

**Half Moon Lake Association Secretary's Report
July 14th, 2007**

President Jon Gilbert at his home on 52 South Shore Drive, Center Barnstead, called the July 14th, 2007 first annual meeting of the Half Moon Lake Association to order at 10:10 AM with 28 members present.

Debbie Fedorchak read the Secretary's Minutes of the August 26th, 2006 meeting. On a motion by Ray Gallette and seconded by Bill Dugan, the members voted to accept the Secretary's Minutes as read.

Linda Bramante reported a beginning balance of \$5927.46. Dues, tee shirt sales and a donation from the town of Alton were added to this amount for a total of \$7873.46. Deductions included printing of notices, postage, printing, labels, maps, water testing, gravel and a donation to the NH Lakes Association. This left us with a final ending balance of \$7222.59 as of today. A motion was made by Ray Gallette to accept the Treasurer's Report and seconded by Bill Dugan, which the member's voted to accept as read.

Old Business

Our President, Jon Gilbert, discussed his attempt to purchase the boat ramp. He then read the letter that he had sent to Mr. Capone on Sept. 12th, 2006. Jon stated that sometime in Oct. 2006, he received a message on his answering machine from Mr. Capone, who stated that he had received Jon's letter, and had lost Jon's return address. Mr. Capone stated that he couldn't give Jon an answer at that time, because he had to discuss it with his two other business partners. Mr. Capone left a phone number for Jon to call, but the number was not in service when Jon called it. Jon sent Mr. Capone another letter on Jan. 14th, 2007 and also a fax at a later date and to this day he hasn't heard back from Mr. Capone. Robert Hedley, president of the Half Moon Cottage Colony at Fernhill, suggested that we try at least one more time and to include in our letter the emotion of why we would like to buy it. Rene Adams suggested a face-to-face meeting with Mr. Capone. President Gilbert was agreeable to sending another letter to see if Mr. Capone was willing to come to NH for a face-to-face meeting to discuss the purchase. The purchase price was then discussed. Ed Blair said the price of \$3000 was what it has been all along. George Fitzpatrick said that the price was based on the town's assessed value of this lot. Linda Bramante and Debbie Fedorchak stated that they had been to the Town Hall to look this information up and this lot is assessed for more than \$30,000 and it was incorrectly listed as a buildable lot. Ed Blair thought we should "let it be" and use the ramp as we do twice a year and maybe add a load of gravel as needed. He felt that if we aggravate the situation enough that the owners could possibly block off the ramp so we could no longer use it.

President Gilbert said that if we purchased the lot, the liability and the yearly taxes would belong to the Association. Linda Bramante stated that she had inquired about insuring the lot last year and was told that it was uninsurable as it is. It would require improvements to be insured and there would be a yearly insurance and tax bill on the lot. A motion was made to "leave it alone" and table the whole idea of purchasing the lot. Eleven votes received.

A second motion was made to send another letter to Mr. Capone to purchase the property. Fourteen votes received. President Gilbert will send this letter out as requested.

The next order of old business was the topic of milfoil in our lake. A patch was found in front of the Bramante's house last year and the state sent in divers to remove it. They felt they had gotten it all. This spring, Linda and Frank Bramante noticed more milfoil around the same rock and notified DES, Amy Smagula and Jody Connors. DES sent in divers again and they picked out lots of milfoil plants in the cove by the Bramantes. They said they got what they could, but because of the high water levels this spring, the lake bottom is silty and clouds up easily with the hand picking. Linda noticed the same bloom around the same rock that was now 3 feet high, and told George Fitzpatrick. He called DES again and they came back again and put a dark barrier mat over the area to kill the plant. DES will continue coming this summer and again into the fall to check on the milfoil growth. They are also watching an area by the boat ramp on Rt. 28 in Alton for questionable milfoil. Discussion followed about a fisherman that was casting his line into the milfoil and what could be done to keep him away from the area. A barrier may need to be put in, but the state will make this decision. No further milfoil has been seen on other parts of the lake. Linda Bramante spoke about the one day Weed Watcher Program at the DES in Concord that we attended in the spring to help us identify the invasive plants vs. the good ones. Pat Manion said each waterfront owner and each association around the lake should be aware of what milfoil looks like and we should all be vigilant in watching for this invasive plant. Linda stated that any member that has a questionable plant should put it into a zip lock bag and keep it in the fridge for no longer than a day or two until it can be brought to the DES. She also said that you should not try to pick it all yourself because it has long roots and it breaks off easily. The area should be marked for the DES to see it. If anyone wants to see milfoil and get a quick lesson on what it looks like, they should go to Alton Boat ramp on Lake Winnepisaukee or in the Back Bay in Wolfeboro. Ed Blair spoke about the need to use lawn fertilizer without phosphate and thought a reminder should be placed in the newsletter to the lakefront owners. Linda has been E-mailing out the New Hampshire Lake Association newsletter quarterly when she receives it, to keep the members aware of State Legislative actions that effect boating in our lakes and the problems with milfoil. John Wheeler suggested that we take \$1000 and set up a milfoil fund for future use and add \$1000 each year. Discussion followed. Jon made a motion to segregate a milfoil fund of \$1000 within the current account. Motion was seconded and a majority of the members were in favor and the motion was passed.

The next order of old business was brought up by Larry Stefani with regards to the brightness of the light at Camp Mi-Ti-Na. Matt Hanson, a representative from Camp Mi-Ti-Na, said that this was addressed last year and the light was tilted down. It was still found to be pretty bright. Matt stated that he had gotten five calls at the beginning of the season, because the light was not on. He said that the people's opinions of the light can go both ways. Debbie Fedorchak said she missed the sound of the trumpet at the Camp. It was decided that as we age, our hearing tends to go by the wayside or Dan Wildes huge home is blocking all the sound waves. Either way, the trumpet still sounds!

New Business

Robert Hedley reported that they have a sailboat hull that has washed up on Fernhill's shore. It is an old, white sunfish that has been patched up many times. Matt Hanson said that it might be from the Camp. Dan Wildes has also offered a sailboat donation to Camp Mi-Ti-Na. Robert Hedley also reported a bunch of 4" or 5" yellow perch that had washed up dead on his beach. Rustic Shores has reported seeing the same thing. Fitzy said that with all the rain we have had and the turbulence in the water, that the little fish are choked off and suffocate. Debbie Fedorchak then reported finding a yellow floating tube that gets pulled behind a boat, floating out on the middle of the lake about a month ago. It has a large HD on the front and a dragon design on it. It is tied to our lighthouse with a sign on it that says "I'm Lost".

The Lake Host Program (Old Business) was then brought up by Debbie Fedorchak. A fall mailing was never sent because we had no further report about the purchase of the boat ramp to notify anyone about. Because of this, no notice ever went out about the Lake Host Program. Ed Blair would need a list of seven to ten names to send to the State and these people would need to be trained. The New Hampshire Lakes Association, who then provides the training to the participants to inspect the boats going in and out of the lake accesses, sponsors this program. They also pay the hourly wage to the participating members, called "greeters". Ed Blair has asked that I send an E-Mail to all the members that have one and include his phone number (776-2540) so interested parties can contact him about the Lake Host Program for the summer of 2008.

John Wheeler wants to take it upon himself to build a floating nest for the loons. He wants to put it in the cove by Rustic Shores to the right. Ed Blair wants him to present it to the members and vote on it. Ed doesn't want the restrictions that come with a loon nesting area. Discussion followed and the idea of a floating loon nest was tabled for now.

Nominations for Officers were then discussed. There were no nominations for secretary at this time. Linda Bramante has been nominated for Treasurer. Jon Gilbert has been nominated for President and Gary Lee has been nominated for Vice President. Elections will take place at the August 18th meeting.

On a motion made by President Jon Gilbert and seconded by Ray Gallette, the members voted to adjourn the meeting at 11:40 AM.

Respectfully Submitted, Debbie Fedorchak, Secretary