

Half Moon Lake Association Secretary's Report
August 26th, 2006

President Jon Gilbert at his home on 52 South Shore Drive, Center Barnstead, called the August 26th 2006 second annual meeting of the Half Moon Lake Association to order at 10:10 A.M. with 34 members present.

Debbie Fedorchak read the Secretary's minutes of the July 15th, 2006 meeting. On a motion by David Briggs and seconded by Maureen Fitzpatrick, the members voted to accept the Secretary's Minutes as read.

Linda Bramante who reported a beginning balance of \$5927.46 then read the Treasurer's Report. Dues and the sale of tee shirts were added to this total. Monies were paid out to the NH Lakes Association, postage, printing and maps, leaving us with an ending balance of \$6904.55. A motion was made by Ed Blaire to accept the Treasurer's Report and seconded by Frank Senkel, which the members voted to accept as read.

We then had a guest speaker from the Department of Environmental Services, Mr. Jody Connors, to discuss the milfoil problem in our lake. Handouts were given to all in attendance labeled "Variable Milfoil in Halfmoon Pond, Barnstead: Past, Present, and Future". (see attachment) Jody discussed the weed watcher program and the importance of the Lake Host Program was also talked about. The state will pay an association member to check boats, motors and trailers prior to entering the lake to prevent the spread of milfoil. Ed Blair has volunteered to take the lead on applying and managing the Lake Host Program for next season, 2007. Thank you, Ed! Prevention is number one. Once it is here, the lake needs "Weed Watchers" to be vigilant in checking for any new growth. Control is the last line of defense. Halfmoon Lake is shallow and a tiny piece of milfoil, if not taken care of, could completely cover this lake in two years. A crew of DES divers came out and hand picked the last patches of milfoil from the cove on July 21st. Jody said that the DES would return in September to check for re-growth and again in 2007 and 2008, mid-season. A sign-up sheet was placed on the table for weed watchers to sign up to be trained.

Jody then discussed the various ways to treat the weed.... depending on the size of the plant. A small patch can be hand pulled. A larger patch can be covered with a barrier mat and a really large area is treated with chemicals. Milfoil generally grows in two to ten feet of water, but in Squam Lake it is growing in 25 feet of water because of the clarity of the lake, which allows the sunlight to penetrate deeper.

Jody told the members that the state will be on Halfmoon Lake on Tuesday, August 29th, to test the water and if anyone has any weeds they are not sure of they could place them in a zip-lock bag and give them to George Fitzpatrick to show the testers.

All weeds in a lake are not bad, so please don't pull all natural vegetation.

Costs for the controlling of invasive plants were discussed. The DES will pay for an initial infestation and then will pay 50%, the other 50% being split between the town and the lake members. The Town of Barnstead has a milfoil committee, headed by Ed Neister.

Members questioned about what Locke Lake is doing for their milfoil problem. Jody stated that Locke Lake is a private lake, and they treat their lake with Diquod, which hasn't been found to be very effective in the control of milfoil. The state will help fund public lakes, but private lakes are low on the list for reimbursement.

Jody then discussed the effects of the high water levels on the lakes this year. The silt is heavy this year, the clarity of the water is down, the algae levels are up, and the phosphorous levels are up. Cyanobacteria was discussed and all the acute and chronic symptoms that are attributed to this bacteria were also mentioned.

We found Jody to be very informative and thanked him for his time and knowledge.

NEW BUSINESS

President Jon Gilbert, then discussed the purchase of the boat ramp. He stated that Gary Lee had spoken to the Capone's and they are willing to sell or lease us the boat ramp. We now have conflicting information regarding the assessed value of the ramp, the effect on our yearly dues that the purchase would make, the ability to put a combination lock on the ramp if we purchase it, the necessity of obtaining legal council, and the possibility of needing liability insurance on the ramp if we purchase it. Ed Blair made a motion to table the whole thing until we get a price for the ramp. No one seconded. Larry Stefani wants to get an attorney. Linda Bramante wants to have the legal facts upfront before we make an offer to buy the ramp. Much discussion followed. Ed Blair then made a motion to go ahead and make an offer on the ramp for \$3000. Maureen Fitzpatrick seconded the motion to send a letter to the Capones to buy the property for \$3000.00 cash. The members voted to accept the motion.

Vicki Pelletier asked that a newsletter be sent out this August telling the missing members about the milfoil and about the purchase of the boat ramp. I told her that I would send out a letter in September after I heard if the offer was accepted or not.

On a motion made by President Jon Gilbert and seconded by Mike Fedorchak, the members voted to adjourn the meeting at 11:30 AM.

Respectfully Submitted, Debbie Fedorchak, Secretary