

LIPPC Minutes of August 25, 2016 Meeting

Diane opened the meeting at Charlotte Hobbs Library at 5:30 PM.

Attending were (vol hours): Diane Caracciolo (16), Gene Spender (16), Mike Maguire (), Sue Hamlin (), and Steve Lewis (). Doug Faille was in attendance and was asked to consider becoming a board member and chair of the Cushman Pond Committee.

Vol. Hours of members not present: Dave Arthur (4)

Secretary's Report: Corrections to the minutes of the July meeting were discussed, the minutes will be recirculated for an email vote.

The August minutes will reflect a correction to the Cushman Pond report that the last Cushman Pond Dive is scheduled for September 3 not August 20. The July minutes also incorrectly omitted that no dive report was available for the July 23 dive at Cushman Pond.

Treasurer's Report: Dave Mills reported that donations are still coming in. Boulder Brook sent \$500. Donations for the year currently exceed the cost of the CBI program to date. Diane will try to personally thank those that gave large donations. Sue recommended giving them a print of an aerial view of Kezar Lake taken for LOHD.

New Business:

Launching of Canoes and Kayaks

Mike Maguire spoke with Muddy River Signs to get options on sign design and pricing. The committee spoke about alternatives for what the sign should include. Possible options are: pictures of canoes/kayaks, asking people to stop and self inspect the boat.

Doug Faille suggested a catchy slogan: Be a Hero, save a Pond...the group liked this idea. Mike will come up with a preliminary sign and discuss it with us next month. It was also discussed to use the sign at all the ponds.

Diane found out that under the town ordinance participants of Lovell Rec. are allowed to use Town Beach which includes usage of Kayaks and Canoes. Diane will talk to Lovell Rec. director and make sure that all involved in the program will inspect their watercraft before launching. The possibility of having a CBI located at the beach will be discussed over the winter, as we were told that the beach was an active launch site during big vacation weeks.

Standing Committee Reports:

Courtesy Boat Inspection:

Thru mid-August we have performed 1994 inspections: 1413 at Narrows, 452 at the North, 29 remaining watershed.

41 Plants found: 36 at Narrows, 5 at the North. All non-invasive.

82 Volunteer hours so far. KLWA and GLLT have already adopted the ramp for a day this year. Stearns Rd residents are working a day next week. We are grateful for their continued support of our program.

Boat wash: 18 in/43 out

Kiosks: 12 at Narrows, 11 at North, 3 at Horseshoe, 1 at Heald, 1 at Farrington

Only losing 1 Inspector as they are returning to school. Coverage should be very good thru Labor Day and into September as weather permits.

Two weeks ago while inspecting at Farrington Pond, Marty Prox encountered 2 employees of DEP. They were taking several water and soil samples for chemical analysis and checking for clarity. They were also heading to Trout and Cushman Ponds for the same process. They randomly check lakes and ponds around the state each year. It's nice to know they are out there monitoring the waters for possible changes. Results won't be available until next spring.

Diane updated the committee that she submitted three additional snails to the VLMP for analysis and was told that they were Native Mystery Snails. As a result there is a small chance that the original snail suspected to be a Chinese Mystery Snail could be a very large native. The Stewards have been updated and no snail reports have come in as of yet.

Marketing & Fundraising: Jay Hunter – Proceeds from the boat that was donated to us should be available soon. Thank you notes to all boat owners and Lee Conary that participated in the LOHD boat show went out thanking them for their participation in the show

Communications & Liaison: Steve Lewis – Steve reported he is up to date with all thank you letters. He asked if a picture of Horseshoe Pond had been taken yet, Diane will follow up.

Cushman Pond IAP Eradication: Jim Buck submitted an update for Diane to read:

Cushman Pond Milfoil Status through August 20th 2016

Year To Date Summary:

The Cushman Pond volunteers have conducted 6 surveys through August 20, 2016. To date we have located and matted 9 plants for an estimated volume of 1.13 gallons. Each of these values are running at significantly less than the 2015 results where we harvested a total of 32 plants for 3 gallons.

The location of the plants being found is positive as our findings have been limited to two major locations whereas as recently as 2014 we were finding plants at numerous locations around the shoreline. For 2016 we've harvested six plants from the outlet cove area which was the original infestation and through the years has been the site of more than two-thirds of the findings. This year's other hot spot is located on the northwest shore where 3 plants have been harvested and matted.

The number of volunteers participating is slightly down from this point last year (126 vs 138) but we have had no LIPPC support and no visits from Selectmen as we had in 2015. There's been a noticeable number of new volunteers as new pond residents have begun to participate.

Our final scheduled survey is scheduled for Saturday September 3rd of Labor Day Weekend. We expect a large number of volunteers and plan to have the scuba divers conduct a detailed search of the deeper water of the outer cove and edge of the littoral zone. At the same time the hookah divers will search the edge of the cove and the recent hot spot. We also plan to have two groups of snorkelers cover the shoreline for the rest of the pond. Finally we will have the shallow weedy waters of the inlet cove covered by paddleboard.

We hope to find no plants as was the result of the July 2nd survey.

Following the survey on Saturday evening we will have our annual pond milfoil cookout which has turned out to be the biggest social event of the Cushman summer season. (OK entire year) We will share thanks for support, celebrate our successes and make plans for next year which include expansion and better use of our Cushman Milfoil Facebook site.

After Labor Day we may schedule additional surveys depending on the water temperature and potential growing season.

After the comments were read, Sue Hamlin asked if there was anything that LIPPC could do at this time? Doug Faille said at this point they are all set.

Doug Faille was asked if he would like to join the committee and be the point person for the Cushman Pond committee - he agreed. The committee will vote on this.

Education & Awareness: Sue Hamlin reported - Sue would like to hold a brainstorming session to get ideas for next year's Educational focus. She will send out an email to everyone on the date. All are welcome, not just Education committee members.

Stewardship : Wes Huntress –

1. Over half of the stewards have made at least one patrol by the end of July.
2. One steward, Scott Rickard will not be in Maine this summer and Diane has volunteered to cover his shoreline in the Upper Bay.
3. Jane Denner on Horseshoe Pond also will be unable to cover her shoreline this year and Steve Lewis stepped up to cover it for her.
4. Sucker Brook and the Outlet have been patrolled for the first time by Cynthia Westlund, our newest steward, and both found to be invasive free.
5. Will be expecting August steward patrol reports in early September.
6. The LIPPC Social on Aug 14 was held at my house and seemed to be a success. Something like 35 stewards attended along with guests. The food was donated by Ralph Tedesco again this year. The wine, beer and soda were donated by myself. Tim Cyr and Judy and Tim Silva provided support with ice chests, trash cans, lemonade and tea, setup and cleanup.

Wes also asked for the groups approval to give the Native plant inventory to the KLWA with LIPPC notes as the source, and the group unanimously approved.

New Members and Nominating: Ed Poliquin - no report

Surveyor Group - Tim Cyr - 1) I attended the Advanced Plant ID session at VLMP last week. Great refresher. I did 'ok' at identifying plants and learned much more. I will share this information with group and feel a bit more confident analyzing plants.

2) We have 4 committed patrollers (Tim, Mike McGuire and the Koops) and are committed to doing a survey sometime within the next several weeks. We need to choose a site. I recommend a small area near a boat launch (Level 1 survey). We can do Farrington but I would ask the group to help me prioritize. I recommend we pick a body of water that has not or will not be surveyed by paid survey group in the near future. Open for suggestions.

3) Mike has committed to our group. He doesn't have a t-shirt yet. I will get him a t-shirt at his swearing in ceremony.

Discussion followed on possible places to perform the Level 1 survey including Farrington Pond, Bradley Pond and Pleasant Point.

Projects to be reported on next meeting:

Canoes and Kayaks

Road Associations

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 6:30 PM. The next meeting is scheduled for 5:30 PM September 22nd at the Charlotte Hobbs Library.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Caracciolo, Chair