

Seymour Lake Association

Board Meeting Minutes May 15, 2010

Present: Lyman McWain, Ron Kolar, Janet Selby, Tim Buzzell, Erik Lessing, Richard Miller, Alan Wooley, Peggy Barter, Tracey Shadday

Secretary's Report: The meeting opened at (9:04 a.m.) with the review of the Secretary's report of February 13, 2010. The motion was made by Ron Kolar and seconded by Peggy Barter to accept the minutes and it was so voted.

Treasurer's Report: The treasurer's report was given by Treasurer, Janet Selby. There is currently \$14,048.97 in the checking account and \$40,000 in the CD. \$1783.38 was moved from the checking into the matured CD to make an even \$40,000 at the Chittenden Bank as that had the best interest rate. Ron Kolar made the motion and it was seconded by Tim Buzzell to accept the treasurer's report and it was so voted. Janet also reported that word of the Aquatic Nuisance Species Grant had been received (no official paper work yet) and it is in the amount of \$9030 which is up from 2009 by \$2131.

Old Business:

Budget: Several changes to the budget were made. 2010 Proposed: Increase Income Swim Program to \$700, and Proposed budget : Membership and Publicity expense \$800 and Water Quality expense \$500. Spending was approved at \$15, 800 for the year.

Dam and Lake Level: Ron Kolar reported that presently the water level is 12" above the low pin. Last year at this time it was 10 ³/₄". Ron had communicated with ANR's Jeff Cueto(before his retirement) regarding the control of the dam in case of an emergency. There was a negative response from him. Ron has also been in contact with Brian Fitzgerald who is assuming Jeff's role and he is willing to carry on the conversation when he has more time. Ron has contacted Attorney Greg Howe for assistance and Ron will be writing up a proposed process for controlling the lake level based on our agreement with the state . He will send committee members Tim Buzzell, Homer Selby and Lyman McWain copies before submitting it to Greg Howe for review and then to the state. There was a conversation about removing the boards at the dam which will be proposed to be done in the fall to potentially lower the lake level and to help control the amount of shoreline erosion that has been reported to be going on.

Zoning and Setbacks: Ron Kolar reported about the conversation with Steve Matson, Zoning Administrator, that was held during the Executive Board Meeting. The Planning board is presently working on Morgan's Five Year Plan and will be working on it at least through the end of the summer. We are investigating the possibility of changing lot setbacks: that the shoreline setback be increased from 20 feet to 30 feet and the back setback be decreased from 25 to 15 feet. Water quality has been declining and it is believed that development close to the shoreline is the cause. It will be discussed at the Annual Meeting in July . There appears to be 16 parcels of land that can be either built on or subdivided for

building along the lake. Lyman will prepare the written information that is to be presented at the Annual Meeting about water quality and how it is affected by development. Ron will look into making a minimum lot size requirement a possibility.

Annual Meeting: The SLA Annual Meeting will be held on July 24th at the Morgan Community House at 9:00A.M. with a board meeting held before at 8:00 A.M. Ron will give an update on the Dam and Lake Level and lead a discussion on proposed Zoning changes. At this time we do not have a presenter. It was suggested that the presenter be the first item on the agenda and be for 10 to 15 minutes maximum.

Outing: At the present time we do not have a location for the outing on July 31. The Seymour Lodge and an area behind Woody Guyette's will be looked into as possibilities. Richard Miller will contact Woody Guyette and Lyman will contact the Lodge.

Newsletters: There is no set date for the next publication but it will depend on the amount of information that we have for it. Hopefully it will be before the Annual Meeting. Items discussed to be included are planting buffer zones, credit to aquatic nuisance inspectors, V.I.P. and water samplers, and a list of 2009 SLA members thanking them for being a member. An email newsletter will also be put out reminding people of the Annual Meeting , the Outing and the Swim Program at IROC .

Swimming Program: The swimming program will be held at IROC beginning July 5-16 at 9:30 A.M. Applications have already been sent out at the school and are also available at the Town Clerk's office and local stores. A deposit of \$500 has been paid with the remainder to be paid just before the lessons begin.

Aquatic Nuisance Program: With word of the grant for the Access Greeter program being received from the state (\$9030 this year which is up \$2131 from last year), the program is ready to begin Memorial Day weekend. Once again Bud Bergh and Reed Hubbard will be the inspectors. New signage for the access was also discussed and Erik and Janet Selby will look into it. \$400 was written into the grant for this purpose.

New Business

Fundraising: There was a discussion on fundraising and Pres. Lyman felt we should be working toward increasing our contingency fund to \$75,000. The pros and cons were discussed of asking members and businesses for donations. It was generally felt that the businesses were already hit fairly hard for area contributions. Lyman asked for a list of contributors for 2010 so that he might make some contacts with people that had not contributed.

Membership: A chart prepared by Bruce Barter showing the up to date facts and figures for membership was passed out. It was apparent that the letter prepared by Com. Chair Ted Jewett and Bruce Barter has been working very well. We presently have 238 memberships and 123 donations. We also have 149 email addresses from members. The membership committee will continue with its door to door solicitation of those that have not yet joined. The membership committee recommended that names of

2009 members be published in the newsletter as a thank you and perhaps it would encourage those who had not yet joined to do so. To date, \$783 has been spent on mailings, postage and printing.

Nominating Committee: Ron Kolar reported that the following people's terms were up this year: Tim Buzzell, Peggy Barter, and Linda Broadwater. It is hoped that they will agree to serve another term as all are active members. There was a general discussion about the potential for developing a new board member status. No vote was taken on making any changes at this time.

Water Quality: Peggy Barter reported that there were 20 participating milfoil searchers last year and 17 submitted surveys on lake vegetation, deltas, inlets, and wildlife. Any unidentifiable vegetation can be turned into Peggy or Janet for identification and if they can't do it, they will see that it gets to the proper experts at the state. Also there were reports of disturbed shoreline land and silt fences. If there appears to be a problem, Ron Kolar or the Board should be contacted. There does appear to be an increase in the amount of aquatic plant life and algae. Algal plates were discussed and it was felt that this follow up on this should be undertaken. Peggy will contact Gil Wierschke to see if he would take on this project. Signage for aquatic nuisance plants for Seymour East and other private boat launches will also be supplied by Janet Selby upon request.

Other business: Communication received from Rep. Robert Lewis and the state has stated that silt from the boat ramp will be scraped in mid May. Tim reported that the problem is also about 80 feet out from the ramp. At this point we are not sure how extensive the work will be.

During the winter, a pickup truck went through the ice between Rossiter's point and the fishing access. It will be removed on May 27th.

Len Girardi, VT Fish and Wildlife biologist, has been contacted and a meeting will be held to discuss the fisheries of Seymour, stocking, ice fishing, etc. probably in June. Time and date have not been decided at this point. He is to get back to Homer Selby once this has been set.

Meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.