

**Memphremagog Watershed Association Board meeting
4:30 p.m., January 11, 2017 CCV are in the State Building**

Present: Kendall Lambert, Mary Pat Goulding, Don Hendrich, Lynn Jenness, Bill Round, Jennifer Hopkins, Gail Lynch, Sara McKenny.

Absent: Pat Vana, Maria Young Beth Torpey, Peg Hollander, Emily DeHoff, David Converse,

The meeting opened with a presentation by Emily Tocci, President of the Garden Club, to the MWA as the recipient of the Harriet Canfield Conservation Award. The Garden Club entered the MWA for this award that is given by the Federal Garden Clubs of Vermont for the planting, labeling and maintenance which was done by members of the MWA on the Clyde River.

Secretary's report: Moved (Don Hendrich) and seconded (Bill Round) to approve the minutes of the November meeting as emailed. Passed.

Treasurer's report – Jennifer presented a revised format of the Treasurer's report which she hopes will be easy to read and understand. Jennifer plans to meet and go over finances with Susan Watson. She reported that MWA did very well from revenue from the Kingdom Games and the Board hopes as an organization, to continue to support them and their programs. As soon as weather permits Jennifer would like to complete an inventory of rain barrels and other items in the storage unit. The annual fee for the Go Daddy account will be taken care of and it was suggested that we use the bank charge card for this. Also, as of today, all bills are paid.

Membership committee (Lynn Jenness)

Lynn reported we have a total of 118 members. We had 83 renewals, 15 new members, 1 return member prior to 2015, 2 new business members and 17 renewal business members. Lynn, Sara and Jennifer have met to discuss the membership format and would like to use the same form for email, letter and brochure to assure that the same information is gathered and recorded for members. A discussion ensued regarding what should be included on the membership form. Peg Hollander has been looking at various ways to have people sign up for committees etc. online. We will look at changing the brochure format and thus align other membership forms so that they all coincide. We are asking that board members look at the brochure, and at the February meeting we will discuss possible changes to the form. We will notify members of these changes so that people can sign up to be part of working committees and projects. The membership committee will be sending out an email notice for membership renewal in early spring and then a letter renewal notice will also be sent out to those who request mail format.

Budget notes- the board members went over the previous budget and made recommendations for the next budget. Jennifer will compile ideas and submit a proposed budget for the next meeting in February.

Events and calendar notes – Board members went over the calendar and events for the upcoming year.

Gail suggested that we use the 10th Anniversary as our theme for events this year and everyone agreed. Several ideas were discussed about using this as a focus also for the Annual Meeting and how to celebrate this. A committee will form to discuss this, and anyone who wants to become part of this should contact Mary Pat.

MWA plans to hold an event to celebrate the publication of the Louise Abbot book on the Lake with a possible activity at the Mac Center. We are thinking of a possible date that would also be in conjunction with the MCI celebration of this .

Another event that is planned is a co-celebration with MCI which would include a flag exchange ceremony on the lake at the USA/Canada border over the Labor Day weekend.

MWA has been invited to the Leahy ECHO Summit and members would like to attend. Also discussion ensued regarding TMDL and RCCP events and checking with Ben Copans regarding these possible events.

Bill Round mentioned that the VIP and Greeters programs are planning on combining training manuals into a single manual. Also there was discussion about a possible refresher course and possible group meeting of lake associations to address this. While discussing Greeter programs, people talked about the success of former programs and where the most boat "launchings" occur.

Mary Pat will contact Chris J. regarding the possibility of the Northern Star providing the Youth Cruises which were held last year.

Discussion also followed centered around the Kayak Paddle trips. Gail stated that the Eagle Point Kayak Paddle has been very successful and feels this should occur again this year. Don mentioned other successful paddles and suggested we hold one other Kayak Paddle, the place to be determined.

Committee structure –People on the board will look at the Committee listings on the brochure and discuss final determinations at the February meeting.

OLD BUSINESS The Louise Abbott book was discussed during the events and calendar section of the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mary Pat suggested that we determine a monthly meeting date and time and proposed the third **Wednesday** of each month at 4:30 pm. and the Board agreed on the following dates:

Feb 15th , March 15th ,April 19th ,May 17th ,June 21st ,July 19th ,August 16th ,Septmeber20th,October18th, and November 15th .

Gail discussed the winter newsletter and said it will be sent out within a week. Lindsay Cotnoir, one of the first MWA Scholarship recipients is a part of the newsletter. The Scholarship entry deadline is set for April 3rd.

The meeting adjourned at 6:29 p.m. **The next meeting will be February, 15th.**

Respectfully submitted,
Sara McKenny, acting secretary