

Berry, Dexter, Wilson Ponds Watershed Association
Minutes of Annual Meeting
July 25, 2020
9:00 AM

President Steve Kolenda called the meeting to order at 9:05 am and welcomed attendees. There were 41 people in attendance.

The meeting was held at the North Monmouth Beach because the Ladd Center, the usual location for the meeting, was closed due to Covid 19 regulations.

Officers present were Steve Kolenda, president, Donnie Isaacson, vice-president, and Doug Ludewig, secretary/treasurer.

Steve reviewed the changes made since last year's meeting. BDW now has an EIN (Employer Identification Number) and is a certified 501(c)3. Donors can now deduct contributions under the IRS tax code Section 170. We also now accept payment online by credit card and PayPal at the website bdwponds.org.

The minutes of the 2019 meeting and the 2019-2020 treasurer's report were read and accepted as presented.

Susan Onion reported on the lake patrol which continues to look for invasive plants on our lakes. She said that there were 17 volunteers with 33.5 hours of survey time put in. She has posted maps of the areas surveyed. She said that members of the Friends of Cobbossee Watershed also surveyed culverts and areas surrounding them. No invasive plants were found.

For those interested in joining the plant patrol, Friends of Cobbossee Watershed will offer 2-hour classes, and the Lake Stewards of Maine will offer 6-hour classes.

Jan Kolenda reported that this year's Loon Count was 9 adults and no chicks. The Loon counter for Dexter Pond saw 2 loons and 2 Loons were also seen on Berry Pond. The Annual Loon Count takes place every year on a Saturday in July from 7:00 am to 7:30 am.

Monmouth Code Enforcement Officer Dave Shaw said he was happy to see that BDW's mission statement aligned with Maine's Shoreland Zoning rules which regulates what land use activities that can take place within 250 feet of a lakeshore. He said he receives more questions about tree cutting than anything else and receives the most complaints about the noise of fireworks. He said that anytime any material near a body of water is moved, a "permit by rule" must be requested and obtained from the DEP.

Bill Monagle, director of Cobbossee Watershed District, reported on the work performed by the district. CWD manages water levels in all lakes in the district throughout the year and monitors water quality when there is no ice on the lakes.

TexTech manages the dam on Wilson Pond which controls water levels in the 3 lakes. Rainfall is monitored at the CWD office in Winthrop. This year the ponds are currently about 4 inches below full pond and higher than at this time last year. TexTech has done work on both the Wilson Pond dam and the Mill Pond dam which has minimized leakage.

To find a summary of the ponds water quality and water levels, check CWD's Facebook page.

Water clarity has been very good so far this year with currently about 20 feet of water clarity on Wilson Pond and Berry Pond and Dexter Pond at about 16.5 feet as measured with a Secchi Disc. Chemical testing has shown that the level of algae is low and the amount of phosphorus was moderate. There is concern that Wilson Pond's water quality will decrease as it did last year in late August and September. CWD has been working with camp road groups, FOCW, and others to reduce camp road runoff and thus decrease the amount of sediment and phosphorus entering the lakes. Wilson Pond was placed on the DEP list of impaired waterbodies in 2006 because of a declining trend in water quality. Funds to assist landowners with road improvement projects are available from CWD. Grants from the Onion Foundation have made it possible for CWD to increase its work on all lakes in the district.

Tamara Whitmore, Executive Director of the Friends of Cobbossee Watershed, reported on the work done by FOCW. In 2019, FOCW inspectors put in 340 paid hours at the Wilson Pond boat launch and inspected 497 watercraft. During 17 of these inspections, plant fragments were found and removed. None proved to be invasives. The launch is covered 10-12 hours a day on weekends and holidays depending on the weather and staff availability. The program costs \$15.35 per hour which includes minimum wage \$12.00, payroll costs, supplies, insurance, and management fees.

During August, Annabessacook Lake is scheduled to receive an herbicide treatment because the invasive variable leaf milfoil there has not responded to the current attempts to reduce its growth and remove it. Invasive milfoil fragments have been found in Jug Stream which leads to Cobbossee Lake. Currently the DEP and CDW are working to eradicate invasives at the north end of the Cobbossee Lake.

Tamara suggested that Boy Scouts working for Eagle Scout status be offered the opportunity to construct floating loon nests.

Steve Kolenda reported on his work trying to get the DEP to act on problems created by the owner of a rental camp at the north end of Wilson Pond. The owner of the property has engaged in activities that are not legal under Maine's shoreland regulations. The Town of Wayne has required that the owner improve the septic leach field because it did not meet specifications for the number of bathrooms. The DEP report on the violations that have occurred should be available soon.

Some members expressed concerns about the culverts and the lack of riprap on the Mt. Pisgah Road section that leads down to the north end of Wilson Pond.

Check out BDW's website (www.BDWPonds.com) and CWD's Facebook pages for more information about our lakes.

Next year's meeting will be held on July 24, 2020 at 9:00 am with the location to be determined.

BDW Ponds' Association dues and contributions to the Lake Preservation Fund can be made online at BDWPonds.org or by check and mailed to BDW Watershed Assoc. PO Box 234 Winthrop, Maine 04364.

See the website for the latest information on this .

Respectfully submitted,
Douglas Ludewig, recording secretary

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Treasurer's Report for July 25, 2020

In 2019 (until July 25, 2020) checks were written for:

2019 Meeting Supplies	\$181.22
2020 Meeting Supplies (Signs)	\$110.21
Ladd Center User's Fee 2019	\$75.00
USPS Postal Box 2019	\$88.00
USPS Postal Box 2020	\$90.00
Kennebec Land Trust	\$100.00
Friends of Cobbossee Watershed	\$1600.00
Lake Stewards of Maine (VLMP)	\$100.00
Annual Filing with Secretary of State	\$35.00
Maine Secretary of State (Agent change)	\$15.00
US Treasury payment for 501c3	\$275.00
Total for 2019 (until July 25, 2020)	\$2669.43

The current balance in the MFCU account, as of August 3, 2020 is:

\$4,114.55 in a Prime Share Savings Account

\$1594.46 in a Share Draft Checking Account

Total \$5,709.01