

**Watchic Lake Association
Annual Members Meeting Minutes
July 12, 2014**

Meeting called to order at 9:05 am, held at the Standish Town Hall community Room.

Board Members Present: Steve Center, Brenda Geraldo, Patty Guenthner, Patty Taylor, Bob Joslyn, John Blake, Dave Bradbury, Steve Rines, Elaine Bradbury, Paul McNulty, Don Drew, Eben Joslyn

Membership in Attendance: (see attached voting report)

President's Remarks: Patty Guenthner thanked all who have contributed to the association, including members, the Board, the sponsors, the Town of Standish, and all other supporters.

Special thanks to John Blake and Regina Rutter for their years of service on the WLA Board.

The focus of the Association going forward is to be “proactive”, concentrating on “Prevention and Improvement”, rather than being “reactive” as we have in the past. To achieve this goal we will need:

1. Increase the number and activity of the road associations around the lake.
2. Increased property owner participation
3. Additional LakeSmart properties

Yard Sale: The annual WLA yard sale is being held at Kiwanis on August 9, 8:00 am. Patty reiterated the need for donations.

A motion was made to accept the Annual Meeting minutes from July 13, 2013. – Passed unanimously.

Guest Speaker: A Presentation was made by Laurel Jackson from the Portland Water District. – Laurel explained different types of erosion and its effects on the quality of our Lakes. She stressed the need to control erosion from sources typically found around our homes, with solutions such as, crowning our roads, installing rain gardens, rain barrels, mulch, gravel, etc. and invited us all to visit the Portland Water District office to check out the many demonstrations and materials they have on the subject.

Treasurers Report: Bob Joslyn reviewed Treasurers Report. (See attached copy handed out to all members.) Bob also asked for continued support from the existing association members, and for an effort from all to recruit new members.

Capital Fund: Steve Center reviewed the Capital Fund Drive. (See Attached Annual Meeting Presentation) Although the Fund Drive (knocking on everyone's door) is over, we still need to increase contributions from new owners and new participants in order to ensure enough funds to handle any future emergencies.

Water Quality: Eben Joslyn reviewed the Current Lake Water Quality Status Report (Spring-Summer 2014). (See attached copy handed out to all members.) The quality of our lake is great, but we must remain vigilant. The following are areas of concern and some solutions:

- 1) Use of lawn chemicals containing nitrogen and phosphate based compounds
 - a) Increase awareness of issue, read labels before applying
- 2) Erosion and Unprotected shoreline
 - a) Join LakeSmart, increase shore land plantings, road maintenance
- 3) Invasive plant species

- a) Educate lake users, monitor lake, diligence
- 4) Unprotected home heating oil and personal water craft fueling tanks
 - a) User awareness, secondary containment/filter protection

Dam: David Bradbury reported all is well with the Dam. There have been extensive safety improvements made to the dam recently. Including the addition of fencing, signage, marker buoys and gating.

Website: Paul McNulty reviewed the improvements he has made to our website:

- 1) New website designed with you in mind
- 2) More information and helpful links
- 3) Memories – please send us your thoughts
- 4) Support your local business sponsors
- 5) Check it out – its where we'll post important news

Membership: Paul McNulty reviewed the status of our Membership.

- 1) Members so far 2014
 - a) Total: 96 (as of 7/11)
 - b) <40% of properties
- 2) We need more members – encourage your neighbors to join. Why join?
 - a) Better quality water
 - b) Flourishing wildlife
 - c) Continued lack of invasives
 - d) Maintain property values
 - e) Sharing with others

Lakesmart: Patty Taylor explained the Lakesmart program.

- 1) **Here's how it works:** you call or write our LakeSmart Coordinator, and we arrange to have one of our trained volunteers come to your home. He or she will walk your property to assess its lake-friendliness and give you a written report on its 'lake IQ.' If appropriate, you'll also get some suggestions for making improvements. You can follow these recommendations or not, as you wish. There is no cost to the visit or obligation to act (though we hope you will). The LakeSmart visit is simply an informal opportunity to learn how to protect the lake, preserve property value, and help wildlife. It takes about an hour.

Patty Taylor, Elaine Bradbury, Patty Center, and Patty Guenther have been trained to do initial reviews of your property. When your property is ready, they will request that a representative from Maine Lakes Society come out to review and recommend for a Lakesmart award.

- 2) **Recognition:** Sometimes a home starts out with a high lake IQ. That's not the usual course, but when it happens the homeowner receives the prestigious LakeSmart Award. More often than not, homeowners earn the Award after making improvements over a year or two. Either way, when you accept the LakeSmart challenge it's a win-win-win: for the lake, for the wildlife, and for every property owner around the shore.
- 3) Watchic Lake currently has over 20 recipients of the Lake Smart award. We are aiming for 10 more awards in order to be recognized as a Gold Level Lake.
- 4) Lake smart awards were presented to Sharie and Clarke Smith, and John and Brenda Gerardo

- 5) Not present but also receiving awards are Regina and David Rutter, and Wendi Rodriguez & Catherine Watson.

Board Nominations: Elaine Bradbury reviewed the nominations as follows:

New Board members nominated: Martha Drew, Owen Smith, Dave Ross

Board members nominated to serve another term: Don Drew, Brenda Gerardo, Steve Rines, Steve Center

Motion was made to accept them on the board. Passed unanimously.

Officers nominated: Patty Guenther – President, Martha Drew-Secretary, Bob Joslyn- Treasurer, Paul McNulty-President Elect

Motion was made to accept these positions. Passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 am.

Minutes taken by: Patty Taylor