Dudley Pond Association

2018 Spring Membership Meeting

29 Apr 2018

Wayland Town Hall

Doron opened the meeting at 5:20 pm.

Doron outlined the evening's agenda:

* Election of Board members and Members-at-Large
* Presentation of DPA finances by Jamie Pierce
* Update from Mike Lowery from the Surface Water Quality Committee
* Update from Karen Lowery on the DPA Fun Run/Walk and 5K
* Update from Judy Currier and the 50th Anniversary committee

Noting that a quorum was in attendance, the Board nominations were presented by Doron:

* President: Doron Almog
* 1st Vice President: Eric Macklin
* 2nd Vice President: Ella LaClaire
* Secretary: Lisa Jacobs
* Treasurer: Jamie Pierce
* Member-at-Large: Karen Lowery, Mike Margossian, Julia Ashton

Doron invited any new nominations from the floor. None were noted. A motion to accept the slate as nominated was made and seconded. The slate passed by voice vote with none opposed.

The minutes from the 2017 Fall Membership meeting were read by Doron. They were accepted with the amendment that Mike Margossian rather than Mike Lowery was present as a Member-at-Large.

Jamie presented the final 2017 financial report, noting net proceeds from the Fun Run of over $12,000 even though registrations were down from prior years. DPA expenses were similar as previous years. The only notable items were $600 for the new Boy Scout constructed kiosk at Mansion Beach and $12,000 contribution to the Town to reimburse weed treatment expenses. Operating funds totaled $71,066 and the Endownment had a balance $104,408, for a total DPA balance of $175,484.

Jamie presented the proposal to obtain general liability insurance to protect the DPA's growing balance. Baldwin Insurance was engaged to obtain quotes for new policies for Directors and Officers insurance and general liability insurance. New policies were purchased with a combined annual premium of approximately $1,700.

Doron led all members attending the meeting in introducing themselves and welcomed two new members attending their first DPA meeting.

Mike Lowery presented a report from the Surface Water Quality Committee. Given the normal cycle of weed growth and control efforts, in particular herbicide treatment in 2016, we are anticipating usual spring algae in places, more hand pulling, and a re-emergence of tape grass. A pair of swans have historically nested on Dudley Pond with the benefit of scaring geese away from Mansion Beach. For the past 8 years, water quality sampling has been performed at three locations at three depths at three times of the year. This spring, the Carlson Trophic State Index (TSI) was the best that it has been over the last 8 years. Mike presented an overview of the methodology used in assessing Dudley Pond water quality. Water quality testing benefits efforts by tracking changes in water quality, providing clout with the Conservation Commission, and supporting Town permitting efforts. The improvements water quality are likely due to installation of new septic systems around the Pond, State legislation regulating phosphorus from fertilizers and household products, and more vigorous enforcement of Title 5 regulations by the Board of Health (BOH). Further improvements could be expected with the following changes: increased monitoring of nitrogen and phosphorus inputs, periodic BOH inspections of septic systems if approved by the Town, regular pumping of septic systems, and education of newcomers in pond-healthy practices.

Doron inquired about regulations related to fishing on Dudley Pond. Mike identified that the State licenses fishing and fowling practices.

Karen Lowery identified the importance of continuing to raise funds for the DPA in order to prepare for future weed treatment expenses. The DPA Fun Run/Walk is the DPA's primary fund raising effort. This coming fall will be the 22nd Annual DPA Fun Run, scheduled for Sun Sep 23. Karen invited members to solicit new corporate sponsors of the Fun Run and to become contributing sponsors themselves. She identified the benefit of publicity afforded corporate sponsors. She invited members to volunteer on the day of the race to help set up for the event, to help during the Kids' Run and the 5K race, and during clean-up after the race. Karen noted that the start times have been moved earlier in the day: the non-competitive walk will start at 9 am, the races for kids will be at 10:30 am, and the 5K run and 2 mile walk start at 11 am.

Judy Currier thanked the other 50th Anniversary committee members: Jan Dunn, Susan Green, Margo Melicove, and Jamie Pierce. The 50th Anniversary Celebration party will be held at the Sandy Burr Country Club on Sun Oct 13. Judy presented a short history of efforts to protect the Pond. Brad Bernard worked in the late 1960's as the Pond Patrol, issuing tickets to boaters who were speeding or otherwise creating other mischief. Judy identified that over $1,000,000 has been spent by the DPA over the life of the organization to maintain the health of the Pond. An early DPA effort was turning back State efforts to tear down many of the old homes in the interest of urban planning. Judy identified a critical need to engage more young members to help replace some of the current older membership.

Mike Lowery alerted the membership that the stretch of Lake Shore Drive east of Mansion Beach is being repaved and a curb will be installed on the pond-side of the road to better control storm water. Doron alerted the membership that boats left on the shore near Mansion Beach have been marked for removal by the Town.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 pm.