



Friends of Bolton Lakes
April 9, 2014 Meeting Minutes

Present: Leona Crosskey, Peter Van Dine, Nancy Carini, Shelly Jewell, Cheri Smith, Holly MacDonald, Jeff Phelon, Mark Turkington

Guests: Kim Welch, Lake Commissioner, Bolton and Rich Jewell (FBL member)

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Approve March 5, 2014 Meeting Minutes—a motion was made, seconded and passed to approve the March 2014 meeting minutes, with corrected spelling of Peter Van Dine's name.
3. Lake Commissioner Report—Kim Welch reported the following from the Board of Selectmen meeting:
 - The Town of Bolton plans to address the geese on Lower Bolton Lake by utilizing coyote cutouts on the beach. Rich Jewell will speak to Jerry Lalancette about making additional cutouts. Leona Crosskey asked about hunting, but that has not been discussed by the Town this year. Karl Prewo observed approximately 100 geese on the upper lake. Because Upper Bolton Lake borders Vernon, Tolland and Coventry, the topic will be raised at the next BLWCA meeting. Mark Turkington pointed out that there were no geese this winter due to the lake remaining frozen.
 - The town of Bolton received the signed STEAP grant on March 27, 2014. It will be posted on the town's website.
 - Kim Welch attended the FBL sponsored water quality monitoring training on April 3rd.

- DEEP agreed not to stock catfish again this year, however the town still needs to provide a letter with this request.
 - Kim provided “ice in/ice out” dates—for the past winter it was December 10 through March 30. Last year it was December 17 through March 31.
 - The water in the lower lake is currently high—it had raised 5 inches, and then came up another 5 inches. Leona mentioned that one of the culverts near her house is blocked. The BLWCA is looking at the culverts. Chuck Lee from DEEP is investigating whether the culvert between the Middle and Upper Lake belongs to the town of Vernon or the state.
 - The town is still waiting for George Knoecklein’s report. It was due March 31 and expected imminently.
 - Peter Van Dine raised a question regarding the Bolton town budget—there is no line item for the lake and no mention of the STEAP grant. Kim Welch will ask about this.
4. Treasurers Report and Membership Report—(Cheri Smith, Treasurer). The current balance is \$6,047.28. There are 102 members. The annual membership drive resulted in a number of new members but not all former members renewed.
 5. New Board Officers—Cheri Smith resigned as Treasurer and Membership Chair and Nancy Carini resigned as Vice President, due to anticipated moves out of Bolton in the near future. Board members were asked to consider these positions and Shelly Jewell will notify members and others of the vacant positions. A slate of officers will be put forward for the May 2014 meeting.
 6. Water Quality Monitoring Equipment Training---There were 11 participants at the training on April 3rd and approximately 14 individuals in total have indicated interest in participating. George Knoecklein will also conduct an “on the water” training in the near future, which will take place on Middle Bolton Lake. The lake bottoms are deeper than the cables purchased, but George Knoecklein is not concerned, due to the levels of dissolved oxygen. Equipment will also be used for stream monitoring. Water quality will be assessed before and after heavy rain. Sample bottles will be labeled and dropped off at a cooler outside George’s office. Sampling will occur approximately twice monthly. The Science Committee will work with George to coordinate volunteer sampling. Shelly Jewell will send a photo of the April training event to Pratt & Whitney and requested photos of the “on the water” training as well.
 7. Update from Town Committees
 - a. Kim Welch attended the Board of Selectmen’s meeting—information above. The Phase V sewer contract was approved. Phase IV hookup letters will likely go out in June, and residents will have 180 days to hook up to the sewers. There have been odor issues from the man holes in the area of Wildwood Road which will be addressed by Biox, a salt solution used for odor control. Not all grinder pumps have been properly stubbed.
 - b. Board of Finance—Peter Van Dine reported that there is a budget hearing at Bolton High School on April 10, 2014. He would like to have the question regarding budget for the lake and STEAP grant answered. Kim will follow up with the town.
 - c. Bolton Conservation Commission—Shelly Jewell shared information from the BCC meeting on April 7, including the upcoming photo contest deadline, the Vernal Pools Day hike on Sunday, April 13, Earth and Arbor Day events on April 26. The BCC sent a letter to the Inland Wetlands Commission to support fines for lack of permits.
 - d. Inland Wetlands—Holly MacDonald has been attending meetings and working on the new regulations.

8. Bolton Lakes Watershed Conservation Alliance—Karl Prewo sent a written update about the April meeting which focused on land acquisition around Upper Bolton Lake, with particular interest in protecting the Atlantic White Cedar stand of trees. Joshua’s Trust is in the process of acquiring land in that area. The May 6th meeting may include a briefing from Ann Letendre regarding the Tankerhoosen Watershed Management Plan. George Knoecklein will be invited to brief the Alliance on his activities, likely at the June meeting.

9. Committee Reports

- a. Education—No report.
- b. Communications—No report.
- c. Fundraising—No report.
- d. Science—Karl Prewo’s summary included information regarding UConn professor Ashley Helon, from the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, who Karl met at the recent CT Phosphorous Study Committee. She has an interest in the effects of nutrients on lakes and streams and may have graduate students who would be interested in working with Bolton Lakes for their community project. Karl wrote and sent her a short briefing and will follow up.

The CT Federation of Lakes Annual Meeting will take place on Wednesday, April 16, 7 p.m. at the Northeast Utilities headquarters in Newington.

The North American Lake Management Society will meet on June 13-14 at UConn. Their focus will be on “what lake residents and users can do to protect their lakes.

<http://sites.google.com/site/necnalms/conference>.

Peter Van Dine shared information that Lake Waramaug is owned by DEEP and shoulders three different towns. They have established an inter-town committee. The towns provide funding for reports.

Peter submitted an article to Lauren Lalancette regarding lake monitoring for the next newsletter, which will also include the brochure which Rich Jewell put together that was distributed to lake residents.

10. Other—Peter Van Dine raised the possibility of the FBL board meeting every other month.

11. Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 12, 6:30 p.m., Room 9, Notch Municipal Center, Bolton

12. Meeting adjourned with thanks to participants at 8:05 p.m.

NOTE: Upcoming 2014 Meeting dates: May 14, June 11, September 10, October 8, November 12 and December 10, all at the Notch Building, Bolton, Room 9.

Respectfully submitted

Shelly Jewell, Secretary
Friends of Bolton Lakes