

**Herring Ponds Watershed Association**  
**Tuesday, May 16, 2023, Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes**

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

Absent: Melissa Ferretti

Special Attendees: Eric Cody, Adela Hruby, Paula Marcoux, Jack Scambos

**President Williams opened HPWA Tuesday, May 16, 2023, Zoom meeting at 7:00 PM**

**Secretary Report:**

Motion made to accept April 2023 meeting minutes as amended with a few corrections to the Water Quality Management Implementation Committee's discussion. Motion seconded and unanimously approved.

**Treasury Report:**

Motion made to accept the April 2023 Balance Sheet. Motion seconded and unanimously approved.

**Meeting with Friends of Ellisville Marsh, Inc. Board of Directors:**

Members of Friends of Ellisville Marsh, Inc. Board of Directors representatives - Eric Cody, Adela Hruby, Paula Marcoux, and Jack Scambos joined our meeting tonight for us to learn more about each other's organizations.

After introductions, the two groups discussed each groups goals agreeing their environmental concerns are not exactly aligned as the marsh's increased nitrogen due to tidal flow restrictions increasing, and, our ponds water quality issue is high phosphorus from septic, and run-off. Friends of Ellisville Marsh, Inc. suggested we also meet with Savory Pond Conservatory governance to form a relationship for joint ventures because of the commonalities of water quality issues. Both groups discussed membership recruitment and retention at length. Each Board gained knowledge from one another and decided to continue relationship by staying in touch through Eric Cody and Don Williams. All agreed tonight's meeting began a start to a good relationship.

**Committees:**

**Water Quality Management Implementation Committee** – Chair Don Williams briefly discussed water testing done as a continuation of our ponds' study and water testing recordings.

**Membership Committee** - Chair Martha Sheldon showed the Board the HPWA tote bags she had made to give to members who donated over \$100 toward membership. All members get a HPWA sticker. All Board members were impressed with the tote bags and thankful of Martha.

**Social Committee** – Chair Cheryl Nichols reported plans are underway for the season's first event, Family Fish Day on Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, from 10AM to 2PM. She asked board how she can obtain HPWA bar code for possible donations and the HPWA banner that she saw on our table at Plymouth's Herring Festival. Beth will send the bar code to Cheryl and Don will get tent, banner, and HPWA literature to her. Cheryl will get event details to Communications Committee for dissemination to members. Cheryl will also hang an event sign in front of her property on Herring Pond Road as advertisement of the event. The Social Committee has already met on other planning.

Cheryl also asked the Board who to contact for the use of the property where we have our annual picnic. Jack Kedian will send her contact information for the Weston's. Cheryl said she is interested in having a "bouncy thing" at the Annual Picnic to attract more children to the event. If the Weston's don't want "bouncy thing" on their property (liability), she can put it on her own neighboring property and clear a pathway to access it.

### **Old Business:**

**Plymouth Clean-up Day** – Paul Denoncourt, who managed this event for us, reported that our participation was a success. Volunteers collected 21 bags of trash (lots of nip bottles), 8 tires, a mattress, an air conditioner, a refrigerator, and a hockey puck. Paul has contacted the town to pick up these items. Board expressed gratitude for Paul's efforts. Ramona Krogman suggested we host a social hour after next year's Clean-up Day to attract more volunteers.

**Moses Memorial** – Safety Committee Chair Tom O'Brien reported the Moses Memorial, made by Construction Cluster of Plymouth North and Plymouth South High Schools, came out amazing, was attached to a tree at Great Herring Pond's public boat ramp and was unveiled at the boat ramp on Mother's Day, at the family's request. Matt Moses' 12-year-old son, mother of his son, his parents, sisters, brother-in laws, and nieces attended. They were overjoyed how beautiful the memorial came out, grateful to HPWA for gifting it, and, hoped it would be a reminder of safety to young boaters. It was a very emotional event. HPWA was represented by Jerry Levine, Paul Denoncourt, and Chris Lewis.

**Boat Rides** – President Don Williams revisited HPWA hosting boat rides, discussed at length during last year's meetings, asking for a volunteer to coordinate these rides for members without boats. Jack Kedian stepped up to manage these rides, with Beth Sobiloff volunteering for scheduling. We had already established Board members willing to host these rides on their boats.

**Wampanoag Library Dedication** – Ran out of meeting time for a full report but our very own Board member, Melissa Ferretti invited us to a dedication ceremony for the new Wampanoag Library on Herring Pond Road. Don Williams was able to attend and reported tonight that the dedication was a great success, attended by many. To be completely reported on at next meeting.

**Owl Box Workshop** – This event was also not fully reported on due to meeting time constraints. Phil Angell, who organized this event, did briefly report the event was a success. To be revisited for further details.

### **New Business:**

**Plant Sale** – Geri Williams announced she will once again have a plant sale, cuts from all of her beautiful gardens, on Wednesday, May 17<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, May 18<sup>th</sup>. She raised approximately \$600.00 for HPWA at her last year's plant sale.

**Participation in Southeastern MA Climate Change Meeting** – HPWA has been invited to participate in this meeting. President Don Williams asked for Board approval to represent HPWA at it. His role would be to report on our organization and our concerns about the sand and gravel mining practices in Plymouth and its effect on water quality. Much Board discussion ensued. It was decided Don will represent us well at this meeting.

**Schedule of upcoming BOD Meetings:  
Monday, June 19<sup>th</sup>**

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

**Schedule of upcoming HPWA Events:**

**Family Fishing Day – Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup>**

**Boat Parade –Tuesday, July 4<sup>th</sup>**

**Movie Night – Saturday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>**

**Annual Picnic – Saturday, August 5<sup>th</sup>**

**Annual Meeting – Monday, August 21<sup>st</sup>**

**Movie Night – Saturday, August 26<sup>th</sup>**

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

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

**Meeting adjourned at 9:20 PM**

**Approved**