

Worthley Pond Association - Annual Meeting
Saturday July 9, 2011 8:30 - 11 a.m.
At Former Peru Elementary School - 30 Main St. Peru, ME

Present - Betty Barrett, Bernie & Jody Elfring, Gary Nash, Don Sillars, Jim Denholm, Dave Davis, Tim Placey, Joseph Balducci, Jan Hooley, Fran Bird, Kathy Barrett, Sherry & Dave Clement, Pat Drapeau, Kathy Hussey, Charlie Day, James Orino, John Sea, Maynard Murphy, Bill Gates.

Don welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending the meeting. He commented on how good it is to be having such good weather. He introduced the current officers and Board of Directors.

President - Don Sillars

Board of Director - Bill Gates

Vice President - Gary Nash

Tim Placey

Treasurer - Kathy Barrett

Steve Gallant

Secretary - Dave Davis

Dave Davis asked if the past minutes need to be read as copies were available on the table and online. A consensus of the group did not see a need to read the entire minutes. Jim Denholm had questions concerning the details written in the minutes about the "Sun Set Cove" boat launch. Questions were asked about the start up construction date, completion date, and who was going to be doing maintenance at the site. Don Sillars said a startup date was to be the week after July 4th and to be completed by early Oct. As everyone agreed the construction work has not started as of this meeting. Kathy Hussey answered that the Town of Peru did sign a non binding maintenance agreement with the state several years ago. Who the town would have to do the work and approval of finances to pay for it has not been established. Dave Clement said he talked to Leon Bucher, coordinator and chief planner for the project, who said some problems had come up with signing a contractor to do the job, so there are unforeseeable setbacks. Jim Denholm said a letter has been sent to the Inland Fisheries & Wildlife asking to clarify these same questions and also about the existence of the Porta- Potty on site. He said that there has been correspondence sent asking to postpone the project possibly at least into the fall of 2011. He said there would be less boaters, swimmers and vehicles, for the contractors to lookout for. If the construction was done in the fall some neighboring landowners may have gone home by then so the noise created would be less of an issue. Tim Placey made a motion to approve the minutes of July 10, 2010. Dave Clement seconded. Motion carried.

Kathy Barrett went over the treasurer's report. A balance of \$13,381.37 is in the savings & checking accounts. She included in handouts a proposed Association budget for the year 2011-2012 with a profit of \$885.00 Gary Nash thanked Kathy for working hard to set up a budget that the association which has not been done in the past. The association is not set up to make large profits but does a good job to provide various services and activities to its members. Kathy stated the insurance

cost paid enables the Association to be covered liability wise for the store, officers, and social events. She has asked the agent for more precise details of our policy. The agent said they will have to get more information from the carrier company and get back to her. Bernie Elfring made a motion to approve the treasurers report. Tim Placey seconded motion carried.

Fran Bird summarized her personal experiences of Worthley Pond. She has become very fond of the clear water of Worthley Pond we call ours and would like to have more volunteers to do the CBI work. She would like to have two people work together for two hours to do the boat inspections. The hours anyone wants to work can be flexible just see her to be put on the schedule. She said it is nice to see the fisherman, that are coming to Worthley, usually have a good knowledge of why the boat inspections are being done and don't mind an inspection. Many have had them done at other lakes or have inspected their boats themselves. Dave Clements suggested we give Maynard Murphy a round of applause for his efforts inspecting at the snowshoe club. The inspections are our first line of defense to keep unwanted plants out of Worthley Pond. If anyone sees a suspicious plant, have it bagged and sent to the Lab in Auburn or ask Dave Clement & Charlie Day to help identify the plant species.

Kathy Hussey stated that Don Sillars gave a presentation to the Peru Selectmen asking if the town would block off the outlet beach boat launch after the new one is completed. She said they were in agreement with this request. Since that selectman meeting, they have some townspeople raising questions if the town could do it legally. Dave Clement said the research he has done on that property shows that Mr. Bryant's property deed of 1929 states the general public will have a right to access the lake; to walk, carry in or out canoes, kayaks, and cross with snowmobiles could be still allowed. Dave also said he has asked the owners of the Farm at Worthley Pond and Honey Run Campground to discourage use of their property as a boat launch sites. There was several suggestions to help direct people who want to launch a boat in Worthley Pond where to go. One suggestion was to place a sign at both ends of the pond explaining how to get to an approved launch site. Another suggestion for the Association to pay for boat owners staying at rental properties to use the Snowshoe club launch. At the state boat launch lake buoys will be supplied by the state and WPA will install them. The facility is designed for the recreational fishing boats 15' or less. As discussed earlier in the meeting there are some unanswered questions. Don Sillars finished by saying the State of Maine has eleven types of known invasive milfoil and Worthley Pond is lucky not have any.

Dave Clement spoke about the Lake Smart program. He said it is a program to show landowners around Worthley Pond how to control water runoff and attached contaminants from entering our pond thus reducing the quality of Worthley Pond. This is an educational program showing landowners how to create buffer zones for phosphorus and other containments to be held and absorbed into the soil. Over the last 4 years 50 evaluations have been made on Worthley Pond. An Oxford County Soil Conservation District representative, Michelle Windsor will come to your property, if you request, to go over five criteria's to become certified. Seven properties have so far been approved at Worthley Pond. Many others have only one or two criteria to finish to get certified. One of the requirements for certification landowners need to maintain a 10' buffer near the lake it should consist of 3 types of plant growth: 1. Mulch or Duff 2. Short growth 3. Tall growth. This helps to defuse water into the ground instead of a direct flow into the pond. The WPA pays for each evaluation inspection. Any landowner who

is a WPA member can receive up to 50% reimbursement on landscaping costs up to the first \$300. A sign-up sheet is available. Some officers and members have been going door to door asking if landowners would like to have the evaluation done and sign up as a WPA member. Dates Thursday June 30th, Tuesday July 12th & Wednesday August 3rd.

Tim Placey said the WPA store is open for business which started July 1st. New store hours are Friday 1a.m.-4p.m. Saturdays 9a.m. to 3 p.m. He has ordered new supplies. A new T-shirt showing the depth chart of Worthley Pond on it has been ordered. Merlene Paterson is asking for more volunteers to staff the store.

The annual WPA Christmas in July will be the weekend of July 22.23. Carlo & Paula Puiia have accepted to do the judging for cottages and boat lighting displays. John Dixon will supply a boat to be used for the judges to circle the lake to see the displays. Camp owners are asking to leave on their lights until 10p.m. if possible. Any boats out at night should have safety running lights turned on. Registrations will be at "The BUS."

Tim Placey talked about the WPA 5th annual Golf Tournament to be held August 13, 2011 at Oakdale Golf Club. The event that started as a fun event by a few members has become a WPA major fund raiser. He is asking for more hole sponsors and raffle prizes to make this year's event better than ever. Signs will be made up advertising sponsors and those who donate prizes. Tim needs a lot of volunteers for various tasks. Seventeen foursomes will make up the tournament. A registration deadline is Aug. 5, 2011. WPA members are asked to provide a salad or desert to compliment the lunch being served. Players will have chance to win \$5000 Hole In One, Closest to the Pin, and Double Your money with a Greenie contests. Contact Oakdale Golf Club or WPA for applications.

Under old business - Don mentioned the state boat launch has already been discussed.

For new business Don Sillars stated the officers & board of directors would like to update and reinstate the scholarship program. It was started several years ago but no one has applied for it since 2006. He said the scholarship would be an amount of \$500. Eligible applicants must have a parent or grandparent as a WPA member for at least one year. Several members asked if they needed to vote on approving this program. Others asked if this is indeed a purpose of the association and if the new WPA budget can cover the cost of the scholarship. Dave Davis thought that a vote was not necessary because the scholarship is not a new item and had been approved in the past at a smaller \$250 amount. It was suggested a membership committee will need to be set up. There was more discussion of the number of years required before someone could be eligible to apply 1,2, or 3 years. Gary Nash stated that the officers & Board of Directors as written in the bylaws are elected to represent it's members. Part of that would be to update programs and communicate any changes to the full membership. Kathy Barret said the money for the scholarship is in the budget not an extra expense. The money would come from fund raisers or donations not from the membership dues. Jim Denholm stated that maybe there should be a set amount of money the Officers & Board of Directors could approve before going to the entire membership. Jan Hooley made a motion to require at least 3 consecutive years of membership to the

WPA before an applicant can be eligible rather than a 1 year as in the past. Jim Denholm seconded. Motion carried.

Don Sillars mentioned that an Invasive Plant workshop would be held in Weld on July 25 at 10 a.m. The Webb Lake Assoc. will host. Classroom and hands on training will be held with lunch provided. Contact Jim Stuart at 585-2388 for registration information.

Don expressed an appreciation for the work Kathy Hussey and Dave Clement has done to keep the spring clean & tested. Kathy Hussey would look into what would happen if the spring was to be shut down?

Betty Barrett presented a slate of Officers for the New Year. President- Don Sillars, V. President- Gary Nash, Treasurer- Kathy Barrett, Secretary -Dave Davis, Board of Directors -Tim Placey, Steve Gallant, Bill Gates. Betty asked if there were any nominations from the floor? Seeing none she asked the secretary to cast a vote for the slate of officers. Secretary Dave Davis cast one vote approving the new Officers and Board Members as presented.

Jim Denholm asked if the WPA would consider having more Board of Directors? He would like to be on the board but there are only three positions available. After some discussions about having some bylaw changes, Jim Denholm made a motion to increase the number of Board of Directors from three to five. Gary Nash stated that the present bylaws only allow for three directors and any changes requires a vote by the membership. The Board members agreed to take this feedback and determine to place on the agenda for next year unless there was a need for a special board meeting to vote on this.

Gary Nash spoke about the WPA being able to better communicate information better for its members. At the present time the association uses hard copy, signs, and the website to inform everyone on activities within the association. He said Brian Wall has offered to open a Facebook page for us to use. Discussions followed as to the pro's and con's of Facebook. On the positive side, the site would open up new areas of communication and would cost nothing to run. On the negative side Twitter or Facebook may not be as private as some would like. Your correspondence to one person may open up areas of unwanted information being seen by unintended Facebook users. A selective program may be looked into to solve some issues. Other members mentioned that maybe we should expand the existing message board at the pond.

Kathy Hussey reported on several Peru town issues members of the WPA should be aware of. The town has issued a wind turbine use survey. The town has been approached to look at possible wind sites in Peru, possible near Worthley Pond. Taxpayers are urged to return the survey to the town office. The towns Worthley Pond spring budget is over because of required monthly testing. An additional once a year test is done for nitrates.

Kathy said as a member of the Solid Waste Board she wants to urge everyone to recycle. For the past year the budget has been able to stay the same because of the helpful efforts to recycle correctly. She added that picking up the thrown out debris beside the road would be appreciated and would enhance the beauty of Worthley Pond.

Kathy referring to the Worthley Pond spring as a public spring it creates some of its own problems. Tax dollars help maintain it but whenever testing is being done, some people get upset for the inconvenience and resort to verbal abuse. Please be patient while the testing is being done. If the spring would close, the land maybe reverted back to previous owners, the Gammon Family. She would check town records. Two articles in this year's town referendum failed this year. The swimming lessons at Worthley pond and funding for the Ludden Library for Peru residents was not approved this year.

Don had a final comments to thank the many people who helped on various committees and volunteered to make this a good year. He said he may miss somebody's name but Thanked:

Peter Brawn- Placing Lake Buoys out, Scott William - Water testing, Bruce Eastman - Water Testing, Brian Wall - Website, Pam Wentrel-Website, Dave Clement -Lake Smart, Orville Lind - Lake Smart, Charlie Day - CBI, Fran Bird -CBI, Dennis Gallant - Golf tournament, Tim Placey - Store, Merlene Patterson - Store, Kathy Hussey - Town affair updates, Christine Oldham - "BUS" ice cream social, Betty Barret - Elections, Sara Irish- Newsletter, Steve Gallant - Newsletter, Jeff Lenox - Honey Run Campground WPA Store.

Meeting adjourned 11:02