

MWA NOTES
MWA Board meeting December 14, 2022
Work Commons Conference Room and Remote connections

President, Tom Latta opened the meeting at 5:00 p.m. and left the meeting at approximately 6:00. Present: at Work Commons Conference room; Officers: Marnie Mackenzie (Vice-President), Mary Pat Goulding (Secretary), David Converse (ex-officio); Board members: Farley Brown, Beth Torpey; Karen Hruby, Peter Lepine (MCI representative, Zoom) left meeting approximately 5:30, Dennis Bond (zoom), Staff members: Patrick Hurley
Not in attendance: Hillary Potter, Doug Coutts

Partnership Update:

Peter Lepine reported that MCI discussed the possibility of sharing MCI's mailing list with MWA. The conclusion of the MCI Board was that their mailing list information is confidential and therefore is not available for sharing. Mr. Converse reported that MCM had a good season on the Northern Star. There is boat maintenance underway for the winter and early spring. Plans are underway for next season. MCM is also looking into hiring a backup captain for future seasons.

Introduction of New Hire:

Patrick Hurley introduced Gabryel Gianoni the new hire specifically for the riparian projects, she will also be available to some support work for MWA as time allows. The Board and those present welcomed Gaby and introduced themselves to her. Gaby will start working for MWA remotely by the end of January 2023 and expects to be working in-person by March 2023

Secretary's Report:

Regular Board Meeting Minutes – 11/9/2022 (employee review); 10/12/2022, Executive Committee Minutes for 11/9/2022 and 12/12/2022. Motion to accept the minutes – Marnie Mackenzie, seconded by Karen Hruby. No discussion. Approved unanimously

Treasurer's Report:

Financials for 11/30/2022 see attached spread sheet and notes regarding the submittal of 2021 990 tax return and the updating of MWA's yearend balance sheet to reflect accounts receivables. No discussion. Ms. Goulding also reported that not included in the financial report are donations totaling \$16,000 over the previous two-week period.

Project Manager's Report:

Please see Patrick Hurley's detailed report. Mr. Hurley also reported the approval of the Grant to design the Green Storm Water retrofit projects at the Glover elementary school and Glover Town offices. The decision to complete this project in-house or to contract will be contingent on the award of additional projects.

A proposal for project development with two private landowners in Westmore and Charleston has been submitted to the Forested Headwaters. This proposal is to do some forest road upgrades and stream crossing design. This is a new work sector for MWA and probably will be a project for Ms. Gianoni.

Deliverables are being submitted for the Willoughby Lake action plan.

An appraisal for a potential land acquisition by the Fish and Wildlife Department has been received.

Marina Project update is that a draft easement and site plan has been submitted to Doug Spates for approval and signature. The proposed date for bid documents to go out is January 23, 2023. A geological boring at the site is scheduled for early January.

Currently there is no concern about funding the project.

New Business:

Motion to hire Gabryel Gianoni contingent on reference verification - Marnie Mackenzie, seconded by Tom Latta. No discussion. Approved unanimously.

Motion to approve Project Manager's job description - Marnie Mackenzie, seconded by Farley Brown. No further discussion. Approved unanimously.

Mr. Hurley explained the purchase of survey equipment by his private consulting company. A pre-approval rental arrangement for the equipment has been established with MWA. Approval of rental of this equipment from Mr. Hurley would require MWA treasurer's approval and the cost will be reimbursable by project work.

Committee Reports/Other Activities Updates:

Brochure Committee will meet in-person January 9, 2023, at 5:00 PM, Work Commons Conference room.

Events:

Watershed Brews and News – Title of the event is established as "Watershed News and Brews". Possible dates for the event, March 12 or 19. MWA Board approved the concept of the event with various partners and proposed agenda. A meeting after the holidays will be held to firm up details with the brewery and partners.

Bluffside Ski and Snowshoe event: - The Board approved to sponsor this event again this year on the last weekend of February (February 26, 2023).

Lake Association Meeting – The meeting was very well received and will be a line item in the Tactical Basin workplan for the coordination of such meetings regularly. The position of Lake Association coordinator is being considered. The Lake Associations were very receptive to gaining information and being informed about resources. In response to a question by Ms. Brown it was reported that Judy Davis represented Little Hosmer Lake at the Lake Association meeting.

Mr. Bond said that Salem Lake is working on a presentation that would be available to share with MWA. He also asked if the DECON station would be available to share with other Lakes. The DECON station currently will only be at the most popular boat launches on Memphremagog since Memphremagog is considered a vector lake.

Mr. Latta reported that the Town of Newport will be matching the state funding for the DECON greeter position in the amount of \$12,500.

Current Grant Status Updates:

Regional Aquatic Nuisance Control - final report submitted, awaiting formal closeout.

See Project Manager's Report. Patrick Hurley reported on the Glover storm water Treatment design award. And the grant application to Forested Headwaters for a water quality project grant.

Draft Biennial Report on Solid Waste – Ms. Goulding reported that she and Ms. Hopkins met with Representatives Page and Smith to update them on the work that MWA is doing. Mr. Page's response to the Solid Waste Report was the result of that meeting. Mr. Page will also be bringing legislation forward to increase the trust fund for the Coventry landfill. Mr. Smith agreed to support legislation for watershed signage.

Bryan Dickenson – Ms. Goulding explained Bryan's interest in MWA and the work he is doing. She also indicated that he is interested in joining the MWA board and is invited to attend the January 11, 2023 to meet the current board.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:22 PM

Next Meeting:

March 8, 2023, 5:00PM - board meeting

Computer link above, or dial by your location +1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

NOTE: If more detail of the discussions is desired, please request the link to the recording of this meeting.

Attachments:

Treasurer's Report

Program Manager's report

Respectfully submitted:

Mary Pat Goulding
Secretary