

## **Mountainview Lake Protection Association Annual Meeting Minutes**

**July 1, 2017**

**8:30 AM- 10:00 AM**

Nancy Steproe welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming. She went over the agenda and introduced the association officers and directors.

As the minutes from last year's annual meeting were posted on the website for review, a motion to approve them was moved and seconded.

Ruth Linder, Treasurer, provided a financial overview of the association. She indicated that the organization is in pretty good shape this year because of the increased participation of members paying their dues. After the bills were paid, there was a surplus of \$176. She asked that members pay their dues again this year and checks should be made out to the association.

Carol Maraldo and Marty Hopkins were introduced as the new water sampling team, taking over from Ward Bennett. They will sample three times per year (June, July and August.) Sampling points include the deep point of the lake, the nine-water ingress and outflow points on the lake, and the culvert off of Rt. 103. Samples re brought to New London.

Joe Maraldo indicated that Lake Sunapee has confirmed zebra mussels and he is concerned that we do nothing to control the potential for exotics moving into Mountainview Lake. A survey was done once last year and none were spotted. We do now have a new sign by the private beach gate regarding washing and drying boats before putting them in. He indicated that milfoil can move very quickly and can drop property values by 10-20 percent. Joe asked that if anyone sees something that they don't recognize, put it in a ziplock bag and bring to him – he will take it to Concord to be tested.

It was noted that Mountainview Shores has voted to keep the gate locked excepted for two weekends on the spring and Labor Day weekend. If you need to put in or take out a boat during other times, you will need to call and make an appointment. The website will be updated with the number to call.

Julia Magee then provided information about Nextdoor Neighborhood and there was agreement to try to set one up. She agreed to do it.

A reminder of the 25-mph speed limit was made and there was an announcement that the association would again try to do a Labor Day event.

The next item on the agenda was the elections. Joe Maraldo indicated that he would not be running again as Secretary. Holly Lowe-Adamy indicated that she would be willing to run for that position. All the other existing officers and directors remained on the slate. The slate was moved and approved.

A robust discussion about the two deteriorating mobile homes ensued. It was noted that Mountainview Shores was sending a letter of complaint about them to the town. The neighbors across the street are in the process of contacting the owners about buying the property. Apparently, taxes are being paid by someone.

Nancy Steproe then introduced the guest speaker, Tom O'Brien, President of the NH Lakes Association ([www.nhlakes.org](http://www.nhlakes.org)). Below is a summary of his remarks:

- There are almost 1000 lakes in New Hampshire. Our impact on lakes tends to accelerate the aging of lakes. It is not a simple thing to live near a lake and minimize your impact on it.
- The water sampling program for Mountainview Lake is impressive – 9 sampling sites is more than most other lakes see.
- The NH Lakes Association organizational goal is to extend the health of our lakes as long as possible. Lake stewardship in NH is a partnership between the Lake Association and local lake stewards.
- The two greatest threats to lakes today:
  - 1) Polluted runoff coming from landscape: this is difficult to address – also referred to as stormwater runoff. It can affect a lake by picking up material as it flows over an area to the lake; or it can affect a lake thermally because hotter water from roads goes into the lake. When it is raining, get out and look at what is happening in terms of where water is flowing during the storm and see if you can make adjustments to reduce impact. Limit or Reduce lawn fertilizer use. Also work with your town to make sure roads are draining properly. The Lake Congress has a gravel roads maintenance manual that is a good resource.)
  - 2) Aquatic Invasive Species: HB 1589 (effective January 2017) requires that you have to clean your boat and drain it out. Draining the boat helps get small organisms. Species like invasive clams or zebra mussels cannot be seen in their juvenile stage. This requirement applies to motor boats, kayaks, canoes, etc. If you are going weekend to weekend, give your craft a good wash on Sunday and let it dry over the week. Early detection and rapid response is the best defense against invasive species. Rock bass, for example, are not only invasive because they are exotic but also because they eliminate other species.
- A sterile lake with no vegetation is generally a young lake. Plants are part of a healthy lake ecology. It is important to leave native plants alone and live with them. Invasive plants are very aggressive and fast growing. For example, removing lily pads leaves a vacuum in the ecosystem that can allow invasive plants to quickly fill. If you see something that you question, take a picture and send it to Amy Smagula, Exotic Species Program Coordinator with the NH Department of Environmental Services, at [amy.smagula@des.nh.gov](mailto:amy.smagula@des.nh.gov) – she will be able to tell you if it is an invasive species.
- Lakes are a big contributor to the local economy. For example, on Lake Winnepesaukee, 30% of the property is lakefront but that property contributes 60% of the local property taxes.
- For those who vote locally, encourage people to get involved in the town by:
  - 1) Serving on boards
  - 2) Attending meetings
  - 3) Forming relationships with the officials and employees when you don't have problem so they are not meeting you for the first time when you do.

Nancy Steproe thanked Tom for coming and adjourned the meeting.