

# **Miles Pond Campers Association Minutes of 2018 Annual Meeting July 7, 2018**

The meeting was called to order by Gennie Lawrence at 3:44 pm. Attendees were welcomed. The Board members in attendance are; Gennie Lawrence, Ben Favazza, Dave Richardson, Judith Willey.

Bob Briggaman gave the invocation.

Opening comments; The minutes, agenda, newsletter, Treasurers Report, water quality effort are all on the MPCA website as well as copies on each table. Cyndi Briggs provided handouts on Ticks. The Facebook page and website will be enhanced. Ideas to add are rental listings, looking to buy/sell, services offered/needed. Discussion on improved ways to get information out to campers- web and mailing addresses need to be updated. Gennie Lawrence thanked the people that help throughout the year: Katherine Laferriere, Nancy Darrah, Bob Briggaman, Carolyn McConnell.

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

Request to table 2017 Minutes and Treasurer's Report- A motion was made and seconded (Sharlene Corliss/ Terry Cromack) to table this agenda item until after the Guest Speaker's presentation. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Introduction of Guest Speaker, Cynthia Stuart- Gennie Lawrence introduced Cynthia Stuart, Concord's Zoning and Planning Board Chairperson. She handed out prizes to the year-round resident living closest to the pavilion and to the person that traveled the furthest to come to Miles Pond. Appraisals are anticipated to happen in one year and will once again be done by an outside agency. An overview of Concord was presented including what Concord currently has to offer. A comparison was done using Concord and Waterford current statistics. One goal is to improve economic conditions in Concord. Real estate values have improved due to Concord now having school choice. Concord is now a part of a school district that includes 7 schools and 8 towns. There is now a food pantry at the Concord School thanks to Sid Patridge's estate. Folsom Park in Concord has been renovated to include a playground. Plans are to update the North Concord Park and to promote its use. The pavilion at Miles Pond has gained in popularity and there are often conflicts with dates. Burke VT has developed and now includes mountain biking. Concord will apply for a grant for a non-profit to study recreation/tourism/local business. Burke's trails are accessible to Victory, Concord and Kirby using class 4 roads. Should there be a trail head in North Concord that includes

camping? The new owners of the dam in Concord might consider expanding open areas for ATV use. Improvements would be made to signage, parking, trails, look at ATV's/mountain bikes/ horseback riding/ snowmobiling, educating people to respect landowners, parking, restrooms, trash/garbage, fire pits. Miles Pond is an important part of the vision with a major upgrade to the pavilion being considered so that even musical events could be held there. The non-profit is looking for grants. If a new pavilion is built it would need grant money and local funds. The dam owners might have money they could donate for projects. Campers offered feedback regarding improving the pavilion and expansion. It was asked what the top 3 priorities were for Concord for revenue. Another question was if local funds are used to upgrade the pavilion would that go before the voters. The goal is to improve the quality of life for the locals. The presentation ended.

Board Vacancy and Secretary – nominations and vote- A motion was made and seconded (Dave Richardson/ Sharlene Corliss) to nominate Cyndi Briggs for the Board. Motion passed by unanimous vote. The Board needs to have an alternate Board member appointed in case there is a resignation prior to the next Annual Meeting. Karen Roy was nominated and respectfully declined. Pat Cranson was nominated and the motion was passed by a unanimous vote.

Thank you to Gary and Sharlene Corliss, Nancy Darrah and the Pickens family.

2017 Minutes- A motion was made and seconded (Beth Silveria/Pat Cranson to approve the 2017 Minutes of the Annual Meeting as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

2018 Treasurer's Report --A motion was made and seconded (Todd Pickens/Ed Corey) to approve the 2018 Treasurer's Report as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Water Quality Monitoring/Invasive Report- Nancy Darrah- The boat monitoring program is going well. MPCA owns the boat wash station. The grant goes through the Town of Concord and the Town oversees Payroll and Scheduling. Greeters are paid employees of the Town of Concord. Audra does both the scheduling and payroll. The grant money is somewhat dependent on the volunteer hours that are logged through the Activity Log for in-kind Service. Carolyn compiles the data and writes the grant. Last year the grant was for \$7800 and this year the grant is for \$8400. The grant is funded by monies from boat registrations. The Town does not contribute any funds. Fish and Wildlife sets the rules for the access area and require a permit for the boat washing station to be there. No boats were washed last year. Boats often come in the early morning before the greeter is on duty. Should the hours change to include earlier hours. Audra manages the schedule and will be asked. Even Fish and Wildlife do not wash their boats. 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. Maidstone has a self

check only- no greeter. Even kayakers should wash their boat. Perhaps better signage would help and increase the numbers who wash their boats. A new boat washing station needs to be built- Nancy has priced out new trailers- and asked if MPCA would donate money toward this project. MPCA will have 2 people on a committee to look into a new boat wash station. Cyndi Briggs and Joyce O'Donnell volunteered. Discussion on how to broadcast beach closings to all campers, not just those that live on/off Campers Lane. A motion was made and seconded (Sharlene Corliss/Pat Cranson for approval of disbursement of funds for the upgrade to the boat wash station. Nancy Darrah will bring a detailed request to the Board. Motion passed unanimously.

Drawing from new members – Scott Villeneuve won a free membership for one year. Welcome to Miles Pond!

Thank you to; Karen Roy, Tom Briggs, Cyndi Briggs, Tony and Judith Willey

Loon Report- Sharlene Corliss reported that the ice went out 4/21, loons were sighted on 4/23, 5/31 loons were on the nest, 6/30 one baby chick was born, 7/4 confirmed that there was still one egg on the nest. The State will examine the egg to determine why it did not hatch.

Boat Parade Awards- Judith Willey; Thank you to all the judges and participants. Ben Favazza will take over the parade. Barbara Corey to deliver a gift to the Luthers from last year's parade. The water ski performance will continue. The Pickens family won the prize for the largest crew and the most patriotic. They received a prize from last year's parade that includes a prize made in Concord Vermont. The Richardsons won the prize for most humorous with their police boat. The Athertons won first prize for life on Miles Pond and their prize included the coveted Miles Pond buoy. Discussion followed on how to increase participation- possibly have it on the 4th- more casual and no competition- everyone out on the water and tour the pond and then drop anchor for socializing.

New Business; One camper mentioned that they did not appreciate seeing a drone flying over their home at 10PM one evening. Apparently the drone was off course and the operators apologized.

Thank you to; Dave and Mary Richardson, Scott and Terry Cromack, MJ Russell and Joel Fitzgerald, and to the devoted fireworks anonymous providers for some spectacular fireworks displays.

Adjournment; A motion was made and seconded (Beth Silveria/ Sharlene Corliss) to adjourn the meeting at 5:35 pm.