



Minutes of July 18, 2010
Quaddick Lake Association Annual Meeting

Meeting called to order at 11:15 am by Gary Bessette

I. Minutes from July 26, 2009 reviewed and approved with no changes

II. Treasurer's report: Brenda Duchesneau: see attached

A. dues accepted at meeting

B. membership cards available for pre-paid members

III. Committee Reports

A. Lake Management Committee: Ron Jolicoeur, Gary Bessette, Shirley Rafferty

1. Weed Management:

In general, the lake is in better shape than in previous years at this date. Treatment had been planned for earlier in the summer, but approval from the state and town was delayed. About \$100,000 of the original grant remains. Act, the treatment company, is testing a new chemical which may be available by the end of the summer. The history of the grant was summarized for the several new members present.

2. Power generation

Ron Binnette reported that the drain had been opened about three weeks into September, 2009, but the drainage was hampered by heavy rainfalls and refuse blocking the pipes. He hopes that the power generation will begin earlier, possibly the first week of September, 2010, at a 25% level. He hopes that the dam will be 50% opened by the second week in September, and opened to 100% by the beginning of October. If the drainage is adequate, frost will help kill the weeds, resulting in less chemical use in the lake and less money used from the grant, thus extending the life of the grant.

B. Lake Monitoring

Shirley Rafferty reviewed the monthly water monitoring. Her committee has received training through the Pomfret Audubon Society, and equipment has been purchased with various small grants. Measurements are taken

once a month for turbidity, dissolved oxygen content, and temperature. Shirley has data for 3 years, which shows very stable baselines, with seasonal variances based on pollen (spring) and leaves.(fall). Explanation of testing practices, and the grants was given for newcomers.

Shirley's most recent grant is for recyclable shopping bags with the QLA name, filled with educational materials, including a map of the lake, QLA contact information, lake dos and don'ts. Bags will be delivered to the 204 homes which abut the lake, with a request to return the enclosed pledge card. Hopefully, the pledge cards will go into a raffle for prizes. Several people volunteered to deliver bags in their neighborhoods. The delivery may occur as early as mid-August.

Approval is pending for another grant.

C. Communications Committee

Brian Howell reported that the website has been updated, and that email is the most efficient means of communication. There has not been enough information for a written newsletter, so mailing costs this year were at a minimum. The date of the Christmas party (Saturday, Dec. 3, 2010, Knights of Columbus hall, North Grosvenordale) is posted on the website. Several members expressed the need to share email addresses and phone numbers within the membership. Some discussion ensued about the legality and safety of doing this. A mailing may be sent out asking residents if they are willing to allow dispersal of this information.

D. Fundraising

Brenda Duchesneau reported that the Christmas party raised about \$1000 after expenses were paid. The clown and DJ were rebooked for 2010, as were the high school students who help. The menu has not yet been decided, but the 50-50, basket raffle, and silent auction will be continued. Tee shirts are available all year for \$10 (crew neck) and \$15 (polo), but were not available at the meeting.

It was noted that the primary function of our organization is not fund raising, but water quality maintenance. At the inception of the "new" organization, more fundraisers were done, because we had not yet received the state grant.

E. Water Quality District Committee

Brenda reported that as of October 1, 2009, bill 5875 was passed by the Connecticut House of Representatives. This allows a flat rate to be assessed on every house with direct access to the lake. A petition signed by 15 registered Thompson voters is needed to bring the petition to the town council; if the council approves the establishment of the district, a referendum would be held to approve it. Discussion was held about the amount of assessment, with no clear outcome. The assessment would

include membership dues to the organization, and would be mandatory. Liens could be placed on properties if owners failed to pay. Once a workable monetary balance was reached, assessments could be raised or lowered according to need for weed treatment. These monies are expressly for water quality and would not include upkeep on roads, services, lights, etc. It was suggested that a brochure be placed in the information bags to clarify the impact of the district.

Only Thompson registered voters are allowed in the petition and referendum. Once the district is in place, QLA members would be given a vote on matters involving changes in the assessment.

IV. Bylaws Update

A. Article 4, section C was amended to read “in newspaper or electronic media”

B. Article 4, section C - the date for the annual meeting was amended to read “within the last two weeks of July”

V. Nominations

A. All officers were nominated and reelected.

President: Gary Bessette

Vice President: Brian Howell

Secretary: Kathy Finn

Treasurer: Brenda Duchesneau

B. Board of Directors

Three year terms: Ron Jolicoeur and Michael Desharneis

Two year term: Shirley Rafferty and Peter Bonin

One year term: Ron Binette and Glen Wallen

VI. Questions and answers

There was a request for additional members on all committees. Ways to bring both sides of the lake together were discussed. Ideas such as boat parades, water’s edge clean- up, and the sharing of emails and phone numbers were mentioned. As members, we should all discourage neighbors from dumping grass and brush cuttings, and disposing of waste of any kind within the shore areas.

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne Bessette

7/20/10