Friends of Bolton Lakes

Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday September 11, 2013

Attendees: Leona Crosskey, Karl Prewo, Cheri Smith, Nancy Carini, Peter VanDine, Jerry Lalancette, Lauren Lalancette, Mark Turkington, Kim Welch

1. Attendees were welcomed—Leona Crosskey
2. A motion was made and passed to accept the minutes of the June 12, 2013 FBL Board Meeting. Motion carried. Minutes will be posted on the FBL website.
3. Request for new Board Members—Leona Crosskey

* The Board needs to have a slate of officers for the annual meeting in October. We will check with Holly MacDonald regarding any rules. Jeff Phelon informed Karl Prewo that he is interested in serving on the FBL Board as a Director, and will serve as a Vernon representative. Cheri Smith is planning to move away from the lake, so we should begin to look for a new Treasurer. Cheri offered to stay on until we find someone. Leona is also listed on the bank account. We need to send something out to members who may be interested in serving on the Board. We are also still in need of an Education Committee Chairperson.

1. Accomplishments and update—Shelly Jewell

* We obtained our IRS 501 (c) 3 status from the IRS. The rain garden workshop and installation is scheduled for Saturday, October 19. Leona has an acquaintance who can operate a backhoe. Jerry Lalancette will check the cost of rental and delivery at England’s. Shelly indicated that we need to get a plaque but the discussion that followed included concern that even a plaque mounted on a rock could be stolen. It was suggested that we look into prices for a stone bench. Nancy will check with local monument companies. Shelly will write the information for the plaque—something like “Rain garden courtesy of Friends of Bolton Lakes, with funding provided by Pratt & Whitney.”
* End of Summer Celebration—we have received few RSVPs but will hold the event regardless. In case of rain, Leona offered to use her house. We will need to bring the banner. Cheri Smith reported that Big Y has the best prices on sandwiches. She will purchase the sandwiches, chips, cookies and water. If someone has a lemonade urn, we may provide that too. We will follow up with state and town officials—Karl will contact Bruce Dinnie and Tom Oulette, Leona will contact Bob Morra, Joyce Stille and George Knoecklein. Shelly will send out the government cc list to the Board so that others can make calls. Nancy Carini offered to make some calls.

1. Treasurer’s Report—Cheri Smith

* There are 98 paid members, including three new members since the last meeting. Fundraising efforts (t-shirt, hat and coyote sales and tag sale) have generated $355 and expenses (unlocking Indian Notch for tag sale, room rental for invasive plant training, refreshments and maps, ad for Bolton Conservation Commission Calendar, Certificate of Amendment for the Secretary of State, Certified Letter for the Department of Revenue Services and Insurance and PO Box Renewal totaled $1936 for a balance of ????.

1. Updates from Town Committees
   * There were no Finance Committee meetings in July or August.
   * Shelly and Rich Jewell attended the Bolton Conservation Commission meeting in September and presented updates, including the new photo contest for the 2015 calendar, Heritage Farm Days, two vacant positions on the BCC (regular and alternate—Rich Jewell applied for the alternate position and Shelly Jewell became the clerk for the BCC); River Bio Assessment Training; expanded the trail from Freja Park to the Manchester Land Trust Property; Small Lot Chicken Regulations and the opportunity to share a table with BCC at Heritage Farm Days.
2. Committee Reports
   * Communications—Lauren Lalancette—will aim for newsletter completion before Rain Garden construction. Articles should be sent to Lauren by September 25, 2013. The Science Committee will submit and article and Shelly Jewell will send Lauren information about the Rain Garden.
   * Science—Karl Prewo recommended that we obtain second opinions by other lake experts to compliment George Knoecklein’s work in collecting and analyzing data. It could become a fundraising goal to raise $10,000 to hire an additional consultant(s) and have lake residents assist with gathering data, as well as for an underwater camera. Karl would like to see a watershed approach, as 70-80% of the water in the lakes comes from elsewhere. Peter mentioned that the Conservation Commissions in Coventry, Tolland Vernon collaborated on the ERT. The Science Committee could approach the Conservation Commissions to assemble a task force, and utilize the CT Federation of Lakes for additional resources. The Science Committee will work on the Lake Living Do’s and Don’ts brochure—the Inland Wetlands Commission has stated interest in seeing the draft. Holly MacDonald submitted a letter of interest for the vacant position on the Inland Wetlands Commission.
3. Lake Commissioner’s report—Kim Welch

* The town was still waiting for the contract from DEEP regarding the STEAP grant. Kim will share the contract when received. Questions and/or suggestions should be sent to Kim Welch.
* DEEP has not yet received drawdown letters from the towns of Bolton and Vernon. WE will be notified of the drawdown date—need to be sure it is coordinated between the two towns.
* The letter requesting no catfish stocking for another one to two years has also not yet been issued, Kim will follow up.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m. with thanks to the Board members and Lake Commissioner.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelly Jewell, Secretary

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