

**MESSER POND PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING
Saturday, August 8, 2015 3:30 – 5:00 PM**

The 20th Annual Messer Pond Protective Association Meeting was held at the First Baptist Church in New London and called to order at 3:45 pm.

- A. 2015 Ballot: The ballot of officers was presented, after which a motion was made and seconded to accept as presented, including proxy votes. It was noted and acknowledged that Dick Denise will again serve dual roles as VP and Treasurer and the secretary position remained unfilled. The following officers were then unanimously elected and officially sworn in to serve a one-year term for the 2015-2016 season, effective August 8, 2015:

President:	John Doyle
Vice-President:	Dick Denise
Secretary:	
Treasurer:	Dick Denise
Director:	Scott Ellison
Director:	Sue Maguire Shock
Director:	Richard Showalter
Director:	Ethan Simon

- B. Minutes of 2014 Annual Meeting: Minutes of last year's Annual Meeting (7/19/2014), were unanimously approved as presented.
- C. Board Reports: Reports on MPPA Board activity and Water Protection Programs were distributed via email prior to the meeting.
- D. Financial Report: Dick Denise reviewed the P&L and Balance Sheet that had been distributed. Dick summarized that:
- The Association has approximately \$19,000 in the bank.
 - As of the end of last year, there were 58 families in the association. As of the start of today's meeting, only about half that number have paid dues.
 - The Watershed Plan's expenses to date are \$14,940. At present, this is running above original estimates because of the Board's decision to expand the project's scope. This included: expanding water sampling, taking a core sample from the bottom of the pond, and consulting on the impact of development in the watershed.
 - The Association is still expecting to receive \$3,900 from the NH DES grant and the SCC Moose Plate grant.
- E. Goals for 2015-2016: John Doyle presented the goals for the 2015-2016 which include:
- The Watershed Plan will be completed and submitted to DES for approval.
 - Final paperwork will be submitted to DES and SCC to close out grants.
 - Maintain on-going Water Protection Programs and initiate research in extending some aspects of the water sampling.
 - Review the analysis and recommendations from the Watershed Plan with the town.
 - Develop local partnerships with local groups by meeting and reviewing the Watershed Plan; outreach to Garden Club and other lake associations.

- F. Review of the Watershed Plan effort: Gabe Bolin was not able to attend. John presented some preliminary results and findings from the effort to date. Some of the points that were covered included:
- Why the NH DES designated Messer Pond as impaired.
 - The development methodology of the Watershed Plan, how it meets DES guidelines and will qualify the MPPA for future financial and technical support
 - A review of why the Watershed Model is a cost-effective way of analyzing the watershed, and the rationale of the use of water sampling and flow meters to support the development.
 - A review of the preliminary analysis of the sources of Phosphorus and sediment
 - An explanation of how a target goal for reducing the nutrient loading will be determined
 - A review of some of the preliminary work on the BMP development, their impact on reduction goals, their costs and the overall relationship/requirement to develop these within DES guidelines to qualify for financial help
 - Given these preliminary findings, some thoughts on what is next. This involved a discussion on the wetlands created by the construction of I-89, storm water runoff from roads around the pond and maintenance practices of culverts and catch basins.
 - There were a number of questions regarding the impact of septic systems, use of fertilizer, direct drainage and the assumptions of some of the calculations in these areas.
- G. Volunteer Recognition: John Doyle presented a list of members who have donated their time to the Watershed Plan development or other Water Protection Programs.
- H. Wildlife: John Doyle pointed out that he had been contacted by the Elkins Fish and Game group to maintain and expand the wood duck boxes currently on Messer Pond. The proposed locations are shown in the Board Reports that were emailed.
- I. Social Activity: John and Pat Harris volunteered to host this year's Holiday gathering. Jeff and Barbara Troxell volunteered to host the Fall Luncheon.
- J. Other Business:
- It was noted that a log had surfaced and was floating off the island. Bruce Stetson volunteered to tow it to shore.
 - The establishment of a shooting range at the end of the pond was brought up by Laura Shucart. The target practice is frequent and occurs mainly in the afternoon. The general opinion was that this type of activity is inappropriate in a neighborhood. Laura mentioned that she contacted the police and that the shooting range was operating within town guidelines.

The meeting adjourned at 5:15, followed by a potluck dinner.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Doyle