

**Herring Ponds Watershed Association**  
**Tuesday, March 7, 2023, Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes**

In Attendance: Phil Angell, Paul Denoncourt, John Foye, Tess Goldmann, Jack Kedian, Ramona Krogman, Cheryl Nichols, Steve Nichols, Tom O'Brien, Trisha O'Brien, Beth Sobiloff, Don Williams and Geri Williams  
Absent: Melissa Ferretti, Brian Harrington, Jerry Levine, Martha Sheldon,

Special Attendees:  
Lee Pulis

**President Williams opened HPWA Tuesday, March 7, 2023, Zoom meeting at 7:00 PM**

**Secretary Report:**

Tess Goldmann requested that submitted minutes to be amended from voted on funds for the letter to neighbors of Alper Nature Preserve to be allotted to the town not Wildlands Trust. Motion made to accept February 2023 Meeting minutes as amended. Motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

**Treasury Report:**

Good news was we met our 2022 Budget. A motion was made to accept 2022 Year-end Budget as submitted. Motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Audit Committee will begin auditing 2022 shortly.

2023 Budget will soon be prepared. Treasurer John Foye will be sending out forms to Committee Chairs to ascertain their expenses for 2023.

**Upcoming Events:**

(These events will be announced in our newsletter and emailed to our members.)

**Plymouth Herring Festival** – Tess Goldmann has volunteered to manage HPWA participation in Plymouth Herring Festival on Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>. Tess laid out what we will need to staff event. She got some volunteers at meeting, including Don Williams, Geri Williams, Ramona Krogman, Tom O'Brien, and of course Lee Pulis will bring the predator wood carvings for obstacle course!

**Plymouth Trash Pick-up Day** – Paul Denencourt and Linda White volunteered to manage our participation in Plymouth Trash Pick-up Day, May 13th. They will coordinate areas to be cleaned up by volunteers, make trash bags available, and arrange return of full trash bags.

**Herring Count** – Chair Ramona Krogman informed us that she sent out first email for herring count volunteers. She got a good response.

**Committees:**

**Water Quality Plan Committee** - Chair Don Williams reported he thinks we should continue this committee to follow through with remediation plans with the town. All original committee volunteers agreed to remain on committee. Don to get everyone's schedules and arrange committee's next meeting.

**Outreach Committee** – Chair Geri Williams reported she is working on three Zoom presentations for our members. 1) Geri has lined up a herring presentation by Meghna Marjadi, who did her graduate school dissertation on juvenile herring and plankton they eat, sometime in mid-April to give our seasonal herring count a boost. 2) Geri is

planning a program about the importance of buffers, how to maintain and restore them. She is thinking of inviting Richard Vacca, a Plymouth Conservation Planner, to give this presentation. 3) Geri has talked to Eric Cody of Friends of Ellisville Harbor, part of ACEC. He is willing to give a presentation about what Friends of Ellisville Harbor do.

**Social Committee** - Chair Cheryl Nichols ran by board some events she is interested in running. She asked about board protocols for her planning: who to notify, how to get approval, how to get information out to membership, etc. Tess Goldmann and Trish O'Brien volunteered to help on the Social Committee. While discussing the planned Fourth of July boat parade, our Boat Ride idea from last year was revisited. And, Jack Kedian informed us he knows a lot about our annual picnic which he'll relay to Cheryl.

**Education Committee** – Chair Tess Goldmann updated the board that Wildlands did send a letter to abutters of Alper Nature Preserve. They are not authorized to include non-abutting neighbors in scope of their letter; but HPWA can send a letter to them, about 20-25 non-abutting neighbors. Tess is willing to write the letter. It was motioned that Tess will write letter to non-abutting neighbors of Alper Nature Preserve, email it to board for review and approval, and, that HPWA will pay expense of letters. Motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Phil informed us that he emailed Tess about HPWA hosting Bird House Project again, as an idea for Education Committee. Phil and Lee Pulis ran it a couple of years ago when it was well received by our members. Idea was well received by board.

**Safety Committee** – Chair Tom O'Brien reported that he received an email from Plymouth South High School that Moses Memorial is near completion, including a picture of its progress. Once it is ready for pick-up, we'll deliver it to Moses family for them to write their sentiments on white border. Then, we'll have an unveiling ceremony for family and friends at boat ramp where it will be permanently placed.

#### Meetings Attended:

Vice President Ramona Krogman reported she is planning to attend Grant Fair at Bridgewater State. She had nothing to report at this time because fair was postponed to March 13<sup>th</sup>.

#### Old Business:

**Plymouth Youth Foundation Donation** – Don Williams reported he sent another email to Betty Cavaco regarding our \$5,000.00 donation to Plymouth Youth Foundation with no reply.

**Clearcutting** – At Conservation Commission recent meeting, Randy Parker suggested that we need to report names and addresses of clearcutting violators. It is discussed whether or not we want to do this under umbrella of HPWA. It is voted upon that, though we know the Conservation Commission needs this information to respond and investigate, we do not want to report names and addresses of violations as an Association but can as individuals not representing HPWA.

#### New Business:

**Does anyone need help** - No one responded to needing help.

**Orientation for New Board Members** – Phil Angell suggested that board renew an orientation process for new board members. He and Brian Harrington had written a handbook of responsibilities of HPWA Board of Trustees. Phil suggested that we define an orientation process to include new members review handbook, ethics, job descriptions, by-laws, budget, and sign for them. Don volunteered to talk with new board members, and suggested that perhaps the Vice President could disseminate this information to new members to sign, and to current members to re-sign annually. Vice President Ramona Krogman and Phil will meet on this.

**HPWA Archives** – Phil Angell suggested that a special binder for Water Quality Study Plan should be made for Vice President to keep as permanent record. Board Discussion continued that this binder should also include a written history of our actions on this matter, all slides, and that the Study’s Executive Summary be posted on our website with a google drive link to access whole document. Phil and Don will meet on this.

**Legislative Breakfast** – Board discussed that HPWA have representation at Plymouth’s Legislative Breakfast because it’s an opportunistic event to discuss our goals.

**Water Monitoring** – Jack Kedian suggested we look into PEFA testing in our pond and well water. He volunteered to call Envirotech Laboratories to get cost of PEFA testing.

**Schedule of upcoming BOD Meetings:**

**Monday, April 17<sup>th</sup>**

**Tuesday, May 16<sup>th</sup>**

**Monday, June 19<sup>th</sup>**

**President Don Williams asked for motion to adjourn meeting.**

**Motion was moved, seconded and unanimously approved.**

**Meeting adjourned at 9:05 PM**

Approved