

LIPPC Minutes of 24 February 2011

Tom Hughes opened the meeting at the Charlotte Hobbs Library at 7:00 PM.

Attending were: Lucy LaCasse, Tom Hughes, Gene Spender, Ray Senecal (phone), Ann Williams, Diane Caracciolo, Tripp Turner, Ralph Tedesco, Sue Hamlin, Ed Poliquin, Bob Drew, and Lou Olmsted.

Minutes of Last Meeting - Minutes of the last meeting were approved as amended.

Treasurer's Report – No report.

Old Business –

LIPPC Annual Report - The LIPPC Report for inclusion in the Town of Lovell Annual Report was forwarded to the printer. Supplemental report, prepared by Bob Drew, appealing for CBI volunteers will also be included in the Town Annual Report.

CBI Coordinator – Gene Spender reported 3 candidates have been interviewed and four additional candidates are in process. We will not meet our March 1 target date but expect to have a recommended candidate for our next meeting, 10 March.

By-Laws Update – Members have responded to Bob Drew with their comments on proposed by-laws. Discussed committee size and agreed to 15 members to be enrolled for 3 year terms.

Meeting with John McPhedren is scheduled for our 24 March meeting at 6:30 PM..

Committee Reports

1. Communications & Liaison – Ann Williams reported work is complete on the town website including a button for each committee under LIPPC.

The Milfoil Summit has been rescheduled, as a result of the snow storm, to 1 April. Location and further details to be announced.

The committee is building a list of organizations with agendas similar to LIPPC (for consideration to assign representation from LIPPC). This would include COLA (Congress of Lakes Associations), LEA (Lakes Environmental Association), Friends of the Cobbossee Watershed, and VLMP (Maine Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program). It was agreed bi-directional communication with these organizations is important. Locally, KLWA and GLLT fall into the same category. Ann suggested LIPPC should be represented on the joint committee of these organizations.

2. Education Awareness –

The Education Committee also sent out information on the rescheduled Milfoil Summit. It is necessary to reregister for attendance at the 1 April event.

Lucy LaCasse emphasized the training session for the LIPPC on Saturday 19 March from 9 AM to 3 PM is intended for a limited core group who will become future trainers.

It was agreed the name for our program will be “EYES ON THE WATER”. The committee is working with Vital Signs to schedule a program in August.

A Library Program has been scheduled for 20 June. Further details will be announced.

Sue Hamlin showed the committee a bucket for viewing the water bottom consisting of a 5 gallon plastic pail to which clear Plexiglas bottom had been attached. The committee is looking into a source. Ralph and Gene both said they had made similar devices.

3. Volunteer Coordinator – Ed Poliquin and Diane Caracciolo reported they have had little feedback from the letters sent to road association chairmen. They will follow up by e-mail and telephone calls.

The committee is putting together a letter to go to local businesses and expects to be ready for delivery this week. Ed said businesses will be contacted directly looking for their support and help in finding volunteers.

4. Stewardship Program – Tripp Turner presented a map and outline of his committee’s plan to identify and recruit Stewards for all water bodies. He set his target date for 1 April.
5. Grants and Fundraising – Ray Senecal described two grant possibilities through LEA. The first is an Invasive Plants Control Project for infected ponds. This would apply, in our case, only to Cushman Pond. Ray felt the second grant opportunity had greater application for us. This is a CBI Cost Sharing Grant. Ray will take the lead in applying for the grant.

New Business

At the LIPPC meeting of 29 Oct 2010 Gerry Nelson distributed information on a Matching Funds Activity Log. Tom Hughes reminded us that this is critically important if we are seeking grants to support part of our program. In many case organizations only consider applicants with volunteer activity and other resources that match the amount of money being requested. (Volunteer hours are now valued at \$16.36 for purposes of in-kind match.) Tom has requested Ed Poliquin monitor hours of volunteer work by our

committee and report monthly. To do this each member will submit to Ed his or her hours for the month. As a start all are asked to report all activity from 1 January.

Preparation for Town Meeting – The group suggested possible questions that might be raised. 1) Are we going to close the North End Landing? No. We will increase CBI coverage to the extent of our resources. 2) Why have we requested a budget increase? To increase inspections to 7 days per week. 3) Has risk increased? Yes. There are now 32 lakes in Maine infected with invasive plants. 4) I'm not on the Lake. Why should I care? Because if the water body is infected all taxpayers will be faced with tax increases. 5) What is the status of Cushman Pond? Great progress has been made in controlling and reducing the amount of milfoil in the pond. The state feels we have a good chance of eradicating. Ongoing management is essential. 6) Why is the focus on Kezar? We are looking at the entire watershed, but the greatest amount of boating activity is on Kezar making it the greatest risk area. 7) Why not more boat launches? We want to restrict possible points for introducing invasives. The Narrows launch is not overloaded. 8) Is there going to be a wash station? We are backing installation of a wash station at the Narrows, at no cost to the town, to evaluate its use as a tool to prevent invasive plant infestation. 9) What about Bass Tournaments. LIPPC is working with tournament organizers and the Warden Service to ensure inspection compliance. 10) Is the Marina a risk? The marina is cooperating with the LIPPC and launches only customer's boats after inspecting them. 11) Where do boat sticker monies go? Through a formula administered by LEA the money is divided among infested water bodies. 12) How can I volunteer? Sign up sheet will be available at the Town Office.

Contract for 2011 Watershed Invasive Plants Survey – Tom Hughes, Ray Senecal, Gene Spender, and Charlie Dattlebaum met with LEA to hear what they have to offer. From a LIPPC perspective, they would work with us on Cushman Pond eradication. They also suggested names of others who might be able to do the water body survey at lower cost. This will be looked into but it is clear the decision must be reached quickly or we risk not having any survey in 2011.

KLWA Wash Station proposal. - The KLWA has proposed to the Selectmen the construction of a wash station at the Narrows launch area at no cost to the town. Continuing operation and maintenance would be the responsibility of LIPPC. This will be submitted to the voters at the Town Meeting for a straw vote.

A motion was made that the LIPPC support the KLWA proposal for construction of a wash station on town property with no cost to the town for its construction. The motion was unanimously approved.

Adjournment - Meeting was adjourned at 9:20 PM. Next meeting scheduled for 10 March 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted

Lou Olmsted, Secretary