



Saturday Pond Watershed Association
40 Ridgewood Terrace Otisfield, Maine 04270

SPWA Annual Meeting Minutes – July 24, 2022

Attendees: Ellen Attaliades, Bill Bramswig, Amy Brown, John Cordts, Kathy Cordts, Jeff Ecker, Sarah Ecker, Lourdes Engel, Tom Engel, Susan Haber, Jerry Haber, Joan Lennox, Scott Lennox, Diane King, Phil King, Dave, LaFleur, Sue LaFleur, Steve Markarian, Braden Merrick, Jerry Mulvey, Trudy Mulvey, Robin Nureck-Bramswig, Jim Ryan, Eric Williams, Will Young, John Ywoskus, Julie Ywoskus

- **Introductions:** Attendees introduced themselves

- **Treasurer's Report – Amy Brown**
 - **Dues Collected:** \$670
 - **Donations Collected:** \$200
 - **Expenses:**
 - Signs banning personal watercraft (jet skis) were posted at Pondview launch and Sam's Landing
 - Largest expense: Newsletter (label costs are up \$.65 from last year)
 - **Donation:** Will donate \$100 to Lake Stewards of Maine to support lake education and plant patrol training
 - **Balance:** \$1030.29
 - **Membership:** There are 59 SPWA members
 - Need more members and need current members to pay their annual dues
 - Members should send address changes to Eric Williams

- **Association Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2022**
 - **Possible Maine Lakes Organization Membership**
 - **Organization Function:** Lake association work; loon restoration project
 - **Membership:** \$2 per member
 - **Concern:** Is this group controversial; is there overlap with LSM?

 - **Pond Water Conditions**
 - **Dam Keeper's Report:** There is no updated dam report for 2022; there has been no water going over the dam for a month

 - **Water Testing - Steve Markarian:**
 - **Water Clarity Testing:** Readings have been more shallow than usual; no rain and low boat traffic; 4.55 meters, normal is 6 meters
 - **Depth:** Maximum depth is 24' today; down a foot; loons are in the deepest part of the pond
 - **PH Testing:** Steve ordered a phosphorus testing kit to test for PH; phosphorus is normally low in the pond (4-5 parts/liter); phosphorus is elevated by run off and fireworks
 - **Other Water Tests:** We are fine with the tests we use (clarity, PH); pond water quality is good
 - **Oxygen monitoring:** Steve does not use the equipment; we need to buy and calibrate; equipment is expensive

- Ecoli: It is a waste of time to test for Ecoli randomly; can test near failed waterfront septic systems; telltale sign is algae
 - **Testing Results:** Water testing results can be emailed and posted to Saturday Pond Loons Facebook page
- **Lake Monitoring for Invasive Aquatic Vegetation – Sue LaFleur:**
 - **Training:** Sue, Amy Brown, and Julie Ywoskus attended Invasive Plant Patrol (IPP) training in the spring
 - **Plant Patrol:** Sue, Amy, and Julie will kayak throughout season to patrol for invasive plants and report to LSM at the end of the season
 - **Documentation:** Should we buy invasive plant identification brochures to distribute to SPWA members?; trustees will discuss and decide at fall 2022 meeting; may be able to post invasive plant information on the SPWA website
- **Ice In / Ice Out Dates:** 80% of ice has to be in or out to call the date
 - **Ice In:** December 7, 2021
 - **Ice Out:** April 4, 2022
- **Pond Wildlife:**
 - **Loons – Robin Nureck-Bramswig:**
 - **Official Loon Count:** Robin, Bill Bramswig, Diane Burak, and Julie Ywoskus counted 2 loons on July 16, the official loon count date
 - **Loon Nesting:** This year there was no loon nest, no eggs, and no chicks
 - **Other Wildlife:** Members have seen a variety of animals including, bobcats, butterflies, deer, eagles, fox, great blue heron, owls, raccoons, skunk, snapping turtles, turkeys; there have been more dead mollusks floating on the water this year
- **Watershed Communication:**
 - **Newsletter/Website/Facebook Page:**
 - **SPWA Newsletter:** 2022 newsletter was great; Saturday Pond article was good; members should email ideas for newsletter to Susan Haber and Bill Bramswig; [LINK NEWSLETTER TO WEBSITE WITH QR CODE](#)
 - **SPWA Website:** www.saturdaypond.org; website content includes historical data, lost items, trustees contact information
 - **Saturday Pond Loons Facebook Page**
 - **Boating:** Members discussed how to deal with wake boats on Saturday Pond
- **Minutes from May 21, 2022 – Julie Ywoskus:** Minutes from the May 21 Board of Trustees Planning Meeting reviewed & accepted
- **Board of Trustees Nominees:** Trustee nominees (Susan Haber, Susan LaFleur, and Steve Markarian) were accepted & voted in; terms will expire in 2024
- **Fall 2022 Board of Trustees Planning Meeting:** Will invite Maine Audubon to discuss loon nesting project; will discuss purchase of invasive plant identification brochures; date TBD

By: Julie Ywoskus