

**Memphremagog Watershed Association Board meeting
4:40 p.m., February 15, 2017 room 250 State Building**

Present: Ben Copans, David Converse, Kendall Lambert, Mary Pat Goulding, Peg Hollander, Bill Round, Gail Lynch, Beth Torpey, Pat Vana. Also, Andy Cappello

Absent: Maria Young, Emily DeHoff, Don Hendrich, Lynn Jenness, Jennifer Hopkins

The meeting began with Andy Cappello talking about the Newport initiatives: greeter program at the dock - user washing certificates and stickers to be sold (\$5) at the dock; hydro rake will be used in July of this year in two designated areas around the dock. Hand pulling of weeds will happen at Prouty Beach. Training is involved for the greeter program – Andy would like our members to be paid volunteers.

Secretary's report: Moved (Gail Lynch) and seconded (Bill Round) to approve the minutes of the January meeting as emailed. Passed.

Treasurer's report – Moved (Pat Vana) and seconded (David Converse) to accept the budget as written. January report indicates current loss is \$399.88.

Membership committee – Mary Pat with the help of Kendall will organize a table at the Newport City municipal building on March 7.

Events and calendar notes – MWA will help support terrestrial invasive species educational tour at Bluffside on May 23. Gail suggested a new project which would involve Bluffside Farm.

VIP Training will be scheduled soon and may be combined with a greeter training session.

Louise Abbott book signing will be in conjunction with an exhibit at the MAC Center one day the weekend of June 23-25. Possibility of that date being the annual meeting as well.

MWA has been invited to the Leahy ECHO Summit March 24 and 25. The summit should pull together a strategic plan for waste water issues in our watershed. Potential attendees are Mary Pat Goulding, Don Hendrich, Tom Bernier, Bob Kelley, Kendall Lambert, Beth Torpey, Ben Copans, Sara Damsell, and hopefully, someone from Northwoods.

Bill spoke briefly about funding for the clean water act. The next tactical plan for the watershed will be out in two months. Ben Copans will be expecting us to help with the public comment.

The meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m. **The next meeting will be March 15th at 4:30 with a 3 p.m. planning meeting for the ECHO Summit.**

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Vana, secretary MWA

