

**Town of Groton Massachusetts  
Great Pond Advisory Committee**

**Minutes**



**July 24, 2013**

**Present** Francoise Forbes, Marshall Giguere, Susan Horowitz, Jim Luening, Alex Woodle, Lynda Moore, Art Prest, Bill Strickland, Cheney Harper

**Not Present** Savas Danos, Tom Sangiolo

**Meeting Minutes**

A motion was made and seconded. The minutes of the June 26, 2013 GPAC meeting were approved by all present except for Art Prest who abstained because he was not present at the June meeting.

**Financial Report**

A financial report showed a budget balance of \$2,385.

**GPAC Co-Chair**

Alex Woodle reported that he had talked with Cheney Harper and she agreed to be Co-Chair of the GPAC.

**Water Quality Testing**

Art Prest presented the background regarding what Aquatic Control Technology had tested in 2011, what was proposed in the 2012 Lost Lake & Knops Pond Resource Management Plan and what was in the Order of Conditions for the herbicide treatment of Lost Lake & Knops Pond. Art suggested that we plan to have a lab do the testing once a year. Susan Horowitz recommended that we use the test results from CEI (Comprehensive Environmental Inc.) for the 2013 test results. Susan will check with CEI as to what tests they are doing. Bill Strickland indicated that the town owned equipment tests for pH, turbidity, dissolved oxygen and water clarity using a Secchi disk. We will need to use calibration solutions to check to see if the equipment probes still work.

**Sonar Treatment**

Art Prest discussed the results to date of the Sonar treatments and showed before (June 2013) and after (July 2013) pictures. Art also raised the issue of the Water Commission not testing for Sonar in Whitney Pond or in the Whitney well. Susan Horowitz asked that Art

Prest remind Mark Haddad about this and indicated that she would raise it with the Sewer Committee.

### **Boat Launch Monitoring Program**

The planning for the establishment of the Weed Watcher Monitor program at the public boat launches on Lost Lake and Baddacook Pond was discussed. It is hoped that the monitoring program will begin on August 3<sup>rd</sup>. Brooke Garger, who recently graduated with a degree in Environmental Science from UNH, has been hired at \$12.50 per hour to coordinate the program. Seniors are being recruited and volunteers are being sought for Weed Watcher Monitors. In addition documents for managing the program and handing out to boaters are being developed.

### **Baddacook Pond Update**

Jim Luening talked about how severe the weeds in Baddacook Pond have become. Jim indicated that he hopes to treat Baddacook Pond with Sonar in the future. The problem in treating Baddacook Pond with Sonar will be the fact that there is a town well on the shore. Susan Horowitz mentioned that wells were tested in the 2002-2004 period when Diquat was used on Lost Lake and Knops Pond. Alex Woodle volunteered to look for the results.

### **Clipper Update**

Art Prest agreed to talk with Marc Bellaud and Erika Haug at Aquatic Control Technology about how we might help push the Clipper use restrictions issues. Jim Luening said that Erika Haug had indicated that the cost of using Sonar in Baddacook Pond might not be that bad.

### **Sargisson Beach Update**

Art Prest mentioned that there is a new committee that has been formed to possibly reopen Sargisson Beach. Committee members include Andrew Davis, John Giger, Josh Degen, and Jack Petropoulos. Cheney Harper talked about offering swimming lessons at Sargisson Beach in the future. Marshall Giguere said that the Conservation Commission needs to be consulted about anything that is done regarding Sargisson Beach. A spirited discussion ensued about the issues regarding Sargisson Beach. It was suggested that maybe we need to talk with the new member of the Parks Commission.

### **New Business**

Marshall Giguere posed a question: "How can the GPAC educate lake shore property owners to keep the lakes clean?" Art Prest talked about the Clean Lakes Committee booklet titled "The Groton Guide for Homeowners" that was done in 1986. Art suggested that a revised and updated edition of this booklet might be the solution. Art Prest agreed to get copies to Jim Luening and Marshall Giguere to see if we can get someone to either scan it and convert it to Word for Windows or retype it. Once that is done we can revise and update the content.

It was asked if the GPAC email address of [lostlaker@charter.net](mailto:lostlaker@charter.net) on the town's homepage was still active. Subsequent to the meeting Art Prest checked it out and it is no longer valid and thus needs to be changed

The meeting adjourned was at 9:00 pm.