

# THE HERRING PONDS WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

## Board of Directors' Meeting

July 29, 2019

42 Carter's Bridge Rd, Plymouth

Submitted by Secretary Margaret Burke

Present: Don Williams, Geri Williams, Brian Harrington ex officio, Martha Sheldon, John Foye, Margaret Burke, Lee Pulis, Jack Kedian, Christine Yorty, Paula Kuketz, Patrice O'Connor, Beth Sobiloff, Phil Angell, Ramona Krogman.

President Don Williams brought the meeting to order. The first agenda item addressed was "New Business Paul Muther – Action Readiness Squad". Paul was unable to attend the meeting. Don asked Martha to present salient aspects of her recent e-mail communication re: "Use of treasury funds towards community support of Condon Property". It was decided that since Phil lives in proximity to the Condon property, he would be part of the discussion but not vote. There was a discussion about increasing the amount of money that the Association would contribute to the purchase of the Condon property from \$6,000.00 to \$9,000.00 should the CPC get Town approval to buy it at Town Meeting. Wildlands Trust has applied for a \$400,000 grant to partially fund the purchase. This grant could come in lower. With other HPWA donations and the increase to \$9,000.00, if approved, the HPWA would thus far earmark \$20,000.00 toward the purchase. **There was a motion to rescind the prior decision/vote to fund the purchase with \$6,000.00 and also the amendment to that vote. There was a second and the vote passed with one abstention, Phil Angell. There was a motion to take \$9,000.00 out of the treasury as a pledge for the Condon property contingent on Town approval for the purchase. There was a second and the motion passed with one abstention, Phil Angell.**

Next under "Old Business" **there was a motion to nominate Christine Yorty as Secretary at the August 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting with a second and the motion passed unanimously.** Lee will post the nomination on the website. Next under "New Business" **there was a motion to affirm sending the \$500.00 extra raised at the Shed Faire to Camp Clark with a second. The motion passed unanimously.**

Under "New Business" **there was a motion to pay dues of \$100.00 to WAA with a second and the motion passed unanimously. There was a motion to approve giving Chris Lewis the "The Sibly's Guide to Birds" with a second and the motion passed unanimously.** Chris did "in kind" work for the HPWA. Next there was a water safety discussion specifically related to the cove on the south end of the GHP pond. There was a discussion about the possible placement of buoys 150 feet from the shore that would indicate headway speed only from that point forward to shore. There was also some discussion about time restrictions being honored in the Cove.

**There was a motion to approve talking to the Harbor Master about what can be done to improve water safety in this particular area. There was a second and the motion passed unanimously. There was a motion to approve Paul Muther doing the asking but not the receiving of funds on our behalf. There was a second and the motion passed unanimously.** This relates to the “Action Readiness Squad” on the agenda. This relates to all properties that the HPWA might be interested in conserving/preserving with the priority being the Condon property at this time. **There was another motion to approve the going forward with the creation of a letter to people within the watershed as to our interest in preserving land and alert them to the fact we may be doing fundraising in the future for land preservation and to include a brochure. There was a second and the motion passed unanimously.**

**There was a motion to approve the BoD minutes of June 17, 2019 with a second and the motion passed unanimously.** John presented the June 2019 Balance Sheet with a beginning balance of \$20,112.00 and an end balance of \$22,347.00. **There was a motion to approve the balance sheet with a second and the motion passed unanimously.** John presented the HPWA budget. **There was a motion to approve it with a second and the motion passed unanimously.** Geri gave her report saying that there will be an Annual Meeting on August 19<sup>th</sup>. at which time the MMA will give a talk on “The Little Tanker” which is a program that takes place on the GHP. The meeting takes place at the Cedarville Firehouse and furthermore she would try to get the September 26<sup>th</sup>. General Meeting on Monarch Butterflies and Pollinators at the Little Red Schoolhouse. Other reports included a change in the Rising Tide Summer Course Participation (Rising Tide Summer Intern) whereby it was reported that a new student would take over the same topic as the original volunteer. Don gave the water quality report siting current levels of e-coli, phosphorous and nitrogen at specific sites and future tests and testing sites. Future BoD meeting dates are: August 26<sup>th</sup>; September 16<sup>th</sup>; October 21<sup>st</sup>; November 18<sup>th</sup>; December 16<sup>th</sup>. Annual Meeting date is August 19<sup>th</sup>. and General Meeting is September 26<sup>th</sup>.

## **BOD Meeting Agenda 07/29/19**

- 1) BOD 06/17/19 Minutes approval – Peg
- 2) Treasurer's June Balance Sheet Report – John
- 3) Treasurer's 6 Month Review -- John
- 4) Committee Reports – Any Questions?
  - a) Shed Faire – Lee
  - b) Picnic -- Phil

### **4) Old Business**

- a) Condon Property Acquisition – Brian, Martha
- b) Secretary Nomination (Christine Yorty)
- c) Safety Issues – Phil and Paula
- d) Annual Picnic Plans -- Phil

### **5) New Business**

- a) Paul Muther – Action Readiness Squad
  - b) Water Safety – Phil and Paula
  - c) WAA Membership Renewal (\$100), WAA Website Updates of HPWA Section -- Don
  - d) Annual Picnic Planning – Phil
  - e) Affirm \$500 Donation to Camp Clark
  - f) Rising Tide Summer Course Participation – Lee
  - g) Added Water Quality Sampling -- Don
- 6) Any other business?
  - 7) Next BOD Meetings 7/29, 8/26, 9/16
  - 8) General Meetings 8/19 (Firehouse), 9/26 (Hopefully, Little Red Schoolhouse)
  - 9) Set BOD Meetings for October, November, December
  - 10) Adjournment

# HPWA Membership Committee Report to ExCo

07/29/2019

By Martha Sheldon

## I. Membership Numbers – July

	June	July
<b>Memberships</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>92</b>
<b>Active Contacts in CC</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>326</b>
<b>Dues (Approx)</b>		<b>\$4270</b>

The second appeal went out in late June resulting in more returned dues. There will be a final appeal to non-responders toward the end of the year with a way to join electronically on our web site. The “up” in active contacts is the result of the successful Ivan Mikolji program. We will cultivate these new people for a year to see their level of interest.

## II. Brochure

The printed brochure was delivered to HPWA on July 12—11 months after its beginning! Next steps: Martha will have lunch with Aileen Briggs of Six Ponds on August 2 to discuss how Six Ponds conducted a fairly successful membership drive with a personal letter. HPWA could consider their own letter/brochure campaign to reach out to watershed residents who are not members. Membership Committee will meet in the fall to discuss short-range membership strategies.

## III. Communications Report – July Activity

	Time Sent	Campaign Name	Total Sent	Open Rate	Click Through Rate	Bounce Rate	Unsubscribe Rate
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tue, Jul 2, 2019 11:10 AM	Newsletter Summer 2019	310	51.5% 159	46.5% 74	0.3% 1	0.3% 1
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tue, Jul 9, 2019 5:46 PM	second appeal 2019	211	52.9% 110	0.9% 1	1.4% 3	0.5% 1
<input type="checkbox"/>	Thu, Jul 11, 2019 3:11 PM	Untitled Campaign Created 2019/07/11, 1:39:51 PM	325	54.7% 176	5.7% 18	0.9% 3	0% 0
	Sat, Jul 20, 2019 2:59 PM	Picnic Announcement 2019	325	52.8% 170	1.8% 3	0.9% 3	0% 0

Untitled Campaign is the shed faire email.

## IV Web

I hope to start working with Beth in September (I've been ill).

## V Charts

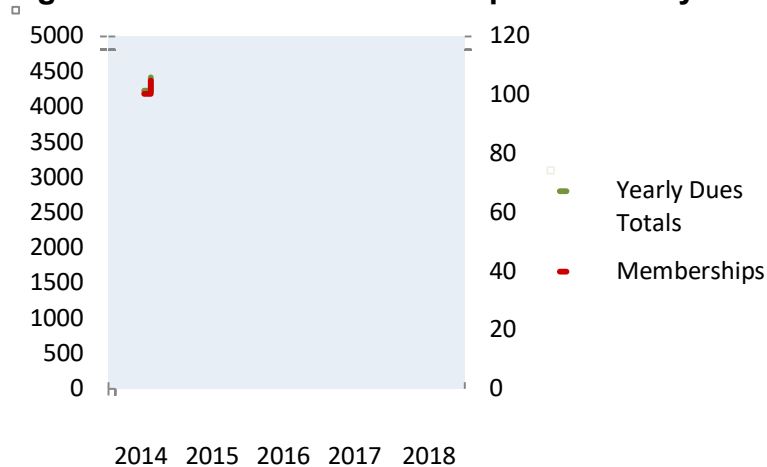
Table 1 shows how we have built up our treasury over a 6-year period with membership dues. Note that 2019 is incomplete, with some months to go yet. John provided me with our official end of year dues counts. My own records provided the count of memberships (rather than a cumbersome count of individual members). *The percent increase in membership dues between 2014 and 2018 is 85%.*

**Table 1. HPWA End of Year Membership Dues and Memberships**

Year	Membership Dues	Memberships
2014	2385	70
2015	3260	81
2016	4260	91
2017	3995	97
2018	4420	105
2019 to date	4270	92
Total to date	22365	

Figure 1, a line graph of the same data, shows positive trends in both **number of memberships** (the red line) and **yearly dues totals** (the green line) from 2014 to 2018. I added a second Y axis to better show the increase in memberships (see the vertical axis on the right side of the graph).

**Figure 1. Number of Memberships and Yearly Dues Totals since 2014**



## **EduCom Report – for July 29, 2019 BoD Meeting – Lee Pulis**

**Mikolji June 30 program** - Ivan expanded his intro video to 3-minutes with additional photos including a final sunset sequence on GHP: [https://youtu.be/qO8wSO\\_-K9k](https://youtu.be/qO8wSO_-K9k) (skip the ad). Our first May 28 Facebook post of his original 2-minute video teaser and program announcement “Reached” 3,927 people, had 471 “Engagements,” and 12 “Shares.” A capacity crowd resulted, with standing room only at Wildlands Trust. His program presentation slides are available in PDF format at: <https://tinyurl.com/y4nl98wo>. A full-length video with audio of his presentation was recorded by Claire on Ivan’s video camera with tripod, so may become available later when we reconnect. The pathway to the Wildlands Trust community barn entrance was lined with folk art previewing items available for sale at Shed Faire 2019.

**Milkweeds for Monarchs** – At the June 30 public program, seedlings in peat pots were again given away free by Teri for Monarch enthusiasts to plant in their yards. The additional 105 remaining seedlings were donated to SEMPBA for distribution at their Moth Ball on July 19.

### **July 13 “Shed Faire 2019”**

Pricing of most items was accomplished by group consensus of 5 fast-working board members on Sunday afternoon prior to the event. Loading in late afternoon the following Friday was quickly accomplished by 8 board and former board members with 3 pickups, 2 SUVs and 3 autos, saving alternative truck rental expense. Publicity included a mid-week OCM page 3 article with photo, a midweek PACTV program with Lee hosted by Robbie Haigh, plus Facebook posts shared to 6 other groups, for a reach 1,133.

Set-up, table arranging, additional item pricing, cash handling, passing car hailing, shut down and left-over disposal (three pick-up loads to Savers in Plymouth) were all handled by our fully engaged cheerful, smoothly functioning board members. We owe Phil many thanks for providing storage space, and accommodating numerous hauling trips over the past half-year! Thanks and congratulations to all on a fundraising event that exceeded the \$1500 goal by 30+% after venue expense!

The fire station community room proved excellent as a spacious, convenient air-conditioned shelter from the elements, complete with easy to maneuver tables, restrooms, refrigerated drinking fountain, ample parking, convenient outdoor display space for larger items, plus nearby food options. The cello gig by Claire added to the atmosphere. If there are suggestions for alterations and improvements for any similar future event, it would be good to bring them up at the meeting for recording in minutes.

The subsequent proposal by Lee for donating excess funds over our goal and expenses to Camp Clark for additional HPWA Campership(s) in 2019 received unanimous board approval via email (for an amount of \$500 rather than \$600). [The donation will be presented for ratification at the July 29 board meeting. A tour of Camp Clark in session on August 8 provides opportunity to see the program and facilities, and meet other donors. Mark the date...details to follow.](#)

Sned Faire signs are now repurposed as Picnic signs, which will go up on Sunday July 28.

### World Fish Migration Day, May 16, 2020

A draft Disney Playground Grant (\$30K, 1:1 match, in-kinds accepted) has been started for installation of a permanent fish ladder play feature on the Town-owned designated park site near the Grist Mill, where our prototype activity was tested with 100+ kids this year. Next steps will be pricing the elements and meeting with appropriate Town officials.

**Facebook social media posts since last report:** [Nominations for offices up for election will be posted on our website on July 29 \(three weeks before the next public meeting\) after the board meeting in order to comply with bylaws.](#)

All Facebook posts are public and viewable at:

<https://www.facebook.com/HerringPondWatershedAssociation/>

July 22: Picnic post with link to Constant Contact email

July 19: Post of Mikolji Pumpkinseed sunfish photo in Carter's River



July 19: Share of Moth Ball event image and details

July 17: Share of Manomet's Milkweeds post and report on our milkweeds donation to SEMPBA

July 14: Post of Pandora sphinx moth and share of SEMPBA Moth Ball event July 19



July 13: Shed Faire post updated to past tense and proclamation of success

July 12: Shed Faire signs photo with details and invitation

July 10: PACTV link RE Shed Faire, with OCM article image (Reach: 1,133, 33 Engagements, 6 Shares)

July 1: Patrice's photos at Carter's River (Reach:147, Engagements: 50, 1 Share)

June 30: Capacity crowd report, Ivan's updated 3-minute video link, link to his program slides on our website, Shed Faire and Milkweed Project plugs (Reach: 2338, engagements: 462, Shares: 5)

June 27: Phil's video of deer and turkeys socializing at GHP south end (Reach: 100, Engagements: 26)



June 26: Posted Ivan's sunset over GHP shot with program invitation

June 22: Posted early summer eNewsletter link

June 20: Boosted Mikolji program post for \$4. (Reach: 265, Engagement – 4-slide FB Video views: 233)



**Programs:**

Our next meeting is scheduled for August 19 at 7pm at the Fire Station Community Room. This is our Annual Meeting at which we elect officers, give committee updates to our membership and end with refreshments and socializing. I have arranged for Mike Burns of MMA to give a 30-40 minute presentation on their little tanker training program.

Usually members and board members bring juice, cookies and fruit to share. I will bring cups, plates, napkins, iced tea, tablecloth and flowers.. Board members could you please let me know what you will bring, hopefully some will bring drinks.

Our September meeting is planned for Thursday Sept. 26 at 7pm. I still have not gotten confirmation from Gerre Hooker whether we can meet at the Little Red School House, I have emailed her again tonight. Hopefully she will get back to me soon. Other possible meeting places which I have not contacted yet are the Firestation or Wildlands Trust. Our speaker that evening will be Gail Conner who raises bees and monarch butterflies. She will demonstrate how to raise Monarchs to significantly increase their the survival rate of the caterpillars and discuss pollinators and having a bee and butterfly friendly yard.

**Newsletter:**

I plan to send out our next newsletter by August 12 to promote our Annual Meeting, so I will need all articles by Aug. 6. I will actually be on vacation in Nags Head with our family that week but will try to get it done. So if anyone can get their info to me sooner I could get a head start.

I think we should have an article to celebrate our successful Shed Faire and thank all who supported us. Also if someone would like to contact and interview the mother of the youth who benefited from one of our campership it would be great.

Some pictures from the picnic with an article would be fun.

Other ideas?

Thanks Geri

July 29, 2019

Board of Directors,

The activities and plans of the Water Quality Committee are summarized below:

**Activities:**

- A WQC Meeting was held on June 18 at my house. The testing program for the summer months was set. We will do monthly DO and Secchi. We will take SMAST samples in July, August and October. We will take a duplicate set of July samples to compare SMAST and Envirotech readings. We will take July, August and September E. coli samples at beach sites in GHP
- Jim Smith's June LHP E. coli sample was low (<5) as was the nitrate sample (0.05 mg/l). Of greater interest were the nitrate levels at the LHP outlet (0.016 mg/l) and at the Carters River Bridge (0.022 mg/l). For the second time, there is a large increase (3x) between the "pristine" spring source in LHP and the "average" LHP nitrate level (LHP outlet). As in April, the increase continues (1.5x) at the Carter's River sampling site. None of these values raise concerns about the quality of the water but the upward trend clearly implicates human interference. A second month with this trend reinforces a continuous human influence from spring source through Carters River. The LHP spring showed a high value (0.022 mg/l) for phosphorus. This seemed higher than it should have been from a "pristine" spring and I asked Neal Price his opinion. He made the suggestion of testing a filtered and non-filtered (the June sample was unfiltered) sample to eliminate the effect of any sediment on the value.
- Rethinking WQ priorities suggests strongly (in my mind) that the Watershed Management Plan (\$80,000) is an important next step for HPWA instead of remediation of the remaining 4 runoff sites (probably \$2 million). Given the fact that Kim Tower believes that higher pond levels were responsible for the clean water seen in GHP in the summer of 2018 and not the rainfall/runoff, I believe it is prudent to maintain good relations and to hedge bets by doing a Watershed Management Plan before seeking funding for runoff remediation. The situation is not urgent and it was presented to Vinny deMacedo as the best way forward. We do not want to be wrong at the \$2 million level when a Watershed Management Plan will identify the sources of watershed phosphorus unequivocally.
- I met with Vinny de Macedo on July 9 and he agreed to help HPWA look for money. He made suggestions of sources of knowledge about where funding might be available for the Watershed Management Plan and I agreed to see where there might be money available that he might lobby for. He is still very interested in HPWA runoff remediation project.
- I contacted David Gould, Plymouth's DMEA Department Head to inquire about Plymouth funding for the Watershed Management Plan. **DAVID HAS PLEDGED TO CONTRIBUTE "AT LEAST HALF" OF THE COST OF THE \$80,000 WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN COST!!!!**
- The WQC and Kim Tower took duplicate July Samples for SMAST and Envirotech on July 16.
- I took Meghna and Megan out for zooplankton sampling on July 9. Again, the zooplankton seemed reduced by the feasting herring fry from the previous month.
- July E. coli samples at the GHP beaches were taken on July 26.

**Plans:**

- The BOD will discuss the level of HPWA financial help to acquire the Condon property.

**From:** Jerry Levine jersail123@gmail.com

**Subject:** Invasive Species Committee report

**Date:** July 28, 2019 at 9:03 AM

**To:** donald\_r\_williams2003@yahoo.com, geri3williams@comcast.net, jkedian1@hotmail.com, leepulis@gmail.com, angell\_phil@yahoo.com, oconnorpatrice3@gmail.com, burke-margaret@comcast.net, martha.sheldon205@gmail.com, kuketz33@verizon.net, bsobiloff@comcast.net, brian.harrington205@gmail.com, ramiek99@hotmail.com, skipjbfoye@aol.com, cayorty@aol.com



---

I will not be attending the board meeting on Monday, as we are visiting family in Asheville NC. Driving home on Sunday August 4.

I have been in contact with Sara Grady, we will be sampling our two ponds for Invasive aquatic plants the beginning of September.

This summers intern Ceci and her mother Cindy and I have discussed by phone and email our research project. It is moving along, we are in contact on a weekly schedule.

I am providing her with guidance and direction.

Jerry Levine  
781-985-5225  
From I-Phone