

# **Miles Pond Campers Association Minutes of 2019 Annual Meeting July 6, 2019**

The meeting was called to order by Gennie Lawrence. Attendees were welcomed.

The Board members in attendance are; Gennie Lawrence, Mary Russell, Dave Richardson, Pat Cranson.

Bob Briggaman gave the invocation.

## Opening comments and “housekeeping” agenda (Gennie Lawrence, Chair):

Amerigas is offering a discounted price for Miles Pond users; details on price and eligibility (MPCA members or Camper’s Lane residents?) need to be verified since it appears too good to be true.

Pics of boaters - please add them to the MCPA Facebook page; we hope to make this a yearly offering.

How should we proceed with a Boat Parade- when and prizes, or would we prefer to decorate boats and docks etc without prizes? Majority seemed to like decorating boats and docks and having something on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July

A letter was drafted to Consolidated Communication with a copy going to the Public Service Board regarding phone outages/ inadequate service and will be distributed for signatures during the meeting

Memberships need to increase to make this a viable organization, current contact info is needed for members, early spring email will go out with an end of summer newsletter and possibly a holiday newsletter

MPCA website is maintained by Mary Jane Russell. The MPCA FB page is maintained by Mary Richardson.

Chair requested to table 2018 Minutes, 2018 Treasurer’s Report and introductions until after the Speaker- A motion was made and seconded to table these agenda items until after the Guest Speaker’s presentation. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Loon Report: Sharlene Corliss reported that the ice went out 4/26, the first loon was sighted on 4/22, on 5/30 or 5/31 the loons nested on the island and the signs went out within a few days. The loons were off the nest 4 to 5 days later. David Gonyaw has a camp near the island and reported seeing weasels in the area. He recently retired and hopes to monitor the nest more closely. The floating nest is no longer used. A loon count will be done on 7/20.

Food drive for Sid's Pantry: Barb Corey organized a food drive during the Annual meeting and intends to have drives on Labor Day and Indigenous Peoples' Day (formerly known as Columbus Day). In 2018 Barb collected from 12 camps on one drive and 13 camps on another drive. This has been sponsored by the Association but everyone donates. Concord Health Center oversees the collected food and distributes to their patients first with the remainder going to the food shelf. Cash donations are used to purchase meat and fresh produce.

Introduction of Speaker on Water Quality Programs: Nancy Darrah reported that cards are available showing invasive species as well as the In Kind Service Forms to complete as you patrol the pond – both are on the MPCA website. Report any changes you see on the shoreline plants. Nancy is in charge of taking and sending water samples to the State once a year.

The boat wash station-monitoring program is going well. The water quality committee began years ago by Nancy Darrah, Bob Briggaman and Dave Connors. The Boat Wash Station was originally built by Scott Cromack and Mike Westine. MPCA owns the boat wash station while the grant goes through the Town of Concord and the Town oversees Payroll and Scheduling.

Audra Girouard (Concord Town Treasurer) does both the scheduling, payroll and so much more. There are 5 paid employees of the Town of Concord as Greeters. Contact Audra to volunteer as a VIP. There is a Greeter training program that all Greeters must complete. Year to date there have been 106 boats coming onto the Pond with 58 inspections. Fish and Wildlife sets the rules for the access area and requires a permit for the boat washing station to be there. The greeters question people about what other bodies of water their boat has been in and they educate boaters on why boat washing is important. Washing your boat is not mandated by law. Even kayakers should wash their boat. Maidstone has a self-check only- no greeter. Waterways continue to be invaded- both Newport and Glover (Shadow Lake) have been affected. Boat washing stations vary according to the body of water they serve. The grant money is somewhat dependent on the volunteer hours that are logged through the Activity Log for in-kind Service. This year the grant is for \$8,246.00 and YTD 30% has been used. The grant is funded by monies from boat registrations. The Town does not contribute any funds.

Boat Wash Station: Nancy Darrah advised that a new boat washing station needs to be built – hot water needs to be added to be more effective – and asked if MPCA would donate money toward this project. Considering an enclosed trailer with electricity and awning and ramp and water tank. If electric, a utility pole may be needed- and could this be propane instead? Before a decision can be made MPCA will need costs to discuss and vote on. There may be grants available through the State. Nancy will bring a detailed request to the Board. It was suggested that the MPCA needs to increase membership to

50% participation based on the estimate of there being 100 camps, in order to be in a position to advocate for grants. Whether there should be a Fundraiser specifically for the Boat Wash Station was also discussed. MCPA will have a minimum of 2 people on a committee to look into a new boat wash station. Tyler Briggs and Glenn & Rhonda Adams volunteered and will join Bob Briggaman and Joyce O'Donnell on a committee to work with Nancy. The membership voted to support the effort to gather more information and costs for presentation to the Board, and Membership as a whole, prior to any commitment being made.

Board Vacancies: 2 additional Board members are needed– nominations and vote- A motion was made and seconded to nominate Fred Laferriere to the Board. Motion passed by unanimous vote. A motion was made and seconded to nominate Rhonda Adams to the Board. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

2018 Minutes: A motion was made and seconded to approve the 2018 Minutes of the Annual Meeting as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

2018-19 Treasurer's Report: A motion was made and seconded to approve the 2018-19 Treasurer's Report as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

#### New Business:

The By-Laws are being reviewed and a rewritten draft will be presented to membership for consideration. The current By-laws are posted on the website and revision suggestions from members are welcome. Comment was made that currently only camp owners may join MPCA and possibly that should be looked at since extended families/friends who are not owners might be interested in joining MPCA and that would increase memberships and revenues.

Chicken or pork for the 2020 Meeting? Chicken

Jon has rose bushes for the taking- along with the thorns

Suggestion to make a list of resources and needs available to campers- generators, parking, refrigeration- larger items for sale or free (furniture, appliances, electronics) etc. Be creative. This could be both on FB and the website.

Rich Cutting suggested that one way to get people engaged might be to use FB more and to show the happenings on the Pond, including pictures. Campers would like to see a "lending library" to be accessible and near the road for books and puzzles. Gennie to ask the town if we need a permit for this.

Thank you to all that helped to set up for the meeting and to those that cooked the chickens.

Introduction of members: Attendees gave their names and addresses at the Pond.

Adjournment: A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.