annual Meeting Minutes, seconded by Michael Beaudoin, motion passed.
- John Duffy introduced Officers and Directors and noted a director was needed for the Veasey Park District. Motion was made by Richard Pitman, seconded by Doug Sargent, for the elections of Officers and Directors. Motion passed. A request for a volunteer to become Director of Veasey Park was made.

Treasurer's Report/Membership Status – Andy Hotaling

- Income for 2105 totaled \$10,455
- Other revenue from sale of sweatshirts and TD Bank
- Benefactor of \$1,100 as a benefactor of a lawsuit
- Biggest expense is our Lake Host Program, \$3,350
- \$5,000 needed to fund Watershed Restoration Program consultation fees.
- On target to meet this year's expenses
- Motion was made by Tom Brennan, seconded by Michael Beaudoin to accept the Treasurer's Report. Motion passed
- Memberships from 2009-2016 averaged about 100. Currently at 106 and hope to reach for 133
- There about 180 lake front homes with additional memberships from Lake Supporters. Tom Brennan encouraged everyone to visit PleasantLakeNH.org, as a great resource.

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Other avenues of support: Affinity Program through TD Bank. Last year we received \$238. Amazon Smile will donate 5/10% of purchase to Pleasant Lake, if you designate Pleasant Lake. We received \$5.00 last year.

Eagle Scout Project – John Duffy introduced Tyler Reese, Boy Scout in Deerfield, Troop 138. Tyler explained his desire to build an informational kiosk at the Pleasant Lake Dam on Gulf Road. The Location of the kiosk would be behind the telephone pole close to the cement wall of the dam. The kiosk would display information on invasive species and how to prevent their transmission into Pleasant Lake, information on the Lake Host Program, updates on the Gulf Road construction project and any other general PLPA information. Tyler explained the cost of the project with the posts being the major expense. Using wood posts total cost should be around \$600-\$800. Granite posts total cost should be around \$1300-\$1800. Dan Cote suggested we use Memorial Funds to assist with costs. Tom Brennan suggested Matching Funds. Doug Sargent recommended Tyler use wood posts, as the granite post are susceptible to snapping when hit with snowplows. Wood is an easier and less costly replacement. Sue Higgins suggested those that wish to contribute to Tyler's Eagle Scout Project, forward a check to PLPA with note identifying Kiosk project. Questions were raised as to who would finance and maintain the Kiosk, once completed. John Duffy made a motion that once the kiosk was completed, PLPA would be responsible for the maintenance. Seconded by Steve Scholz. Motion passed.

Lake Host Program – presented by Carol Smiglin in the absence of Holly Martin. Carol asked all Lake Host volunteers to stand to be recognized. Presented the need for 4 more volunteers. Sign-up sheets available in the back of the room. Currently we have 3 paid Lake Hosts and 23 volunteers. Our Grant money is based on the number of boats we inspect. The more boats checked and the more hours covered equals more Grant monies. There are shirts and sweatshirts available for purchase, as an on-going fund raiser. Sue Chamberlin stated an increase of hours covered increases the chances

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of catching invasive species or plant life. PLPA is seeking funds from both Northwood and Deerfield with Warrant Articles being presented this year to each town. Signatures need to be collected for the Warrant Articles.

Mooring Field Presentation – Knox Turner and Tere Bowen-Irish

The board of the PLPA has been asked by many residents to clarify why the public mooring field adjacent to Fish and Game's boat launch continues to grow. Many questions revolve around safety, navigational, environmental and encroachment issues.

As a result of these concerns, PLPA formed a Mooring Field committee of four, to investigate and give form to the issues relevant to the NH Department of Safety. The committee enjoined two additional advisors from the NH Lakes Association and a resident of nearby Bow Lake.

PLPA acknowledges the following stakeholders: Waterfront property owners on Pleasant Lake, Property owners on Gulf Road and all feeder roads to Gulf Road, NH Fish and Game Department, Dam Bureau, Department of Environmental Services, Town of Deerfield, Police Department, Town of Northwood, Police Department, NH Marine Patrol and the public at large and right to access.

Public safety concerns are as follows: 1. Moorings do not have safe distances between boats within the field to accommodate changing weather conditions. 2. Mooring are placed far from shore as the field has grown outwardly into standard navigation zones, a night time hazard. 3. Moorings restrict the waiting area for boats using the launch to leave at the end of the day. 4. Moored boats are often very near shore, within a few feet of the actual Dam. With a drawdown from the Dam, boats, often inadequately anchored, could be potentially drawn into and collide with the Dam. 5. Moored watercraft, from pontoon boats to ski boats have a track record of breaking loose from or dragging their inadequate moorings across the lake. Many times property owners seek to intercept drifting boats before they do

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harm to private docks, other watercraft, and shoreline vegetation. If a boat is rescued from crashing ashore, what is the responsibility of a waterfront property homeowner to accommodate a rescued boat until the Marine Patrol arrives? What recourse do waterfront property owners have when an owner does not claim their boat in a timely manner? 6. No regulations or oversight exists for the current mooring field. It grows at will, without parameters for safety or good practices in an already congested area of boat activity, in an area already designated solely for boat launching by virtue of the type of available parking permitted by Fish and Game. 7. Because there is no parking for mooring field boat owners, along with people who come simply to swim in the launch/dam shoreline, the number of cars parked illegally along the side of Gulf Road, in private roads, driveways, lawns and fields, mooring field proposes a direct threat during key weekends to the safe flow of traffic on Gulf Road and the rights of private citizens to secure their own property.

Knox and Tere presented Petitioning for Pleasant Lake to become a protected lake and thereby limiting or restricting public moorings.

A petition with 25 signatures from residents from Northwood and Deerfield is needed for Public hearing. Signatures are due by late August. Sue Higgins stated that if 2 families are on one deed, then both can sign. Walt Hooker expressed concern, if Pleasant Lake becomes protected, who enforces this restriction? It was stated that Marine Patrol will go around checking the mooring for registered stickers. Current mooring will have to be registered.

If approved, what does the petition mean to me?

Who can apply for a mooring? A property owner, or a group or association which owns shorefront property. Moorings are not granted for deeded beach rights or right of ways.

How many moorings am I entitled to? None. Water is a public resource held in trust by the state, therefore, there are no entitlements to moorings.

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Permission may be granted to a property owner for one or more moorings when the application is made and a certain criteria met.

Are existing moorings grandfathered? No. Existing moorings may be permitted in their existing locations provided such moorings comply with the provisions of the mooring law.

What does this cost? There is no application fee. Once an application has been approved, the applicant will receive a mooring permit. The applicant is charged \$125 for each mooring for the first year of the permit. The following years the costs are as follows for each mooring: Individual Mooring Permits, \$25.00 a mooring. Congregate Mooring Permits, \$50.00 a mooring, Public Mooring Permits, \$25.00 a mooring.

Is this permit permanent? Yes, as long as ownership remains the same and the lease does not expire on moorings issued off of leased shore frontage. However, mooring permits are not transferable. The permit expires once the property is sold.

How does Marine Patrol know if my mooring is approved? All moorings must display the current year's decal on the mooring buoy above the water line. If no decal is displayed the marine patrol will issue a warning. If the owner does not comply the mooring will be cut and the boat towed at the owner's expense.

To explore the Petition more go to the Pleasant Lake web site, pleasantlakenh.org, or speak with Knox and Tere directly.

A motion was made at 10:00 A.M., by Sue Higgins to close the Annual Meeting. Seconded by Doug Sargent. Motion passed.

Following the Annual Meeting a presentation by Forrest Bell, FB Environmental, was presented outlining the Final Draft of the Watershed Restoration Project. Also presented was the Gulf Road Runoff Project, by Ann Scholz and Tim Mallette. Once these presentations were completed the audience entered a Break-out Session.

