DPA Spring Meeting 2019

28 Apr 2019

Board members present: Doron Almog, Eric Macklin, Ella LaClaire, Jamie Pierce, Karen Lowery, and Mike Margossian.

Board members absent: Lisa Jacobs

Doron called meeting to order at 5:10 pm and presented the agenda:

Remembrance of Nancy Newhall

DPA Elections

Treasurer's Report by Jamie Pierce

DPA membership dues

Fire Chief's presentation on water level mitigation

State of the Pond by Mike Lowery

Discussion of a proposal for a new boat ramp (Article 18)

Fun Run/Walk by Karen Lowery

Upcoming DPA Events

Doron acknowledged the passing of Nancy Newhall, a member of the DPA since 1968. Judy Currier reported that members of Ms. Newhall's family took part in a walk circling the Pond this morning in her memory. Other members fondly recalled Ms. Newhall introducing them to kayaking.

Abbie Wonderly of 33 Lakeshore Dr introduced herself as a new resident. The members of the Board introduced themselves.

The slate of candidates nominated for election to the DPA board was presented: President - Doron Almog, 1st VP - Eric Macklin, 2nd VP - Mike Margossian, Secretary - Lisa Jacobs, Treasurer - Jamie Pierce, Members-At-Large - Karen Lowery and Larissa Khouw. Nominations were solicited from the membership—none were offered. The nominations as proposed were moved and seconded and accepted by voice vote.

The minutes from the previous membership meeting was presented and approved.

Jamie Pierce presented the DPA Treasurer's Report summarizing the budget for 2018. Total inflow was $21,548, total operating expenses were $10,832, the DPAs contribution to pond maintenance totaled $7,737 for a total expense of $18,568 and a net increase of $2,980. The operating balance ended the year at $72,545; including the Endowment, the total DPA balance was $178,464. The operating funds are split between checking and 1-yr CDs. The endowment is invested in a ladder of 5-yr CDs. Fred Pearson addressed the prudence of carrying a large operating fund, noting that some other non-profits had been scammed and lost their funds. The variation in annual weed control expenses was noted as a hindrance to running a budget that closely matches annual expenses. Jamie noted the interest in keeping a relatively large operating budget in order to accommodate unanticipated weed control expenses.

Margo discussed DPA membership dues, noting that the $15 for individual vs. $25 for families discriminates against individuals. Jamie identified that when dues for families were increased to $30, families opted to have only one member, reducing DPA income by $10 per family.

Mike Lowery introduced the Wayland Fire Department Chief David Houghton to present a discussion of the WFD's effort to keep Dudley Brook clear of obstructions to avoid the high water levels experienced last spring. WFD has coordinated with the Conservation Commission administrator to facilitate authority for ongoing hand clearing of obstructions. The WFD Chief strongly encouraged the DPA and Pond residents to approach the Town Administrator early when obstructions become a problem.

Mike Lowery noted that weed management in 2018 required more removal than many previous years. For 2019, the Surface Water Quality Committee (SWQC) in proposing use of ProcellaCOR. ProcellaCOR controls millefoil, not tapegrass. Six areas have been proposed for treatment. Approval for ProcellaCOR is still pending statewide. A new order of conditions from Wayland Conservation Commission will be needed once ProcellaCOR is available for use. Water quality parameters was slightly worse than the testing last fall. Spring levels are generally high. With the Sudbury River at flood stage, outflow from Dudley Pond will be slow.

Mike presented the proposal for a new boat ramp to be installed on Town-owned land just west of the Chateau parking lot (Article 18 of the Town Meeting Warrant). Mike identified that the WFD has requested a new ramp to use other than Mansion Beach. The SWQC has requested a new ramp given difficulty of getting the harvester in and out of the Pond at Mansion Beach. Mike noted that seven private resident on the Pond are contributing $500 each to defray costs. Margo Melnicove questioned the need for a $1000 contribution from the DPA to cover the cost of installing the ramp. Jamie noted that the Board voted to authorize a $1000 contribution but no monies have been transferred pending final costing. The boat ramp would be closed outside of the late fall to early spring interval from November 15 to March 15 that current Town bylaws permit trailering into Dudley Pond. Molly Upton addressed concern that the access, even if locked outside of the permitted trailering interval, could increase boating use on the Pond and introduce additional weeds. It was clarified that the WFD interest in the ramp relates to their responsibility for water rescues using a WFD boat. Mike reported that if Article 18 is approved at Town Meeting, then the construction could begin as early as June 2019 and is anticipated to be complete by the end of the year.

The issue of speeding on the Pond was addressed. Mike noted that one recent boat that was observed going quite fast was using a 9.9 HP motor, within the permitted use on the Pond.

Karen Lowery presented a summary of the DPA Fun Run/Walk, noting that the income generated supports the DPA's contribution to the Town to cover weed management expenses. She invited members to pick up sponsorship forms and solicit support from businesses that they frequent or to serve as supporters themselves.

Judy Currier reported that work has begun on the Dudley Woods project.

A request to discuss tree cutting close to the Pond, perhaps with inclusion of materials addressing regulations in the Newcomers packet, was tabled for lack of time.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Respectively submitted,

Eric Macklin