



**CRC MEETING MINUTES
4-12-22 BOARD MEETING - BRASS RAIL & ZOOM**

ATTENDANCE: Michelle Pratt –President, Scott Snyder-Perusse-Vice President, Mike Orszulak -Treasurer, MaryAnn Philo-Secretary, Deb Herath–Emeritus, Sharon Jones-Hospitality, Linda Champagney

Absent: Jerry Crane-Emeritus, Ginny Graves, Kevin Maloney, Penni McEleney, Beth Thomas

DISCUSSION:

The meeting was called to order at 6:15 pm

Michelle announced that Selectmen from Suffield and Southwick, Colin Moll and Doug Moglin and Dick Grannells from Lake Management Committee will make presentations at the General Meeting.

The minutes from the 3-1 Board Meeting were unanimously approved.

The board voted to present the budget at the next meeting because it needs further review.

Some members requested CRC apparel, because it was inadvertently left on the website after the board decided not to offer it with membership. It has been removed from the website and when the membership information is in, MaryAnn will supply requested items.

Thank you to the CRC and Lake Management Committee members who volunteered to help put in the docks at the Middle Pond north boat launch. CRC needs to notify membership of the lake weed treatment date, and put it on our social media, so people are aware of when it will take place. Michelle will ask the Selectmen if there's a way to get this information out on a robocall to lake residents.

Scott volunteered to coordinate any North Pond Projects and clean up.

Michelle would like to do the Golf Tournament again this year. The budget for this event is difficult to predict because the donations, memorial contributions and participant numbers vary. There's a profit margin built into the cost for every golfer and dinner, raffle prizes are donated, and combined with the memorial contributions and sponsorships, the tournament is successful. Michelle wants to plan it for a September date

The 4th of July boat parade is scheduled for Saturday, July 2nd. A suggestion was made to have a band play at Babb's starting around 2pm. This will be discussed at a future meeting. Scott thinks the sound system is in good working order, however it wasn't used last year due to the rain.

Michelle will try to plan a presentation about the benefits of the controlled burning that takes place at the Wildlife Management area near the North Pond property.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55pm

4-12-22 GENERAL MEETING BRASS RAIL & ZOOM

DISCUSSION:

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm

Michelle introduced the CRC board and welcomed the guest speakers, Selectmen from Suffield and Southwick, Colin Moll and Doug Moglin, and Dick Grannells from Lake Management Committee.

Colin Moll introduced himself and is looking forward to working with CRC. He is working to obtain grants to improve the Babb's beach property which will benefit the lake. He will notify residents about the lake weed treatment by email, website and robocall if possible.

Dick Grannells from the Lake Management Committee gave a presentation. He spoke about monitoring of lake water levels, and actions that are taken to keep the levels under control. When the lake water rises to very high levels, the boat wakes cause erosion damage to beaches, so the lakes are closed to motorized vehicles. Canal Brook and Great Brook are outlets where the lake is supposed to drain. Over the years they have filled in and become swampy, so after heavy rains they fill up and the water back flows into the lake. There are new weir gates being manufactured for the area near Great Brook to aid in preventing backflow. Great Brook and Canal Brook need to be dredged, which will cost millions of dollars. Dick has been working with the National Resources Conservation Service (NCRS) to get funding to dredge the Brooks. Recently NRCS put Lake Congamond on their list to do a study for funding. CRC has voted to fund lighting for buoys on the lake. Dick has been working with the Southwick Police and the Hampden County Sheriff's Department to come up with a design for this. The buoys cost about \$1000 each so any vandalism that is witnessed should be reported to the police. The state has approved boat house at the Middle Pond north boat ramp that will allow a police boat to be put in the water quickly to increase response times.

Southwick Selectboard member Doug Moglin gave a presentation. The select board approved funding for a new boat and has asked for funding for increased patrols on the lake. The Selectboard is working in conjunction with Lake Management Committee, the Conservation Commission, and the various Southwick Town Boards to make the right decisions concerning the old Crabby Joe property. The

Selectboard is concerned about the condition of the property as well as lake safety. Mr. Moglin stated that robocalls can be made only to lake residents and will help to notify people of the lake weed treatment. Michelle announced that CRC volunteers will help restore the North Pond property when the state advises what needs to be done.

CRC will present the budget at the May meeting. A reminder to sign up for Amazon Smile and choose CRC as the organization for donation.

The fees for membership will remain the same as last year. Free membership into Babb's beach with CRC membership will continue this year.

The 4th of July Boat Parade and the Golf Tournament events will be held this year. Refer to the Board Meeting Minutes for details

The CRC board is updating the By-Laws. CRC member Al Goldman is a retired attorney, and is helping CRC with revisions, and Al has enlisted the help of a friend, Jeff Jacobson. Thank you to both attorneys for their advice and support.

CRC meetings will remain both in person and ZOOM on the 2nd Tuesday of the month.

The next meeting will be May 10th and the guest speaker will be Eric Mueller from Lake Management Committee to talk about Lake Congamond water quality. If anyone has any ideas for future meeting topics, contact Michelle.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm