

The Half Moon Lake Associations Secretary's Report
July 25th, 2009

The first annual meeting of the Half Moon Lake Association was called to order at 10:10 AM by President Jon Gilbert at his home at 52 South Shore Drive, Barnstead, with approximately 30 members present.

Debbie Fedorchak read the Secretary's Minutes of the August 23rd, 2008 meeting. On a motion by Jeano LeBlanc and seconded by Mike Fedorchak, the members voted to accept the minutes as read.

The Treasurer's Report was then given by Linda Bramante who reported a beginning balance in 2008 of \$7680.13. Income to the Association was listed as \$1480. Our yearly expenses totaled \$1215.20, leaving us with an ending balance of \$7944.93 with \$1000 in restricted monies for the milfoil fund.

On a motion made by Mike Fedorchak and seconded by Mike Pelletier, the members voted to accept the Treasurer's Report as read.

Old Business

Mike Akstin approached two of the Barnstead Selectmen with regards to possibly receiving a \$100 donation to the Half Moon Lake Association to help defray the cost of water testing as is done by Alton. He said they weren't interested in giving us a donation, because they'd have to give to the Suncook Lakes, etc.

Milfoil was the next topic of discussion by Linda Bramante. She told the members how we, Linda and myself, canoed from the Nourse's house all around the cove and out to the Route 28 boat ramp, looking for milfoil. We discovered approximately 30 plants of milfoil growing in the cove between the Hetu's and the Bramante's homes. We then marked each plant, including one large bloom, with four-foot long stakes. The State was notified and should be coming soon to hand pick the milfoil. We will then notify the members and seek volunteers to help us clean up the weeds and silt in this area, if the DES recommends it, at that time. No other milfoil was seen in any other area, so far, on our canoe trips.

Jim Rye asked if the \$1000 we put away for the milfoil fund was a one-time deal or a yearly thing. Jon Gilbert was not sure. I said I would look it up in the minutes for an answer for the next meeting.

President, Jon Gilbert, suggested that we keep Ed Neister informed about our milfoil problem. Discussion followed about the treatment types and the possible cost to the Association in the future.

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The meeting discussion then turned to non-paying members getting letters by mail twice a year from us about the planned meetings, etc. Each letter now costs .63 cents with postage and printing at a price of approximately \$100 a year. Much discussion ensued. At this time, no vote was taken, so the members will continue receiving the twice a year post office mailings as in the past.

Dan Wildes suggested posting a 4'X4' Half Moon Lake Information Board at each boat ramp. We could then post meeting notices there with contact information provided. We could remind boaters to remove weeds from their boats before putting them in our lake. We could tell them about our counterclockwise direction the boats should travel in.

New Business

Linda Bramante stated that this year, we have received a bill for water testing done on July 10th for \$240. No E-Coli testing was done by the state when they went out on July 10th as in previous years. A phone call has been made to the State, with no reply prior to this meeting. When Mike Fedorchak does the testing in August, he will make sure that the testing does include phosphorous, e-coli and turbidity. Jim Rye asked about testing our water three times a year as the State recommends, in June, July, and August. This year and last, the water was not tested in June, due to the poor weather.

Linda then brought up the fact that our yearly membership to the New Hampshire Lake's Association has increased from the \$100 we used to pay, to \$300 a year in 2007. She wants the members to be aware of the increase in price to see if the majority of the members are still interested in belonging. She stated that we get four correspondences a year via E-Mail that she forwards on to the members with E-mail. Mike Hurd stated he is in favor of continuing our membership, as is Jon Gilbert. There was no apparent opposition to this, so we will continue our yearly \$300 membership.

Mike Hurd then stated that he would like to use part of our treasury to do something good, like a scholarship fund. Much discussion followed. No decisions were made at this time about what to do with our treasury.

I, Debbie Fedorchak, then reported on seeing a loon nesting on the Byer's beach, and the subsequent destruction of the egg and nest within a week of first seeing the loon there.

At this time, Vice-President Gary Lee introduced our Guest Speakers, Sam Merker and Tori Kentner, from the Loon Association. They gave out handouts... "Know your water birds" to the members and everyone got a Loon Preservation Committee Newsletter to take home and read. Their knowledge of loons was amazing and the members learned so much about loons that they never before knew. There was much discussion and many questions answered.

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Mike Hurd made a motion to send the Loon Association a \$50 donation for the work that they do. Gary Lee seconded this and all members, except one, were in favor and the motion was passed.

New Business (continued)

Cyanobacteria in Locke Lake was then discussed. It can be deadly to animals and detrimental to humans. It can be caused by heavy rains and the use of fertilizer with phosphorous (the middle number). We should be using No-Phos or Low-Phos fertilizer on our lawns. Sam Merker, the Loon Guy, stated that using lake water is the best fertilizer for your lawn. It has everything a lawn needs.

The next meeting for the Half Moon Lake Association will be held the weekend before Labor Day. No one was opposed to it being held on Sunday. I will call Camp Mi-Te-Na to see if we can use their camp on Sunday August 30th, 2009.

On a motion by Jon Gilbert and seconded by Roger Hatch, the members voted to adjourn the meeting at 11:35 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Debbie Fedorchak, Secretary