

MWA Board meeting May 8, 2024

Work Commons Conference Room and Remote connections

President, Tom Latta opened the meeting at approximately 5:28 p.m. - delay due to initial lack of quorum Present: at Work Commons Conference room; Officers: Marnie Mackenzie (Vice President), Jennifer Hopkins (Treasurer) by ZOOM, Mary Pat Goulding (Secretary); Board members: Karen Hurby.. Guests: Valerie Dillon (telephone)

Secretary's Report – Ms. Mackenzie made a motion to approve the following Board Minutes and Executive Committee Minutes : Board Minutes- March 13, 24
Executive Committee Minutes- March 27, 24 April 10, 24.
Ms. Hruby seconded the motion. The motion was approved

Treasurer's Report – Ms. Hopkins reported that MWA has the resources to meet all commitments and salaries – all receivables have been received and all payables have been paid. A 6-month CD was purchased with \$15,000 excess funds at an interest rate of 4.95%. Multiple CD will be coming due in June, July, and October. MWA's accounts will be changing over the next quarter with the increase of salaries and the posting of expenses.

President's Report:

Update on Marina Project Ribbon Cutting - Currently Scheduled for June 21

Subpoena - Re: State of Vermont v. 3M company, et al. - Nothing new

Overtime pay – Ms. Hopkins explained that by law any employee who works over 40 hours in any given week the employee needs to be paid overtime. Currently, Ms. Gianoni and Mr. Hurley are scheduled to work 30 hrs./week, and Ms. Symes is scheduled for 40 hrs./week. Every two weeks the employees receive a check for the scheduled hours. At the end of each month hours worked are reconciled. Going forward a weekly accounting of hours worked over 40hrs./week will be kept and employees will be paid at time and one half for those hours. Last calendar year there were approximately 30 that were worked that could be considered overtime. The executive committee will decide if these hours should be retroactively paid at the overtime rate. No vote is required for this procedure.

Administrative Specialist – Interviews are underway. Ms. Goulding is doing preliminary conversations with the candidates to determine their understanding of the position and to answer any questions prior to a formal interview with the Executive Committee. Ms. Goulding has spoken with Laura Bettran and is scheduled to speak with Jeanette Powell on Friday this week at 3:30 pm. Ms. Goulding reported that Ms. Bettran has a good understanding of the position and would be more than capable of performing the work, However, she resides in Bethal, Vermont is not planning to relocate so much of her efforts would be remote with perhaps monthly site visits. The Board indicated that long-distance working could be a disadvantage to MWA.

Scholarship Award – This year the Scholarship committee awarded 4 scholarships rather than the usual 3. The Scholarship Fund is normally \$1500 or an award of \$500 each. It was proposed that each awardee receive \$500 rather than two awardees receiving only \$250. This proposal was approved by the MWA Board by an email vote. Therefore, the fund was increased to \$2000 for this year. Since the current Scholarship Committee is retiring the Board should request that a report on the scholarship review process be submitted.

Greeter Program Training – Scheduled at Lake Region High School on May 11. MWA is cohosting with DEC Lakes and Ponds.

Eagle Point Paddle – Paul Hamlin is not available this year. Ms. Goulding will contact NorthWoods to determine availability to lead the paddle.

High School Phragmites cutting – scheduled for June 11

Conversations with the City Manager – Mr. Latta requested and met with the City Manager about the wastewater treatment facility concerning the spill into the Clyde River. It is believed that the majority of the spill was contained and did not flow into the Lake. Mr. Latta also shared the Vector Lake proposal with the City Manager in order for the City to be aware of this project. Mr. Latta also discussed the storm drain issue on School Street with the City Manager.

Cyanobacteria Symposium – Scheduling of speakers is underway. Propose date is the third or fourth week of July.

YDP on Northern Star – MemSEC is happy to have the MWA deliver the MWA 4th grade program on the Northern Star.

News and Brews – no decision yet.

Annual Meeting – No location or speaker determined yet. Suggested date would be the regular Board Meeting Day in August. Discussion about possible new Board members.

Project Manager's Report – Report is attached to the agenda.

The City Manager has reported to Mr. Latta that he has gotten complaints about the trees that MWA has planted along the Clyde and if they are pulled up the City will not replant.

New Business:

Ms. Hruby asked about the managing of trash at the Newport Town Fish and Wildlife boat launch.

Ms. Dillon presented some requests from Peter Isles to help with cyanobacteria monitoring. More details are needed.

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for June 10, 2024, at 5 pm.

Ms. Mackenzie moved to adjourned, Ms. Hopkins seconded.
The meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Pat Goulding
Secretary MWA