

**Minutes**  
LMPA Board Meeting  
September 1, 2018

The meeting gathered at Northern Exposure (Wertheimer family cottage), 4876 Lake Morey Road, with a quorum being present. Ginny P. called the meeting to order at 10:10 AM. Board Members in attendance were Ginny Pomeroy, Denise Drouin, Will Watson, Debby Baker, Mark Richardson, Peggie Bissell, Carol Wertheimer. Laura Tucker. Also present were Don Weaver and Bill Minard (treasurer) Absent: Smith Reed, Ginny Reed (secretary).

- **Treasurer's report (Bill)**

- Bill noted that membership receipts seem to be in good shape.
- There was some discussion of owners/cottages that have not paid or have not been approached for membership, as well as discussion of some businesses that might be approached.
- Action item:
  - Bill agreed to draft a letter for businesses outlining the reasons to support the LMPA. He'll draft an e-mail and circulate it to board members who can then volunteer to make some contacts.

- **Approval of minutes from May 26, 2018 was moved, seconded, and passed.**

- **Water quality issues and LMC (Don and Mark R.)**

- Evaluation a few weeks ago showed that the area addressed by the divers looks milfoil free. Everything north of the access has milfoil. There is more on the east side of the lake.
- The plan is to treat the lake for milfoil next year. A permit to use Renovate has been submitted; approval is being held in abeyance because of the possibility of using a newer chemical, Procellacor. The State is concluding that the less chemical in the lake, the better. We are currently waiting to hear from the State.
- Don asked the treatment provider (Solitude) for a quote – the treatment area would be the area north of the lake access, beyond the girls' camp, then broadening out into Breezy Bay and going to Chris Baines's property. This would be 39.1 acres. Cost for Renovate would be \$57,000 (concentration of 2.5 ppm) and \$63,000 for Procellacor (concentration of 12ppb). It would require 20 gallons of chemicals to do entire 39.1 acres. The treatment would be guaranteed for 3 years. The treatment is likely to be done in late May/early June (before campers arrive) with information provided to the camps.
- We will continue to use divers for the portion of the lake that is not treated. Divers will be finishing their work for this season in the next few weeks.

- **We will need to assign someone to take over that role • Lake Morey Commission**

- Mark R. has taken on biological aspect working with Mark Mitchell. Peggie Bissell has also worked with the LMC. Greg Allen continues working on chemical issues. He is writing a grant to check five input streams into the lake next year. The grant will pay only for the laboratory work. Volunteers will have to do the work.
- Don noted that he has done Secchi disk readings with Mark this year. The last readings were 7.2 and 7.0; this is a relatively good sign. Volunteers will need to continue work on this monitoring.
- Concern about water levels has been raised by Bruce Durgin. Senator Lahey has let it be known that he wants the US Corps of Engineers to make grants available to assist lakes in the eastern part of the State. Again, work on this will rely on volunteer efforts. The dam is considered

satisfactory by the State. Eleven people (including the Lake Morey Inn) have stone or concrete lake walls. If the water level were to be raised, this could cause property damage. Water level likely doesn't affect cyanobacteria issue.

- Cyanobacteria report (Mark)
  - Mark R. showed some pictures of samples he has taken from the lake using a microscope borrowed from the State. Blooms tend to occur in September. Some of these can have toxins – an issue when there is a large bloom. That said, the issue of toxicity is not well understood.
  - We have a lot of phosphorous data from the lake over decades. Phosphorous stratifies in the lake. Mark M. takes a variety of depth readings. Readings in the deep part of the lake show high readings. A build-up of phosphorous occurs in low oxygen areas. Late in the summer/fall, temperature changes cause turnover that leads to blooms. Don noted that, over time, phosphorous came into the lake in waves – first with the construction of houses, then of inns, then of the interstate highway.
  - Peggie does a visual monitoring weekly. Rivularia are brown globules that look like frog eggs; healthy colonies were noted growing on plants at the north end of the lake. In correspondence from last year, it was noted that if they (colonies) were attached to the plants below the surface in locations where people would likely not come into contact with them, they would be counted as category 1D; if there were more than 15 colonies in a 6-foot span of shoreline or that were floating at the surface, they would be counted as category 2.
  - The State Health Department unable to support staffing. It is recommended that monitors contact Town Health Officers if blooms are noted on weekends. Signs can be posted as conditions warrant.
  - It was noted that rivularia did not reach category 2 conditions here last year so that Town Health Officers might not be familiar with the issue. Peggie feels that the situation this year is about the same as last year.
  - Action item:
    - It was suggested that we share our data with them.
  - Barbara Duncan has been doing the Adopt-a-lake program.. Hours need to be reported by Sept. 15. The form is on the website.
  - Action item:
    - We will need to assign someone to take over that role
  - Buoy removal is scheduled for Sept. 2 at 9:30.
- **Greeter Program (Peggie)**
    - Program is first line of defense against aquatic invasive species (AIS). Peggie related a story that illustrates this issue. Recent issue of Zebra mussels in Lake Memphremagog – more serious than milfoil. There are 50 different AIS in Lake Champlain. The Greeter program is there not just for milfoil.
    - The State has recommended that all standing water be removed from watercraft coming from Lake Memphremagog and that the watercraft undergo decontamination. So far this season there have been 909 boat inspections at our access station.
    - Lake Morey could consider a site for a water station. However, funding and staffing aside, no physical space for a facility like this is currently available. Additional cost would be a trailer to

store the power-wash unit and additional staff to utilize it. In some states, all boats are power-washed before entering the lake.

- First step would be to locate a site. The area across the street currently serves as parking. Another possibility is an off-site location, such as Fogg's parking lot. Another option is that this could be discussed with Lake Fairlee as to the possibility of creating a joint system.
- Action item:
  - Peggie recommends creation of a committee to further explore.
- 2018 budget – 708 hours at \$12/hr (\$10,224). Actual use is 688 hours (projected) (\$8250).
- Peggie proposes a “Get to Yes” budget: full coverage – 108 days X 12 hrs per day X \$13 = \$16,848. Note: Lake Fairlee has had full coverage for several years.
- VT has a goal to increase minimum wage to \$15 per hour by 2020. The State acknowledges that an increase in wages will be a challenge that will be passed on to communities.
- Another budget option: Increase hours from 8-12 hrs/day on weekends in July, first two weeks in August, and holidays for a total 858 hrs X \$13 = \$11,154.
- Peggie noted that there are some items that stock the greeter shed; these items have not been included in the budget.
- Portion of budget split between LMF and LMPA. Currently a 50/50 split. We need to talk with LMF about returning to previous 60/40 split.
- The Town pays a portion of cost also. Bruce Durgin, president of LMF, says the Town does most of its funding through a grant request.
- Action items:
  - Suggested that Peggie give her presentation to the LMF.
  - Suggested that when Ginny P. talks with the LMF, she note that we are at budgetary capacity (\$3500) and that perhaps LMF could contribute more given their greater capacity.
- Josh, who runs the State programs, wrote that he and his family have had great experiences on Lake Morey this year and that it has become a favorite place for fishing and enjoying the water.
- Bill Minard noted that dipping into our funds for a one-time purchase (such as a power-wash station) makes more sense than funding ongoing costs.
- Peggie noted that she is thinking about ways to make the greeter program sustainable with less time and effort on her part. She has written up the job description; separating out some of the tasks would make time management easier. Thinking about succession planning and training for next year makes sense.
- Action item:
  - It was moved, seconded, and passed that we support funding of \$3500 for the Greeter program for 2019.

- **LMPA Directories (Denise)**

- To make this happen in 2019 we need to pull info from database and get it to the printer.
- Using the same printer in Hanover as last time makes sense – they provided good service at a good price.
- Directories needed for the Annual Meeting. Dues letters stress a timely response. May newsletter goes out at the same time.
- Action item:
  - Denise and Ginny R. will work to ensure the 2019 directory is produced.

- **Fairlee Family Fun Day (Carol)**

- Discussion of whether or not to continue this event in its current configuration. Noted that there were not a lot of children for games. Two people from Town came with their kids. Attendance tends to be the same people year after year – the Board and some past Board members. Some people have reached out against dropping the program. They see it as our way of communicating with the Town even if they are not participating. Over time, participation has waned. The event currently happens on a busy day – the same day as the Prouty, the Annual Meeting, etc.
- Is there another alternative? In the past, instead of a cocktail hour after the Annual Meeting, there was a cookout on the beach. Possibility of meeting at Tucker Beach. This takes place on the second Saturday in July – this will be July 13, 2019).
- Action item:
  - Agreed to pursue a change. A small group will work on plans.
- **BOD Insurance (Mark)**
  - We currently have general liability and liability for the Board. Last year the total cost was \$1857. Renewal date is the end of September. President’s signature – consistent with State registration – needed.
  - Action item:
    - Ginny R. should be the person who can change the roster with the VT Secretary of State.
- **Nominating Committee (Debbie)**
  - This year Ginny P. and Mark R. will be going off the Board in July. Two new members will be needed to replace them.
- **Boater Safety (Ginny P.)**
  - No one is offering to take on teaching the Boater Safety course. It can be taken online, which may be a better option for most people.
  - Ginny P. wonders if it would it make sense to promote safe boat driving? Unsafe boat driving (party barges, in particular) has been noted on the lake.
  - Action item:
    - Peggie suggests communicating with Celia at the Marina. A laminated card with bulleted items (to be kept on the boat) was suggested. Also suggested providing info for lakeshore owners, something posted on the access shed, and put something on the website.
- **Other Business**
  - Mark Scott has taken on the task of charging the speed sign.
  - Peggie noted that the PortaPotty belongs to the State. They have heard from both folks at both Lake Fairlee and Lake Morey that the facilities are not being kept up. Regular maintenance should happen. The Warden needs to hear this from more people.
  - Denise noted that she is writing a job description for the roles she is doing.
  - Action item:
    - Board members should make sure their job descriptions are up to date and in the Dropbox.
  - The Walking Program seems not to be working.

The meeting was adjourned at XX.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ginny Reed