

**MWA NOTES**  
**MWA Board meeting January 11, 2023**  
**Work Commons Conference Room and Remote connections**

President, Tom Latta opened the meeting at 5:00 p.m. Present: at Work Commons Conference room; Officers: Marnie MacKenzie (Vice-President), Jennifer Hopkins (Treasurer), Mary Pat Goulding (Secretary), David Converse (ex-officio); Board members: Farley Brown, Beth Torpey, Doug Coutts (Zoom) Visitor: Bryan Dickenson  
Not in attendance: Karen Hruby, Hillary Potter

**Secretary's Report:**

Regular Board Meeting Minutes – December 14, 2022. Correction Jennifer Hopkins is added as Not in attendance. Motion to accept December 14, 2022, minutes as corrected and January 5, 2023 Executive Committee notes– Jennifer Hopkins, seconded by Marnie MacKenzie. No discussion, Approved unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Financials for 12/31/2022 see attached spreadsheet. Ms. Hopkins reviewed the donations for 2022 for a total of \$18,969. She also updated the Board on the realignment of the balance sheet at the year end closeout. The closeout balance will reflect adjustments in grant allocations that will update the final balance. Ms. Hopkins has also purchased a 5-month CD for \$1,000 at 5% interest. She will also be purchasing a longer-term CD at 4% interest.

**New Business:**

1. Gabryel Gianoni has accepted the position of Project Coordinator. Consensus of the Board Moving has allocated moving expenses for Ms. Gianoni in the amount of \$500. Ms. Gianoni has an MWA email address [ggianoni@mwayt.org](mailto:ggianoni@mwayt.org). A computer has been delivered to her in Nevada and she will begin work remotely on January 23, 2023. She will be in Newport to work in person beginning April 3, 2023.
2. Administrative Director Job description - Several samples have been reviewed and a draft will be submitted to the Executive committee for review. Once a final draft is ready it will be submitted to the Board for review and approval. This may be done by email if completed prior to the next meeting.
3. 2023 YDP – A proposal will be submitted January 9, 2023, to Vermont Fish and Wildlife in the amount of approximately \$5,000 to fund the 2023 YDP program. The YDP will take place this year the last two weeks in May and the first week in June at Prouty Beach
4. MWA's Board welcomed Bryan Dickenson, a potential new board member to complete Hillary Potter's term. Mr. Dickenson gave a brief introduction of how he became interested in MWA and the work he is currently doing developing curriculum for the high school. The Board enthusiastically encouraged Mr. Dickenson to join the Board.

**Current Grant Status Updates:**

1. Regional Aquatic Nuisance Control - final report has been accepted on this grant. The state will be funding MWA again this year to administer the 2023 AIS grant. Ms. Torpey praised Jennifer Hopkin's work on managing this grant. Ms. Hopkins gave a history of this program for the benefit of new and potential Board members.
2. Project Manager's Report: See Project manager's report dated January 9, 2023, attached to Board materials for January 11, 2023, Board meeting. A motion was made to submit an Echo-Seymour Lake Watershed Action Plan proposal in partnership with OCNRCD, and Northwoods Stewardship. The proposal will be for \$50,000 and is due January 27, 2023. Motion to approve proposal was made by Jennifer Hopkins and seconded by Farley Brown. Motion approved.
3. Review and discussion of the current status of the Marina project followed.

**Committee Reports/Other Activities Updates:**

1. Watershed Brews and News – March 12 was reported as the proposed date for this event. An outline of the program and partners was made by Ms. Goulding. Specific plans will be forthcoming.
2. Bluffside Ski and Snowshoe event: - The event is on schedule to take place on February 26, 2023. Review of this event was made for the benefit of the potential and new Board members.
3. Other possible activities – River Cleanup, Phragmites management, continued maintenance of the Clyde River rain garden.
4. Brochure Committee – mockup of proposed new brochure will be ready for review by the Executive board shortly. Ms. MacKenzie gave background on the development of the mockup.
5. Website - upgrade is underway. Jethro MWA's web manager is donating his expertise to this effort. Future funding for Jethro should be considered. Ms. Brown volunteered a copy of her presentation from a previous MWA Annual meeting as content for the website.

**Other Business:**

1. MCI – Concerned about floating saunas in Magog harbor.
2. If qualified MCM will be submitting a grant for the Community Recovery Revitalization Program. A USDA grant has been resubmitted. Education programs will continue on the Northern Star in 2023 season. The Rubenstein program from UVM will be assisting again this year. Congressional funding sponsored by Senator Sanders has been approved for \$150,000. These funds will be administered by NOAA. This funding will be supporting educational programs at the Gateway Center. Collaboration between UVM, Auburn University, and Sherbrooke University for a graduate research program on Memphremagog is going forward and is scheduled for the last week of May. Mr. Coutts gave some background to some of the programs he is involved in.
3. Ms. Torpey reported on the Wake boat petition. Review and positive comments will be encouraged.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:30 PM

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

Respectfully submitted:

Mary Pat Goulding  
Secretary

**Next Meetings:**

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

May 10, 2023, 5:00PM - board meeting

New Zoom link access Computer link

Topic: MWA Board of Directors meeting

Time: 5 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6640694398?pwd=eUFRkRkXeEFyMTdVbjdPZ3BodjJldz09>

Meeting ID: 664 069 4398

Passcode: 203040

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