



**CRC MEETING MINUTES  
5-10-22 BOARD MEETING - BRASS RAIL & ZOOM**

**ATTENDANCE:** Michelle Pratt –President, Scott Snyder-Perusse-Vice President, Mike Orszulak -Treasurer, MaryAnn Philo-Secretary, Deb Herath–Emeritus, Jerry Crane-Emeritus, Sharon Jones-Hospitality, Linda Champagney, Kevin Maloney, Penni McEleney

**Absent:** Ginny Graves, Beth Thomas

**DISCUSSION:**

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 pm

Michelle announced that Dr. Eric Mueller from the Lake Management Committee (LMC) will do a presentation on water quality data at the General Meeting.

The minutes from the 4-12 Board and General Meetings were unanimously approved as amended.

Mike reviewed the Treasurers Report. There is \$13,871.11 in the checking account, \$16,788.48 in the savings account and \$44,565.65 in the investment account. The checking account total includes membership drive total to date of \$7,042.00.

There are many membership envelopes that were returned undeliverable from the post office. Mike will bring those to the next board meeting so they can be reviewed, and the data base can be updated.

Deb did a LMC update. Dick Grannells attended the board meeting and provided additional information. Canal Brook and Great Brook are in phase 1 for getting approval to be funded by the National Resources Conservation Service for dredging. This phase is being completed by an outside organization which will expedite the decision process to determine what environmental work needs to be done pending funding availability. This should be completed in the fall, so further information will be available at that time. LMC is also seeking funding from the State of Massachusetts for funding to dredge shallow coves on the lake. New weir gates for Great Brook are scheduled to arrive at the end of June to be installed in July. The Southwick Police Department in conjunction with LMC is proceeding with a prototype plan to get lights on the buoys which will make nighttime navigation on the lakes safer.

The board agreed to pay for printed thank you notes, which will include the updated logo. The

suggestion was made to make some of the note(s) preprinted, leaving room for a personal note if needed. Deb will research this and report back at the next meeting.

Michelle doesn't have the Committee Volunteer information available. Mike said there were volunteers on the membership forms and this information needs to be collected to organize some committees.

Dick asked that CRC volunteers help clear debris near and north of the weir gates. Scott will look at it and report back what is required.

The 4th of July boat parade is scheduled for Saturday, July 2<sup>nd</sup>. Michelle suggested getting a rain date for the parade, which would be requested when the permit paperwork is submitted. The board agreed and voted to have a rain date on Sunday at 4pm. Prior to the meeting, Michelle addressed the board by email about paying a band, Water Rats to play at Babb's beach in the afternoon before the parade. The board members had multiple comments and concerns, so Michelle invited Jan Dudek, a band member to the board meeting to address some of the concerns. A portion of the cost of the band is attributed to travel, since some of the band members live out of town. Additionally, CRC would need insurance, so Michelle would ask volunteers to kayak around the boats watching the band requesting donations to CRC to reduce costs.

Mr. Dudek spoke about the concert he performed on the lake last year and its popularity. He thinks this concert could bring in approximately 200 people to the event, which would help to raise money for CRC. There were concerns about the timing because the boat parade starts lining up at 4. The band could have an opening band and usually plays for about 2 hours. The band has its own sound system and will be setting that up for the day, allowing CRC to use it to make announcements. The board needs to decide if this is a fundraiser or a social function, and how to proceed. This will be decided later.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05

## **5-10-22 GENERAL MEETING BRASS RAIL & ZOOM**

### **DISCUSSION:**

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm

Michelle introduced and welcomed guest speaker Dr. Eric Mueller from the Lake Management Committee (LMC). Dr. Mueller gave a presentation on Congamond Lake health and water quality. The post Alum treatment data looks very good since there are no algae blooms for the second year, and the water clarity is better than it has been in 10 years. There are many water samples taken and analyzed for a variety of things that help to determine what actions need to be taken to keep the lakes clean. This data helps when applying for funding. Currently, LMC is applying for funding for the dredging the canals and nutrient rich water in the shallow coves. Dredging of the canals will significantly help to control water quality.

LMC is concerned about the addition of a marina on South Pond because additional boats on the lakes could impact lake safety. The studies that have been done report the maximum number of boats for safe boating should be no more than 5 to 10 boats per boatable acre of water. Congamond Lakes has about 300 boatable acres, which means about 60 boats on the lake would be considered safe. The State of Massachusetts boat launches on Congamond Lakes provide 57 parking spaces, so with the addition of homeowner boats on the lake, boat safety is currently a concern. The application for a transient dock for boaters to use to access the restaurant is good for business and won't increase the number of boats on the lake. LMC suggests reaching out to the Planning and Select Boards with comments on this proposal.

Mike reviewed the current accounts and presented the 2022 budget which was approved. Refer to the General Meeting minutes for details.

Scott will be organizing a North Pond cleanup/restoration and will be helping LMC with some beaver dam destruction north of the weir gates. Volunteers will be asked to help when the dates are selected.

Thank you to Alan Goldman and his legal associates for helping CRC update the bylaws. Those will be presented when they are finalized.

CRC is looking for volunteers to join committees and to help organize and plan fun events. Anyone interested should contact Michelle. The boat parade will be held on July 2<sup>nd</sup> with a patriotic theme. The board is considering having music this year and more information will follow.

The first golf tournament held last September was very successful, so CRC is planning to have another tournament in September 2022. More information will be forthcoming.

CRC membership voted to join LMC and oppose a new marina being proposed on South Pond because of lake safety. The motion for CRC to take a stand and agree with a proposal for a restaurant with only transient docks and no marina was approved. CRC will post current information pertaining to this issue and update membership about important meetings.

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

The next meeting will be June 14th and the guest speaker will be Harbormaster and Chief of Police Robert Landis.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm