

Minutes
Three Lakes Council
Meeting Of Board of Directors
Date: August 14, 2014

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Three Lakes Council was held on August 14, 2014 at 7:30 PM at the home of Jean and Paul Lewis.

Present were: Jan Andersen, President, and representing Two Lake Club; John Lemke, Treasurer and representing Lake Waccabuc Association; Jean Lewis, Secretary; Kevin Karl, representing the Lake Oscaleta Association; Ellen Adrian representing the South Shore Association; Ellen Bailey representing Perch Bay Association; and Paul Lewis, Lake Preservation chair.

The primary purpose of the meeting was to consider whether or not the Three Lakes Council should move forward in negotiations to take ownership of Long Pond Preserve from The Nature Conservancy (TNC). Jan Andersen reviewed the Fact Sheet which had been distributed to Board members prior to the meeting (see pages 3-4).

The Board recognized that ownership would be an increase in responsibility, but felt that it matched our mission. Our goals for taking over this property are:

- To reduce the chances that users would bring invasive species into our lake via boats, fishing gear, coolers, or water toys,
- To limit the amount of pollution from waste and trash by picnickers and beachgoers who visit the site, because there are no bathroom facilities,
- To improve safety by reducing the number of swimmers who may struggle to reach Castle Rock or who may be putting themselves in danger of boat traffic,
- To protect the wildlife on the preserve from overuse by visitors and dogs.

After discussing the financial and management challenges outlined in the Fact Sheet, the board approved going forward with negotiations with TNC. The board also approved the following:

- Establishing a Preserve Committee,
- Surveying the property prior to 3LC accepting transfer,
- Hiring a lawyer to advise us on land transfer documents and procedures and to assist on the closing
- Authorizing the Executive Committee and Preserve Committee to spend up to \$10,000 on this process, and return to the board if more funding is needed.

Long Pond Preserve Committee: Ellen Bailey and John Lemke will co-chair this committee that has two missions. The Preserve Committee will work together with the Executive Committee on the transfer and then the committee will manage the preserve after we take ownership. Kevin Karl volunteered to join the committee and work on trail maintenance. The committee will continue to refine the estimates of workload and maintenance costs for this property.

Town Stormwater Facility: The Town is planning to put a stormwater facility at the top of the Long Pond Preserve meadow, by Mead Street. The Board understands that this should reduce polluted runoff to Lake Waccabuc and supports this facility. The Town will need an easement to access the Preserve. The Board approved granting the Town an easement if we acquire the Preserve.

Meeting With TNC: On August 15th the Executive Committee and the co-chairs of the Long Pond Preserve Committee will meet with Matt Levy of TNC to discuss the Long Pond Preserve transfer.

Other business:

Water chestnut. Jan Andersen reported that a few dedicated volunteers searched the north and south coves of Lake Waccabuc during the water chestnut hunt on August 9. We plan a rake toss survey to supplement the searches by Jean and Paul Lewis in Oscalaeta, and Jan Andersen and Lou Feeney in Rippowam. Ellen Adrian volunteered to look for the plant in parts of Lake Waccabuc.

Financial Report: John Lemke reported that so far this year 180 members have given \$25,000 in membership donations, which does not include the anonymous donation for opposition to the Petruccelli development proposal. Last year our total revenue was about \$36,000.

Lake Association Reports: Ellen Bailey reported that the flow in the Waccabuc River is very low. No other reports were given.

Thanks: Jan Andersen thanked Kelley Housman for the great job she did in organizing the Annual Meeting/Picnic, and Ron Tetelman for organizing the grilling team.

Respectfully submitted,
Jean Lewis, secretary