

# THE HERRING PONDS WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

## Board of Directors' Meeting

June 17, 2019

42 Carter's Bridge, Plymouth

Submitted by Secretary Margaret Burke

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

President Don Williams brought the meeting to order. The next order of business was approval of the minutes. **There was a motion to approve the May 21, 2019 BoD minutes with a second and the motion passed unanimously. There was a motion to approve the May 19, 2019 General Meeting minutes with a second and the motion passed unanimously.**

Next the May Balance Sheet was discussed. The start balance was \$19,881 and the end balance \$20,112. **There was a motion to approve the May Balance Sheet with a second and the motion passed unanimously.** The six-month review will be discussed at the next BoD meeting.

Martha gave her committee report. She said that a printer has been selected to print 3,000 copies of the new HPWA brochure. They have the capacity to produce the gummed labels that provide an easy way to send in a check. There was a discussion on various ways to use the brochure to bring in new members.

Lee discussed the upcoming Shed Faire on July 13<sup>th</sup>. and asked for volunteers to assist with all of the necessary steps to operationalize it. Saint Vincent de Paul will be contacted regarding taking goods left after the Faire has ended. The goal of the Faire is to make \$1,500.00 to cover the HPWA donated camperships.

Next Geri indicated she would be able to procure a speaker for the September General Meeting on pollinators with an emphasis on Monarch Butterflies. A date of September 19<sup>th</sup>. was selected for that meeting. The possibility of holding that meeting at the Little Red Schoolhouse was discussed.

Under Old Business Ramona discussed the herring count status. She still needs to compile the herring count report for this year. Ramona will try to get more volunteers next year.

Don gave an update on the Little Red School House. He circulated a voluntary petition that requests that the Plymouth BOS not lease or sell the building. Further updates to follow.

The next topic covered by the board was the "Condon Property Acquisition". Brian led the discussion which covered a possible \$6,000.00 pledge to the Plymouth CPC to show support for the acquisition. Also discussed was possible ways to raise the money, using HPWA current funds, a portion thereof or fundraising the pledge amount. **There was a motion to pledge \$6,000.00 to support the CPC effort to buy the Condon property if Town Meeting in October approves the purchase. There was a second to the motion. There was an amendment to the main motion to put together a plan in the near future to replace the portion decided on back into the treasury. The amendment was seconded and voted on first and passed by a majority. The main motion to pledge the \$6,000.00 was voted on and passed unanimously.**

New business was discussed. Jerry Levine will supervise the Rising Tide summer interns who will document data on the other 9 ponds in the watershed. Phil discussed safety concerns in the GHP cove and it was decided he would consult with Paula who chairs the safety committee regarding those concerns. Phil also outlined the picnic plans. The next meetings are: June 30 (General), July 29 (BoD), August 19<sup>th</sup>. (Annual Meeting (Firehouse), August 26<sup>th</sup>. (BoD), September 16<sup>th</sup>. (BoD), September 19<sup>th</sup>. (General) **There was a motion to adjourn with a second and the motion passed unanimously.**

## **BOD Meeting Agenda 06/17/19**

- 1) BOD Meeting 05/21/19 minutes approval – Peg
- 2) General Meeting 03/16/19 minutes approval -- Peg
- 3) Treasurer's May Balance Sheet Report – John
- 4) Committee Reports – Any Questions?
  - a) Shed Faire -- Lee

### **5) Old Business**

- a) Herring Count Status – Ramona
- b) Little Red Schoolhouse Summary – Don
- c) Condon Property Acquisition -- Brian

### **6) New Business**

- a) Summer Interns
  - b) Water Safety -- Phil
  - b) HPWA Goals Discussion -- All
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- 7) Any other business?
  - 8) Next Meetings 7/29, 8/26
  - 9) General Meetings 6/30, 8/12 or 8/19
  - 10) Adjournment

June 17, 2019  
Don Williams

Board of Directors,

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

**Activities:**

- Jim Smith's May 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 (0.34 mg/l) and at the Carters River Bridge (0.51 mg/l). There appears to be a large increase (7x) between the "pristine" spring source in LHP and the "average" LHP nitrate level. None of these values present concerns about the quality of the water for drinking but the upward trend clearly implicates human interference.
- A meeting with Neal Price of Horsley-Witten took place on May 21. Neal was very encouraging about finding engineering solutions to the 4 remaining runoff sites. Neal felt that a Watershed Management Plan is an important next step for HPWA.
- Phone calls and a field trip to runoff sites with Harvey LeSueur resulted in a number of possible solutions for the runoff sites – chinkers/ditch, planting grass in wetlands, using abandoned cranberry bogs to hold water, etc. The unpaved road that needs paving was mistakenly identified as Clarissa Joseph; it is actually Roxy Cahoon that is the runoff source. My bad.
- I took Meghna Marjadi, a PhD candidate at UMass Amherst, out on the pond for a second trip this year for zooplankton sampling. We also took a sample at LHP off Jim Smith's dock. There was less zooplankton than in May indicating that the herring fry were beginning to consume it.
- A detailed "Way Forward – Water Quality" document was written and distributed to the BOD and to the WQC.
- I met with Jed Smith over Memorial Day weekend to bring him up to speed. He has been looking for Japanese knotweed in his cove and will volunteer to cover the costs to eradicate it.
- Jerry and Jack checked out the HPWA DO meter with Kim Tower's help and borrowed Plymouth's DO meter to conduct concurrent testing the week of June 17 to verify the DO values obtained.

**Plans:**

- A WQC Meeting will be held on June 18 at my house to answer questions about the "Way Forward – Water Quality" document and to plan Secchi disk, DO and E. coli testing.
- Still planning a meeting after budget discussions with Vinnie deMacedo.
- The BOD will discuss HPWA helping CPC acquire the Condon property, a fairly large tract uphill and "upstream" from aquifer flow direction toward GHP.
- Plans to fund a Watershed Management plan will be more clear after Plymouth weighs in on possible help with funding after the start of the fiscal year in July.

## EduCom Report – for June 17, 2019 BoD Meeting – Lee Pulis

### Mikolji June 30 program 2-minute video teaser and registration link:

View a 2-minute teaser video at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GkoiC-HKxcE&feature=youtu.be> (Skip the ad) The Facebook post of this video has “Reached” 1704 people, had 322 “Engagements,” and 8 “Shares,” with 26 Registrants so far on Constant Contact, 5 of whom are board members. Register at: <https://tinyurl.com/y66453mr> Ivan, wife and 3 young kids plan to depart Venezuela and arrive in Plymouth on Saturday, June 22 for a stay with family on Janebar Circle, and then leave July 5<sup>th</sup> for a course at Lehigh University in Pennsylvania. Any welcoming hospitality, hosting, baby sitting, or transportation assistance you can offer during that period may be appreciated.

**July 13 Shed Faire item gathering and crafting** – All BoD members please increase promoting donations of items from friends, neighbors, and pond associations. Donated items can be dropped off ahead of time at Phil’s garage, which will enable us to do advance pricing in the next couple weeks. Also, consider what you might make to donate (painted rocks, potted plants, wood/pine cone/driftwood folk art, etc.) to add Crafts to the Faire. Patrice is busy painting more of my folk art bird constructions (see finished “Greta the Great Gray” and other mailpost birds in line for details below, plus a GB Heron and Osprey are also primed and ready for detailing). **Prepare now any additional activities and displays for your committees!**

Clear your calendar for Saturday, July 13 as Lee will have a **volunteer sign-up sheet** at the board meeting for coverage of tasks such as signage, transporting items from storage to site, set-up, pricing, cash handling, left-over disposal, and cleanup.



**HPWA’s Milkweeds for Monarchs Project** led by Teri Kreitzer will again distribute free peat pots of milkweed seedlings at the June 30 public program by Ivan Mikolji at Wildlands Trust. At the last program about 95 seedlings were distributed free, mostly in groups of three. Below is a photo of another batch of 500 or so progressing on Teri’s back deck:



And just for fun, here's Joan Pulis soaring like a Monarch last week

**Facebook social media posts since last report:** All posts are public and viewable at <https://www.facebook.com/HerringPondWatershedAssociation/>

June 12: Mikolji program post pinned to top (Reach: 1704, 8 Shares, 26 Registrants)

June 4: Solvi's Screech owl photo (Reach 239)

May 28: Ivan Mikolji program announcement with registration link

May 23: Shed Faire coming July 13, item photos (Reach: 93)

May 22: Species list (23) from Alper Bird Walk (Reach: 84)

May 22: Meeting notice for May 23 on Little Red Schoolhouse (Reach: 639, 5 Shares)

May 20: Reminder of 2<sup>nd</sup> Bird Walk on May 22 at Alper (Reach: 96, 1 Share)

**Newsletter:** I need everyone's information for the June newsletter by Tuesday, June 18, so that I can get the newsletter out to our membership on the weekend.

**Programs:** our next meeting is Sun. June 30 at 2pm. Ivan Mikolji will present a slide and video program of the nature he has photographed in and near GHP and LHP. We will have a brief HPWA meeting before his program for the nominating committee to present the slate of officers for the August meeting election and ask for nominations from the floor before closing the nominations. Also Lee should talk up the Shed Faire and Phil the Annual Picnic as well as brief committee reports. I will need a few board members to help set up chairs and prepare for the meeting around 1:30.

The August Annual Meeting is scheduled for Aug. 19 at 7pm at the Fire station. I have arranged for Mike Burns of the Mass Maritime Academy to speak for 30-40 minutes on the tanker training program that they run on GHP. As this is our Annual meeting after the election, we usually have committee reports to bring the member present up to date and then we have refreshments and socializing.

Monday evening I would like to discuss the last public meeting in the Fall. We need to pick a date and place for the meeting. I think that a Monday evening in September, 9, 16 or 23 would be good if we do not want to go to Wildlands Trust. I have lined up a friend and member of the Plymouth Garden Club to do a program on pollinators with an emphasis on Monarch butterflies and how to raise them. She hopes to have samples of all stages of the butterflies' life.

**Invasive Species Committee**  
**Chair Jerry Levine 6-17-19**

Sampling with Sara Grady for invasive aquatic plants in both Herring Ponds as soon as the plants are growing.

As I am involved with the Water Quality Committee in sampling the pond, I will be looking for invasive plants during the water sampling.

Considering the possibility of having a seminar on tick species being detected in our area as well as other NE states. I have been in contact with an individual in Plymouth who is familiar with this topic.

The two summer interns working with HPWA will be noting any evidence of invasive plants and animals in their data searches of the 11 ponds within our watershed.

I would like to add a few additional member to the Invasive Species Committee, if you have any contacts that would be interest in being a member of this committee please have them contact me.

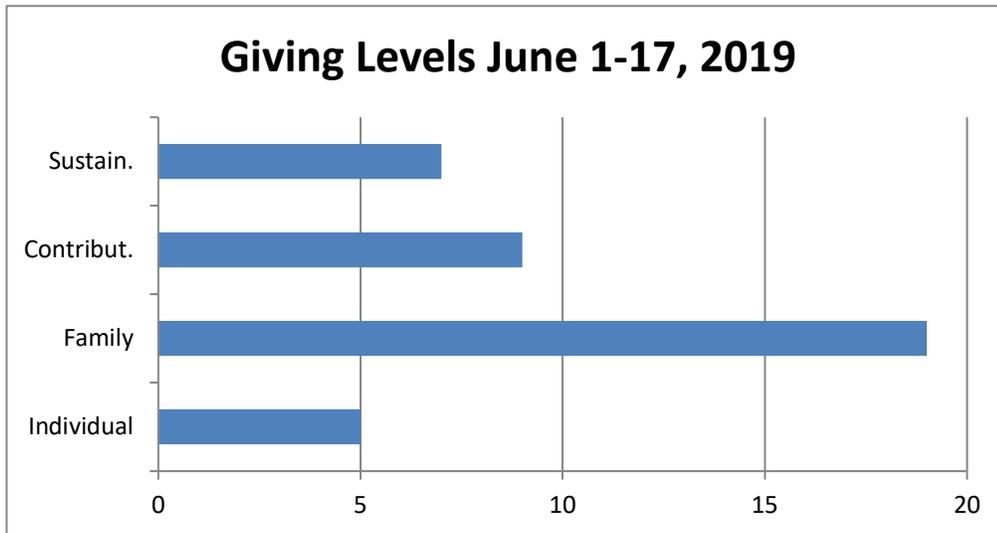
# HPWA Membership Committee Report to ExCo

06/17/2019

By Martha Sheldon

## I. Membership Numbers – June (beginning of our annual membership drive)

**Memberships:** 44  
**Members** 71  
**Active Contacts\*** 304 [Active Contacts from May report: 294]



Some people have bumped up their giving category from last year—a positive sign. The second appeal is in late June to remind residents who have not sent in dues; a third will go out in November just before end of year tax deductible gift time. Having an online “e-join” capability should help to increase the rate of return on e-appeals.

## II. Brochure

The brochure is completed in all revisions (thank you, Lee, for your excellent suggestions for improvements including our location!) and is ready to go to the printers. Two printing estimates for 3,000 brochures were procured. Powderhorn’s estimate was \$1,418.27 for a simple perforated tear off – they are not able to do a job with gummed labels. The second estimate, procured by Chris from Talient Action Group in Manchester, NH, was \$1,826.92. Chris has worked with Talient before. They have the capacity to produce the gummed labels that provide an easy way to send in a check. A third printer contacted in Sandwich declined the job. The majority of the committee has signed off on going with Talient for the printing.

## III. Communications Report – mid May to mid June Activity

	Time Sent	Campaign Name	Total Sent	Open Rate	Click Through Rate	Bounce Rate	Unsubscribe Rate
<input type="checkbox"/>	Thu, Jun 6, 2019 10:50 AM	Newsletter Spring 2019	290	57.2% 166	39.8% 66	0% 0	0.3% 1
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wed, May 22, 2019 10:36 AM	Little Red Schoolhouse meeting May23	260	56% 145	2.8% 4	0.4% 1	0% 0
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mon, May 20, 2019 7:00 AM	Spring Bird Walks 2019 reminder2	288	45.3% 130	3.1% 4	0.3% 1	0% 0
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fri, May 17, 2019 5:09 PM	Nature-scaping Talk May 19, 2019 reminder	259	45.3% 117	2.6% 3	0.4% 1	0% 0

More publicity for Ivan Mikolji's talk will go out to increase registration (26 people have signed up so far). Of note is the interest in The Little Red Schoolhouse.

#### IV Web

I am looking forward to start working with Beth on our website now that the brochure is completed.

Future : I am planning to have several of our committee meet with Six Ponds sometime in August to talk about their recent membership drive. Through my Manomet contacts I know the person who organized it and I think we can benefit from their experience.