

Citizens Restoring Congamond, Inc.
Minutes of the Executive CRC Board Meeting
April 10, 2018

The CRC/Babb's Board Meeting of Citizens Restoring Congamond, Inc., was called to order by President Deb Herath at 6:09 p.m. on Tuesday, April 10, 2018 at Legends of the Lake Restaurant, Southwick, Massachusetts.

A quorum was established with the following Officers, Directors and members present:

Deb Herath	President
Kevin Maloney	Vice President
Linda Champagney	Secretary
Ron Greene	
Jerry Crane	President Emeritus
Drew Seibert	Social Media
Beth Thomas	

Those absent:

Ann Gustafson	Treasurer
Rob Tatro	
Steve Schmid	Director of Pond Ecology
Ginny Graves	Babb's Project Treasurer
Rick Seaman	
Sharon Jones	Hospitality Co-Chair
Sandie MacDowell	Hospitality Co-Chair

New Business

Deb called the meeting to order and went over the agenda.

Beth Thomas mentioned "Just Fundraisers," which has a number of fundraising activities, one of which is cookie dough, which she thought was a good idea.

Another Savers donation trip was discussed and the date will be dependent on when Kevin Maloney and Beth Thomas can drive the goods to Savers.

Ron Greene mentioned that he had won a buoy mooring at Saunders and suggested that we use his prize as a raffle for CRC. \$5 was suggested as a ticket price. The value of the buoy for the season is \$1200.

Ron also mentioned that he will be doing a lot of motorcycle inspections this year and suggested that we advertise that \$1 will be donated to CRC for each inspection.

Jerry Crane moved to adjourn. Linda Champagney seconded. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:36 p.m.

Submitted by: Linda Champagney, Secretary

General Meeting

Attendance: 47 including the Board.

Meeting was called to order at 7:02 by Deb Herath, President.

The Board Members introduced themselves. New attendees were asked to raise their hands.

Speakers were introduced.

Douglas Moglin, Chairman, Southwick Select Board, spoke about concerns facing both Southwick and Suffield, including upcoming merger of Southwick and Westfield ambulance services, which he felt might not be right for Southwick. He felt Southwick would be much more responsive to the Town's needs as it is now is. The Town Meeting will be May 15th and the items on the agenda are:

The Jet Ski issue on North Pond was brought up. There's a discrepancy as to whether North Pond is to be considered one body of water or if it is part of the Congamond Lakes. If it is considered alone, it is too small for jet skis. If it's considered as one body of water with the other 2 ponds, it is big enough for jet skis. The state will not give a definition. There has been a prohibition for 35+ years but no tickets have been written and no State EPA tickets have been written. It is probably best for Southwick to enact a by-law concerning whether or not jet skis are permitted on North Pond and once enacted, the local constabulary will be able to write tickets for infractions. There will need to be a Town meeting for this. The law will not be in place this year.

The Local Permitting Program was mentioned. It is a better idea to go the LPP route in CT and MA to keep the funds local, which will provide funds to have more patrols on the lake, rather than having to go through the State process, which is much more complicated, more expensive, and the funds are NOT kept locally. They go to the State. If you have a dock, a raft, a buoy in the water, you need to get them registered through the LPP.

Fishing is not allowed in duly marked swimming areas or in any area where people are obviously swimming.

Wendy LaMontagne of Suffield Parks & Rec spoke about Babb's. Last year Babb's was open, this year it will be open again. CRC Members are allowed in free. The Kiosk fell over and the Highway Department is taking care of it. We are reminded if we see something, say something. The park will be open from 9 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.; they're looking for life guards and gate attendants. Suffield residents are free, out of town residents who are not CRC members are \$20/car. Plans are to improve the park yearly. The Highway Dept. is to put in a walkway. Volleyball, horseshoes will be available.

Melissa Mack, First Selectman of Suffield, will be at our next meeting. The sandpit will be spoken about. The road is to be improved this spring.

Golf and tennis lessons at reasonable rates are being offered this year through Parks & Rec in Suffield.

Wendy is retiring after 25 years on May 31st. She congratulated CRC on being so focused and compared us to the Energizer Bunny. She thanked us and urged us to keep going.

Lt. Kevin Bishop is taking over July 1 as Southwick's Police Chief and Harbormaster. He stated that he likes to work together and stresses communication, with an open door policy. His cell phone is on his business card, which he passed out freely at the meeting. He looks forward to working with us all, and he has a good rapport with Suffield Police Department.

It was suggested that we need more police presence around dusk. He explained that there are some boat officers and other boat observers.

It was suggested the Police Boat be kept at Saunders with a light shining on it to avoid vandalism. Apparently the Fire Boat has had broken bottles in it.

It was mentioned that reflectors are the law on long docks, but lights are better in the dark. There are solar options.

Dick Grannells, LMC, spoke about a safe boating course to take place May 1 to May 4. You receive a certificate if you pass which can result in a discount on your insurance if your insurance company offers one.

There's a 75' maximum length on docks and solar lights may be purchased at Ocean State Job Lot at a reasonable price. Docks must be removed from the lake by December 1.

Wakes were discussed, for instance, your wake could injure or kill someone and you'd be liable for it. 5mph max in a no wake zone, but realize that a deep v hull causes a wall of water. Pontoon boat "headlights" are NOT headlights, they're docking lights.

Bubblers are illegal. Saunders bubblers are grandfathered.

The Annual Budget was presented for Membership Approval and it passed.

The first Monday in May is the annual lake treatment.

There are 4 \$20,000 grants for storm water treatment. Middle Pond is mostly done. Still need to do the south end of Middle Pond and then South Pond. Asking State of CT to clean up Suffield side.

Lake Clean-up was also mentioned, particularly canal cleanup. The canal is backed up again. Volunteers are needed.

Our next meeting is May 8, 2018.

As there was no more new business, the Meeting adjourned at 8:31 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda M. Champagney
Secretary