

LIPPC Minutes of August 24, 2017 Meeting

Gene Spender opened the meeting at Charlotte Hobbs Library at 5:45 PM.

Attending were (incl. vol. hours): Marty Prox (17), Diane Caracciolo (Skype), Dave Mills (10), Steve Lewis (6), Ed Poliquin (2), Sue Hamlin (12), Gene Spender (8), Mike Maguire (5) Lou Olmsted (3).

Absent: Anna Römer, Doug Faille, Jay Hunter, Wes Huntress , Tim Cyr

Secretary's report: July minutes approved as corrected.

Other Business: Kayak/Canoe Sign project update – Mike reported signs were installed by Mike, Diane, and Marty.

Private ramp study update. – Ed reported questions regarding use of ramps at Frontier Camp and at Westways. They will be added to the survey.

LRR Plan update – Diane said Lake Stewards are being added to the plan and phone numbers have been updated.

Standing Committee Reports:

CBI: Marty Prox - Marty extended congratulations on the award received from VLMP and the positive impact on the public regarding LIPPC's objectives.

Through the 15th of August CBI has done 2064 inspections (1445 at the Narrows, 521 at the North End, 60 at Pleasant Point, and 36 at other locations.). 19 suspicious plants were found by inspectors (13 at the Narrows and 9 at the North End.) An additional 6 plants were turned in by concerned citizens. In all cases results were, fortunately, negative. We have lost a few inspectors as kids return to college. This will cause some reshuffling of assignments and thinner coverage at some locations. Marty might use the Pleasant Point inspector at other locations.

Marty also wanted to thank Sam Ring for painting our shed at the Narrows.

Marketing & Fundraising: No report

Communication & Liaison: No report.

Cushman Pond : Doug Faille – No report. Diane updated that a sign showing No Motorcraft Allowed has been posted at the launch site per Doug's request at the July meeting.

Education & Awareness: Sue Hamlin's presentations with Diane at the swimming classes at Pleasant Point fairgrounds were well received, as were the activities for Lovell Old Home Days. Sue and Bob also manned a table at Lovell Historical Society's Summer Fair. Will consider next year whether or not to do this again. Work is underway on next year's theme. All suggestions are welcomed.

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Stewardship: Wes Huntress sent a written report via Gene Spender:

1. 46 of 60 stewards have completed at least one patrol as of this time this season. So only 14 have yet to make a patrol report. I'll ping them next week.
2. No invasive plants have been found. Several unrecognized plants were submitted for identification. All proved non-invasive.
3. Metaphyton algae seems to be more abundant this year, but is not an indicator of any concern.
4. Lost coverage of Sucker Brook this year, but Tommy Buckley made a patrol. No invasives found.
5. LIPPC Social was another success this year, with a bit lower attendance than last year perhaps due to holding it later in the season. Thanks to SPC members for making it so.

New Members & Nominating: Ed Poliquin is still following up on possible candidates for membership.

Ed proposed inviting our legislative representative (Nathan Wadsworth) to a LIPPC meeting to acquaint him with our activities and bring the threat of invasive plants to his attention, Ed was surprised to learn Mr. Wadsworth was not aware of Milfoil

infestations on Long Lake and Thompson Lake until he read Sue's email. The group discussed what we would like to accomplish with his visit to our meeting and it was determined we would hope to convince him of the need to provide training for campgrounds, marinas, and owners of launch sites regarding the threat of invasive plants and the need for inspection of boats and information for boaters launching at their sites. A sub-group will be formed to define the message we want to get across to Mr. Wadsworth. An invitation will be sent to Mr. Wadsworth. Sue Hamlin will coordinate the effort.

Surveyors: - No report

Treasurer's Report: Dave Mills reported we are in good shape. We have received an additional \$500 from the Boulder Brook Assn. We are waiting for expenses from the upcoming survey. All other expenses are paid and up to date.

New Business, additional: Gene spoke of the ongoing problem of how to raise awareness of the invasive plant threat. We talk in our signage of penalties and fines up to \$5000 for failure to comply with regulations pertaining to transporting invasive plant material and the need to inspect and clean boats and trailers. The only case we could come up with resulted in a fine of \$200. So, enacting fines alone does not seem to be the answer. Boats from out of state are being launched from private sites (campgrounds, Marinas, etc.) without stickers, inspection, or information on invasives, presumably because the operators of those sites have not been trained and are unaware of the negative impact an infestation would have on their business. Gene needs ideas from all of us. Please contact him with your suggestions. Gene is communicating with DEP, VLMP, and LEA.

Next meeting: September 28th at Charlotte Hobbs Library

Lou Olmsted - Secretary

