

West Hill Lake Shore Property Owners Association
Minutes of Membership Meeting
Saturday, June 29, 2013

Attendees – Officers and Governors:

Pat Gallagher, President
Peter Hawley, Vice President
Barbara Linton, Corresponding Secretary
Jill Smith, East Governor
Blake Hall, South Governor
Tom Beecher, Past President
(Unable to attend: Susan O'Rourke, Treasurer, Nancy Gilbert, Recording Secretary, and Stash Karoliszyn, North Governor)

Attendees - Committee Members:

Linda Gallagher, Membership Committee
Brenda Pelletier, Local Issues, Barkhamsted
Blake Hall, Local Issues, New Hartford
Bill Adamsen, Lake Protection Committee

Location: Camp Workcoeman, New Hartford CT

Minutes: The meeting was called to order at 10:53 AM with a thank you to Governor Jill Smith and her East Side neighbors, along with Lou Seiser and the Camp Workcoeman Boy Scouts, for hosting the brunch before the meeting. The Officers and the Governors were introduced.

Pat opened floor for questions about the minutes from the previous meeting. There were no questions or corrections. Upon motion duly made and seconded the minutes of the August 25, 2012 membership meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report: In Sue O'Rourke's absence, Pat gave the Treasurer's report as follows: WHLSPOA has \$11,800 in its checking account and \$9,903 in its annuity account. We received \$4,760 in member dues and have spent \$204 for postage and printing. Our budget has a positive variance of \$395. We increased the 2013-2014 budget expense for water testing to \$5,000. To cover the costs, regular member dues increased by \$10 to total of \$70/year. Associate member dues remain flat at \$50/year. During the last year, we collected \$6,600 in dues and earned \$298 in interest in the annuity. We had \$8,090 in expenses, leaving a net loss of \$1,050. We currently have 107 regular members and 27 associate members.

There were no questions about the report. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the financial report, 2013-2014 budget, and dues level were approved.

Membership Committee Report:

Linda Gallagher gave the membership committee report. A member list was circulated for corrections, updates and email. New members were introduced including Allison

and Duncan Kruse and Dave McNally. Linda mentioned that she and her co-chair, Lynn Florio, will travel around the lake to meet new residents and to reengage with owners who have not recently been active in WHLSPOA.

Local Issues:

New Hartford –Blake Hall noted that changes in zoning regulations may impact future building around the lake. No other issues to report.

Barkhamsted - Brenda Pelletier reported that the DEEP has been present at the boat launch on the lake 5 days per week and encouraged members to go online or write a letter to DEEP to encourage continued support. Training was conducted for volunteers to learn how to identify invasive weeds. Additional trainings may be scheduled.

Lake Protection:

Steve Unger and Bill Adamsen gave a presentation on water quality and aquatic plants. Specifically they discussed a pressing need to hunt for one invasive aquatic (Curly Leaf Pondweed) that was identified in a 2005 CAES survey but has not been identified since including in last year's September CAES Survey. Are we just looking at the wrong time? Our Limnologist, George Knoecklein, has been retained to perform a survey in July to document the presence of two other prevalent Pondweeds (Large Leaf and Red Leaf) as well as the observed Filamentous Algae. Both of those non-invasive Pondweeds have populations that have established themselves very aggressively with the former around Teddy Bear and both in many shore locations with a large population of Red Leaf Pondweed established along the east shore. Dr. Knoecklein feels mid-July is too late to optimally search for Curly Leaf Pondweed. This is something we will plan for next summer – perhaps using volunteer labor to assist (see WHPA web-site article). The water quality monitoring report, however, continues to show that the lake has good clarity and is one of the clearest lakes in CT.

Bill also advised of revised zoning regulations impacting development in the watershed and encouraged owners thinking of building or renovating to consult with the Town of New Hartford as well as landscape architects to mitigate stormwater runoff from their property when considering any development development or renovation. Bill indicated that the Water Quality Committee and West Hill Pond Association continue to work with developing relationships with town officials to pursue the objective of more up-to-date and improved storm-water regulations for the West Hill Pond watershed.

West Hill Pond Association:

Storm water runoff: Skip Sly advised that storm water runoff is the most significant cause of negative impacts on the health of the lake. Modest progress has been made to date to mitigate the storm water runoff issues identified in the recent Lennard storm water study, but much work still needs to be done. Dave McNally, President of LAPOA, advised that LAPOA was undertaking to deal with its storm water runoff issues on the road adjacent to the LAPOA beach in the next 1-2 years. Skip encouraged every

member to take personal responsibility to control runoff of water from their property—and do what is needed to prevent it.

Gate House/Dam: Skip gave an update on the Gate House/Dam located on the north end. The State of CT has questioned the ability of the dam to meet requirement for a “100 year” event and seeks a plan from WHPA to address their concerns. WHPA had submitted, and is re-submitting, a plan to use Perkins Road as an emergency spillway. (8-5-13 update – WHPA recently heard from the state and they have agreed to take a second look at WHPA’s original plan). If that fails WHPA will develop an alternative plan for state consideration by year end 2013. While the possibility of lowering the lake by 10 inches as a permanent solution was discussed, that was not, and is not, a realistic option.

Next Meeting:

The next membership meeting will be hosted by Marstan Trails on August 24, 2013 from 10:00 AM to noon at Camp Workcoeman.

Adjournment:

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 11:55 AM.

Respectfully submitted by Barbara Linton