

**March 11, 2010 Board Meeting
Messalonskee Lake Association
Minutes**

Present:

Mike Willey
Lorne McMillan
Bob Nardi
Mark Fisher
Ed Pearl
Ned Hammond
Dave Corwin

Meeting was called to order at 7:00pm

2010 Membership Drive / Newsletter

The board discussed the need to publish the newsletter around the third week in April in order to promote the membership renewal drive for the summer season. Bob Nardi agreed to take on coordinating the information and working with Haskins Printing to accomplish this task. Other members will send Bob material and ideas for articles by email. The main focus will be on the Maine Milfoil Initiative Grant. Other subjects include Water Quality, the Lake Safety boat, Status of Milfoil work on other lakes, etc.

2010 Maine Milfoil Initiative

Lorne McMillian reviewed the status of the Grant Application. There are still a lot of loose ends, but it is clear that MLA will be the recipient of one of the seven grants. This is a matching funds grant that will likely bring an additional significant funding to support some significant milfoil mitigation work in 2010. However at this point it is a one year program and MLA needs to consider this in a longer sustainable plan for Milfoil Mitigation on the lake

MLA will manage and coordinate Milfoil Management in conjunction with the Belgrade Regional Conservation Alliance. (BRCA). BRCA has the infrastructure to help administer, account, and hire resources to work on the program. MLA does not have this infrastructure at this point. Just how this will all work is still in question and Lorne discussed the upcoming meeting between members of the MLA board and BRCA management to draft a letter of agreement between the two organizations on the process for managing the program.

Lorne also discussed the fact that we had made an attempt to put together a budget based on what is currently known about the potential grant funding but

that there were too many unknowns on the funding and expense side to complete this at this time. Therefore the meeting with BRCA is crucial to be able to get a complete picture on the budget. We have some expense items identified but not enough to get a complete picture of the finances for 2010 yet.

Mark Fisher informed the board that the Town of Oakland had approved a reduced amount of \$2,500 for MLA for 2010.

Mike Willey informed the board that two additional grant applications had been submitted to support the matched funding for the federal grant.

Corporate Sponsors

Lorne McMillan updated the status of last year's efforts to get funding from Corporate Sponsors. 12 letters were sent out and four responses have been received. Although the amounts are less than in past years the number of responses is greater. We received approximately \$1100.00 dollars in corporate donations in 2009. Ned Hammond suggested we start now with discussions with local establishments. Lorne will send out a list of the contacts we sent to in 2009 and others should be added to this list. We also discussed and generally agreed that we should purchase some logo gifts to be given away to corporate sponsors and members at the membership meeting...

Lake Safety Boat

The Board discussed the opportunity to buy the Maritime boat loaned to us last summer by the Maine Marine Patrol. The boat will be coming up for auction on April 1st. The Town of Oakland has agreed to facilitate the purchase of this from the state for us if an acceptable amount is bid by MLA at the auction... A motion was made, seconded and approved to limit the bid amount to \$2,501. Ed Pearl and Ned Hammond will attend the auction with Peter Nielson, Oakland Town Manager. They will provide status to the board after the April 1st action. If our bid is not successful we will reevaluate our boat options at a board meeting later in the year.

Note: Subsequent to the meeting, the board approved increasing the bid limit amount to \$3,500

Meeting Adjourned at 8:45pm