

Minutes

LMPA Board Meeting September 2, 2017

The meeting gathered at Mudwayaushka, 4816 Lake Morey Road, with a quorum being present. Peter called the meeting to order at 10:09AM. Board Members in attendance were Peter Massicott, Will Watson, Debbie Baker, Peggie Bissell, Mark Richardson, Bill Minard, Denise Druin, Carol Wertheimer, and Ginny Pomeroy. Bruce Durgin (Lake Morey Foundation (LMF)) and Don Weaver (Lake Morey Commission (LMC)) were present as guests. Absent: Barbara Duncan (who designated Peggie Bissell as her proxy).

- **Review of the Spring and Annual Meeting Minutes – no comments**
- **Bill Minard presented the Treasurer’s report**
 - Donations are up, dues are down slightly.
 - Our funds look good. We have \$92,000+ . \$1800 in income from funds has been put in the budget for this year.
 - Funds not difficult to access.
 - There was a question about the impact of the Greeter Program on the budget. Bill noted that there were more hours planned this year but that not all the budgeted hours were used (one greeter left earlier than planned).
 - Don Weaver noted the need to replace chains for the 8 buoys around the lake. Beyond the immediate cost impact, this prompted a discussion about where/how to archive the vast knowledge that Don and others (such as Bruce Durgin) have about what/how needs to happen to keep the lake area functioning well.
 - Action item:
 - This ‘bus problem’ (as in ‘what happens if someone with all this knowledge gets hit by a bus’) will be handled by collecting existing files/procedures and sending them to Ginny P. She will create a list of those and will note other areas where a procedure should be created. Finally, Ginny will send important files/procedures to Denise for storage in Dropbox.
- **Bruce Durgin (LMF) led a discussion on the Morey Mountain Conservation Project**
 - At the LMPA annual meeting. Ray Clark gave an update on what has been known as ‘the Putnam land’. The property in question is located on the east side of the lake and consists of 148-160 acres (as indicated on the map shown by Bruce), owned by two brothers who inherited it from their parents. Both owners live away from the lake and want to sell the property. According to a local realtor, a logger has expressed interest in purchasing the land. Following the LMPA annual meeting, the LMF created a four-person committee (hereafter known as ‘the committee’) to explore acquiring the land and putting it into conservation. This committee has concluded that there is sufficient enthusiasm and that the time is right to pursue this notion. The negotiated price of the property is now \$399,000. The LMF is working with the Upper Valley Land Trust (UVLT) to put the land in conservation. The UVLT Board has agreed to accept the land and maintain it in stewardship in perpetuity. This means that they will maintain the land

and pay normal taxes (currently \$3900 annually) on it. The Town of Fairlee (as recipient of these taxes) is in support of the project.

- Members of the committee have made presentations to 40+ homeowners around the lake. They have obtained more than 20 pledges for total of \$175,000 and are still waiting to hear from several families. This represents excellent support around the lake. The LMF is considering a substantial donation and will make a decision soon. The committee is asking the LMPA for a donation of \$25,000. Additionally, they have approached both the Aloha and Byrne Foundations for donations. The LMF plans to contact LMPA members to ask for donations. They have requested use of our database to compile a mailing list. It has been the norm over the years to share addresses and this has been done this year. Donations will all be made to the LMF (registered as a 501C3 organization so that all can be claimed as deductible charitable donations).
- In terms of timing, the first step is signing of a purchase & sale agreement, which the committee hopes to have this week. The LMF has put up \$25,000 as a retainer. A clear title and funds are needed to proceed to the next step which will take place 45 days after signing. Following this, closing will be set within 45 additional days. The LMF is working with the UVLT on necessary paperwork.

- **Action item:**

- Ginny P moved that the LMPA provide \$25K in support of the Morey Mountain Conservation Project. Seconded. Unanimously passed.

Committee Reports

- **Lake Committee**

- Speed sign – Clint Bissell has taken care of the sign this year. He is receptive to someone else taking this on.
- Action item:
 - Will make a plan for next year.
- Boater / Road Safety -
 - buoy removal plans – planned for 9/2.
 - boater safety course for 2018 – Ginny P. noted that the course may be offered by someone different next year. She has been in contact with the State about this. Online course is also available and should be promoted on FB and website. It is possible to authorize someone who has taken the course to teach it.

- **Water Quality - Mark Richardson**

- Don Weaver presented information on the 2017 season, noting that all scheduled testing has been completed. The State has agreed to compile data earlier than normal so that we can get information about the phosphorous level in a timely manner.
 - In terms of milfoil, the divers were here for 8 days, concentrating their efforts near Fernwood. There remain 12 additional days of diver time still in the budget. Solitude the (lake management company) has completed its shallow water survey that indicates good control over milfoil at the moment. Don believes it is likely that the lake will not need treatment next year but is waiting for the deep water survey results.
 - Don noted that Procelacar will likely replace current chemical in use for milfoil control (Renovate). The new product is perceived to be less toxic.
 - Don noted that the D460 form – justification of grant from the State – needs to be completed and that Peggie and Clint have compiled the greeter data in electronic form.
 - Action item:
 - Denise was asked to send a collection form via e-mail to all to collect data. Completed forms may be sent directly to Barbara Duncan or to the Town Administrator.
 - Don mentioned that the LMC has noted the possibility of someone initiating a lawsuit against the State because of presence of cyanobacteria in the lake. He suggested that we be careful not to have the town, LMPA, LMF, or LMC drawn into this.
 - Mark reviewed additional information about water quality. He noted that there is a zero reading of oxygen (anoxia) below the thermocline (a steep temperature gradient in a body of water marked by a layer above and below which the water is at different temperatures) of the lake during the summer. This normal variation means that the lake is not ‘turning over’ at this point in time. This is negative in that deep water fish can’t survive and that sediments are more likely to release phosphorous at this time.
 - Additional discussion about blue-green algae ensued.
- **Greeter Program - Peggie Bissell**
 - Peggie noted that the season was off to a slow start with lots of rain. The total budget for the season was \$10,218. Breakdown of this is that \$7770 is from LMPA and LMF and \$2048 is from town. Wages were \$7794. \$2224 remains in the account.
 - Going forward, \$9600 is needed to cover wages for ~50 hours per week. \$1536 is needed in addition to support full-day coverage on Saturday and Sunday. This would bring total coverage up to 58 hours per week.
 - Peggie also noted that bass tournaments (3 per season) start early and that it is important to have coverage during that time. She found that if you have 2 greeters present – one on each side of the boat as it comes out of the launch – the system works much better. An additional \$250 added to the budget would cover this cost. Thanks to Lars, Barbara, and Bruce, and Mike Curran for their work on tournament days.

- Peggie noted that Act 67, which involves aquatic nuisance control, went into effect on June 8, 2017. This law requires visual inspection of craft entering the water.
- Peggie is requesting \$12000 for 2018. It is unclear what the LMPA's portion of this is at the moment. This would provide full coverage on some Saturdays and Sundays and additional coverage on the 4th of July weekend.
- Action item:
 - Access area management – Peggie noted that everyone comes to her about all issues related to the access area, such as the porta-potty, etc. The State manages these contracts. Next year consider handing out cards with State contact info.
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- **Membership Committee: Ginny Pomeroy, Peter Massicott**
 - No report
- **Publication Committee: Ginny Pomeroy, Peter Massicott**
 - The Membership Directory for 2017 is out. It took a huge amount of effort by many folks to get this done!
 - The LMPA website has been updated by Denise Drouin. Please keep her informed as to needed changes.
 - Denise suggested sending out monthly updates via e-mail. The group thought this was a good idea.
- **Nominating Committee: Barbara Duncan, Debbie Baker, Carol Wertheimer**
 - Debby noted that Barbara Duncan would be coming off the committee next year.
 - She also noted that two board members would be rotating off next year: Barbara Duncan and Peter Massicott.
- **Entertainment and Recreation Committee – Debbie Baker**
 - This committee is responsible for planning Fairlee Family Fun Day and the Annual Meeting 2018. Debby has volunteered to take this over, with help. Laura Byron has indicated that she will put together a template of what needs to happen for Fairlee Fun Day..
 - Given the lack of Town participation in Fairlee Fun Day, there is a need to discuss the purpose/continuation of this event.
 - Action item:
 - To be discussed at the spring meeting.
- **Social Committee: Peggie Bissell, Carol Wertheimer**
 - The First Friday events have been very successful this year with 25-36 attendees each time.
 - Farm to table dinner – 24 people from the lake attended at a farm in Corinth on August 26. ore The number of lake participants has increased each year (8 in 2015, 14 in 2016).
 - Action item:
 - Promote this event earlier in the season.

- Two ‘welcome to the lake’ buckets were delivered this year – one to the Tuckers and one to the Aronsons.
- Walks around the lake have been sporadic and not formal.

- **Trails: Ginny Pomeroy**
 - nothing to report

- **Junior Committee: inactive**

- **Legal and Finance Committee**
 - D&O and Liability Insurance Renewal - P. Massicott
 - Action item:
 - Would like to investigate alternative policy similar to what the LMF uses. Bill Minard will hold payment until he hears back from Peter.

- **New business:**
 - The Dick Allen award was presented to Greg Allen this year. Bill Minard suggests making award to Dana Low for next year.
 - Action item:
 - Discuss at May 2018 meeting.

- The meeting was adjourned at 12:22

Respectfully submitted,
Ginny Reed, Secretary