



Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Friends of Wilson Pond Area, Inc. July 10th, 2010

President Kay Johnson called the meeting to order at 10:10 AM, and welcomed everyone, and thanked the McFarlands for hosting the meeting. Ron Walden opened with a poem by Stan Walden about making maple syrup. The printed secretary's minutes of the 2009 Annual Meeting were reviewed and approved (Worthen, Reardon.)

The printed treasurer's report was reviewed and approved (Sheltmire, Ryder.) Hilary Worthen thanked Kay and Karen for filling out required government forms. We currently have \$ 26,851.00 in cash assets, including 3 CD's, and \$ 3489.00 in the checking account. The President and Treasurer will look for the best rate to replace the CD's that mature.

New Business:

- The president asked for volunteers for five committees, and passed around a sign-up sheet. The committees are: Land Conservation, Invasive Aquatic Plants and Water Quality, Programs/ Education/Booths, Wilson Pond History, and Nominations. We need to try to involve young people in the organization, perhaps on these committees, especially the Invasive Plants. Should we provide a special T-shirt?
- **History:** If you can contribute to the History of Wilson Pond, perhaps with the history of your camp, contact Ron, Betty, or Candy Russell. Perhaps we could repeat the power point presentation that Eric Ward gave a few years ago, or put it on a DVD, or scan it to our website. Chris Reardon can help with this. Someone could video tape or record Ed Walden. This group might start a collection of books on Wilson Pond History, to be housed at the Library or the Historical Society.
- **Invasive Plants:** Liz, Kay, and Cheryl have spent a little time at the public boat launch to hand out keys for recognition, but we have no way to wash boats or drain motors there. We could put up a sign. Should our mission be primarily educative? Jeff Libby will make a post and box for the public landing where we can leave some information. Kay will get a laminated sign. We need to find and train more volunteers, perhaps through the high school or the Explorers. Kay will approach the science teachers next spring. It might count as community service. Greenville has been trying to develop a group of monitors. Float planes can also be carriers. We should note this in the newsletter. Pete Johnson plans to re-introduce the legislation to ban personal watercraft on Wilson Pond.
- **Land Acquisition:** We don't currently own any property, since the easement is on land owned by Plum Creek. The committee will have to consider liability issues, insurance, etc. MCHT might be a good resource for us. Betty will contact the Woods about a possible easement. Kay will work on who owns what and where it is. She will try to get some maps for next year so that we can make a plan for acquisition. Kay has experience writing grants, and believes money is available from groups such as LL Bean and the Nature Conservancy. If anyone knows of an attorney with experience in Land Conservation, please contact Kay.
- Kay Johnson and Betty Ryder attended the spring conference of the Maine Coastal Heritage Trust. Betty attended workshops on board development and land conservation, and Kay attended sessions on land acquisition, among others. We should try to send more people next year. Kay will put the details in next year's newsletter, and a reminder on the web site.

- We might want to think about a new logo, perhaps a simpler design, and new letterhead. Kay's daughter, a graphic designer, might be willing to design one for us.
- Perhaps we should add a Social committee to increase awareness and participation. We could sponsor a regatta, kayak races, a boat parade, a progressive dinner, a chili cook-off, a float for the July 4th parade, etc. Henry McFarland would be willing to chair that committee, with help from Chris Reardon.

On-going Business:

- Informational Booths, 2010: Phyllis is looking for someone to help with the display booth set-up and take-down this year, and to take over this responsibility in the future. She passed around a list for volunteers to sign up to man the booth at Forest Heritage Days and Fly-In. She will order more children's t-shirts. WE also have some brochures and plant keys for the booth.
- Campsites: Tom Dudac is willing to make signs to replace those missing at campsites. Dillon Smith (Sandy Smith's grandson) asked for permission to clean up the four campsites as a community service project. We gratefully accepted. There is now a trail up Rum Mountain cut by Alan Ryder. It starts opposite Teasdale Island and is marked by rock cairns and trail blazes. Also, Chris Keane is interested in a trail that crosses Elephant, Baker, No. 4, and Rum. Should we meet with him?
- Water quality: Frank McIver will continue to monitor the Upper Pond, and Candy and Maynard Russell will monitor the Lower Pond.
- Wilson Dam: Ralph Johnson met with the representative of the new owner, Jean-François Corbeil of Kruger Energy of Montreal. He was told that water levels will be the same as with the previous owner. Kay sent a welcome letter and newsletter to M. Corbeil, stating that we hoped to have the same cordial relationship as in the past.
- Programs: we may want to collaborate with NREC or the Historical Society or other land trusts to offer programs. We are not yet linked to the town or chamber of commerce websites, but we should explore that possibility. We should try to list the Annual Meeting on the town calendar, as well as write an article for the newspapers before the meeting.
- Database: since we cannot all access "Access," we need to find a database which the officers can use, but we need to be aware of privacy issues. Chris Reardon and Bill Walden agreed to work on finding us a database.
- Loon Count 2010: will be held on July 17th. Phyllis and Bob Courter, Henry and Karen McFarland, Lynda Sheltmire, Cheryl Brown, Liz Peltier, and Josh Shoemaker will count on Lower Wilson, and Ron Walden and Betty Ryder on Upper Wilson. Phyllis and Bob Courter are involved in an additional Audubon project involving Loon nesting sites.
- Wildlife sightings: A fawn on Teasdale Island, moose along the Scammon Road, the eagles at the nest in the thoroughfare, bats.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Cheryl J. Brown, secretary