

ALTON-BARNSTEAD HALF MOON LAKE ASSOCIATION MEETING  
JULY 12, 1998

The July 12, 1998 meeting of the Alton-Barnstead Half Moon Lake Association was called to order by President Carl Johnson at 11:10 a.m. at Larry and Donna Holt's cottage at Rustic Shores.

Mr. Johnson welcomed those present, thanked the Holts for their hospitality, and indicated the copies of the State Boating Regulations, Registration forms for new members, and Personal Watercraft Regulations available for members.

The Secretary's Report of the August 17, 1997 Meeting was read and voted accepted on a motion by William Dugan, seconded by Kevin Drum.

George Fitzpatrick reported on the first water testing of the season, the samples for which were taken before the June rains and on a day when the water was so rough all of the samples could not be taken. Mr. Fitzpatrick stated that the PH phosphorus reading was good (6-7) and at that time the E. coli had tested at its usual very low rate. Mr. Fitzpatrick stated that another testing would be done within a week and that the conductivity will be higher because of the weather.

Mr. Johnson thanked the team of William Dugan, Larry Holt, Al Evans, and George Fitzpatrick who collect the samples twice a year in 10-12 different spots around the lake and are accompanied by a State Representative doing additional testing on their second excursion each year.

Bob Murray reported an increase in Algae in the Crescent Drive area this year. Carl Johnson and William Dugan urged the Crescent Drive members to activate their road association, select an area representative, and put pressure on the builder who was doing all the construction, the silt from which was running down the run-off, across the road, and on into the lake.

Ralph Booth asked what could be done about the vigorous bi-annual parties held on Crescent Beach and which begin at midnight. Mr. Johnson recommended calling the police to report any disturbance.

President Johnson stated that Alton's plans to build a new high school were on hold but warned members of a rise in taxes when construction got under way. He also urged members to clean their boats and trailers when they had been to other lakes so as not to bring any milfoil into Half Moon Lake.

Gordon Headley, who will remain as Association Treasurer, reported that 121 members had paid their 1997 dues which just about covered expenses. He reported a balance of \$3,579.79, but that he had just received a bill for \$130.00 for this spring's water testing. The members voted to accept the Treasurer's report on a motion by Ralph Booth, seconded by Joe Arigo.

Dean Williams reported on his investigation of the Half Moon Lake-Locke Lake dam dispute which he agreed to do at last August's meeting. He stated that he had copied every bit of information in the State Environmental Department file from 1954 to the present and reported that the State had found Half Moon Lake to be correct 95% of the time. He reported that in August

1970 a State Order had adjusted Locke Lake's elevation to not more than 200 feet, it having been set at 200.5 feet in 1966 or three full feet below the top of the concrete abutments to the dam.

On a motion by Joe Arigo, seconded by Mike Bennett, the members voted to pay Dean Williams \$80.00 for the two folders of copies of the information he had collected. Mr. Williams was applauded for his work on the Association's behalf. The Officers will study the information received and then put it on file with the Secretary.

Mr. Johnson explained the problem for the benefit of the new members present and told how not removing the boards in Locke Lake's Dam according to the State's specifications would allow its water to flow into Half Moon Lake which we do not want because of the chemicals used biannually in Locke Lake.

Under New Business Joe Arigo urged the improving of the boat ramp at the Alton Public Boat Launching Area with gravel, but as it is Town property the members agreed to leave it alone.

Mr. Arigo stated that the weeds (perhaps called Duckweed) near his property had grown particularly large this year and were of a type that float on the lake spreading where they go. He urged that the Association look into getting rid of them before they spread through the whole lake. George Fitzpatrick said that he had called Environmental Services and had been told there was nothing anyone can do about weeds.

Conrad Breton spoke of the silt from farms which flows down into the lake and Carl Johnson suggested a committee to look into the problem of algae and weeds. Dean Williams, Joe Arigo, Mike Bennett, Mrs. Oscar Donati, and Carl Johnson agreed to serve.

On a motion by Joe Arigo, seconded by William Dugan, the members voted to appropriate an amount not to exceed \$200.00 for the work of the Committee to Explore the Problem of the Weeds at the Alton Boat Launching Area.

Peter Nourse spoke of the danger of the rocks near his property at the point near the entrance to the cove (formerly Hyde's property) and asked if a buoy should not be placed there. He agreed to call the Marine Patrol.

Carl Johnson asked for nominations for the office of president as he had served for three years. As there were none it was decided that a nominating committee would be appointed to fill the offices of president, vice-president, and secretary.

It was announced that the next meeting would be held on August 23 at which time the date and arrangements for the annual boat parade would be set.

On a motion by Conrad Breton, seconded by Mike Bennett, the meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Elvia Hetu, Secretary