

Quaddick Lake Association

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QUADDICK LAKE ASSOCIATION

MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES AUGUST 5, 2012

I. MEMBERSHIP DUES ACCEPTED

II. TREASURER'S REPORT: Brenda Duchesneau. Total receipts: \$9146.50. Total disbursements: \$2,441.18. Balance \$21,246.05

III. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. FUND RAISING AND MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT: Kathy Finn: Christmas Party: ticket price was cost of food only. Raffles and auction items covered cost of hall with linens, etc; Noodles the Clown, DJ. Profit: \$6.50

B. COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE: Brian Howell: Volunteers to maintain web site welcomed.

C. LAKE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE: Gary Bessette: DEEP wants to maintain 30-80% vegetation at the shoreline, the preferred environment for northern pike. The Fisheries Department started stocking the lake with northern pike annually in 1999. No hearings were held prior to the start of this practice. DEEP representative Judith Singer reported the fishermen wanted the pike. No official survey was taken.

Permit to treat the lake was filed 3/5/12. Multiple people need to review the permit which prolongs the process. The permit was issued 6/28/12 and the lake was treated on 7/5/12. The later the lake is treated, the larger the weeds grow, leading to increased weed mass, decreased oxygen in water, which can potentially kill fish. The mild winter and late drawdown (1/12) contributed to weed growth. There is approximately \$20,000 remaining from the grant received from Governor Rell in 2007, which was granted to treat the lake for one year, but it has lasted 5 years. These moneys are controlled by the Town of Thompson, as QLA is not a government agency.

IV. NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Kathy Finn

A. Nomination Results:

President: Gary Bessette

Vice President: Brian Howell

Secretary: Kathy Finn

Treasurer: Brenda Duchesneau

Board of Directors: 2 three year terms: Shirley Rafferty, Pete Bonin

Board of Directors: 1 one year term: Rene Comtois

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V. TAX DISTRICT

A. Brenda Duchesneau/ Gary Bessette: Quaddick Lake waterfront properties were identified on maps obtained from town hall. Brenda thanked Nancy Dauphinais and Melissa Bonin for their help. Multiple fund raisers have been held over the years, but are not sufficient to raise \$27,000, which is the average annual cost to treat the lake. A tax district would tax each property that is water front or has deeded water access and has a value of at least \$1,000. Since each property has equal access to the lake, the cost of treatment will be divided equally amongst the properties. The estimate of the yearly tax per property is \$140, which would be divided between the July and January bills. The moneys collected will be utilized for water quality and administrative costs (tax collection) only.

A petition to form a tax district was completed with the help of attorney John Cesolini. The petition was signed by members at the meeting. It will be presented at the town selectmen meeting on August 7. If passed, a town meeting will be held on a Saturday within 30 days, to vote on the development of a tax district. An appeal can be filed in 30 days. Notification of the meeting will be in 2 newspapers, via email and a mailing. An information/FAQ sheet will be included in the mailing. Any town resident can speak at the meeting. Only members of the potential tax district can vote at the meeting.

If the tax district passes, a meeting will then be arranged to elect officers and a Board of Directors. Then QLA will be dissolved. The anticipated date of the first tax bill will be July 2013.

Benefits of having a tax district include having the funds available to treat the lake. Fund raisers have been inadequate and it is not anticipated that the state will provide further grants. The tax district is a government agency and can deal directly with DEEP for such issues as obtaining permits, annual stocking of pike and control of the dam. The district can also file for grants directly.

People who own multiple properties will receive a bill for each property valued at more than \$1,000. This can be avoided if the lots are combined or deemed unbuildable.

VII. QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD: All questions from those in attendance were answered.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathy Finn