

TORSEY POND ASSOCIATION

Annual Meeting

July 11, 2020

Via Zoom

1. Vice President Darcy Whittemore reported 25 members attending via Zoom. There were also 5 members of the Board of Directors acting as panelists. A quorum was thus established.
2. President Andrea Falaguerra opened the meeting with some appreciations:
 - Susan Gallo from Maine Lakes is managing the Zoom webinar for us.
 - Our members of the Board of Directors have attended several extra meetings in order to plan this virtual annual meeting.
 - Holly Rahmlow is responsible for our beautiful newsletter.
 - Our officers and directors are responsible for operating the dam, planning its restoration, organizing courtesy boat inspections (CBI's), and planning today's meeting.

She also highlighted some of the recent accomplishments of the TPA:

- Last year we had our largest membership ever.
 - The upcoming renovation of the dam is our largest fundraising project ever.
 - We are very close to our fundraising goal, the contractor has been chosen, and the project is scheduled.
 - And all of these were accomplished in the middle of the pandemic.
3. Andrea told that in December, 2019 we lost our Clerk and friend, Sandra Gorry. Her family has established a memorial fund. You can contribute to this fund on our website on her memorial page. We will discuss with her family how to best spend these funds. Its balance now stands at \$11,700.
 4. Our first order of business is to approve the minutes of the 2019 annual meeting and recorded by Sandra. Clerk Mark Dershwitz said the minutes may be found on the website in the 2020 meeting tab. Darcy made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Treasurer Keith Coulling. The motion was approved unanimously.
 5. Andrea described the results of our fundraising for the dam repair thus far. Our goal is \$75,000. As of today, we have raised \$71,831. There have been 118 contributions, from 87 shorefront property owners and 31 additional friends, family, and anonymous donors. One anonymous donor made a \$10,000 donation.
 6. Treasurer (and damkeeper) Keith Coulling discussed the dam project. He showed photos of the dam and described the planned repairs. There is a new crack that recently appeared that has water flowing freely through it. This crack would be particularly dangerous if it were allowed to undergo the usual freeze/thaw cycles associated with winter. He showed the following slide detailing the overall renovation cost:

<i>Foundation:</i>	
<i>Shared cost(Mobilization, coffer dam, stone apron):</i>	\$73,214
<i>Readfield Cost(concrete work & 50% of shared):</i>	\$61,206
<i>TPA Cost(Sluice removal, concrete work, rip-rap, & 50% shared):</i>	\$61,948
<i>TPA Dam Plate(sand blast, paint, new guides, battery operator, and new water level gauge):</i>	\$10,336
<i>TPA Engineering Consultation</i>	\$2,500
<i>Total Cost:</i>	<u>\$135,990</u>
<i>Readfield Cost:</i>	\$ 61,206
<i>TPA Cost:</i>	\$ 74,784

The contractor chosen is Callahan Construction. The project is expected to start in early September. Water levels will be maintained during the project whose duration is expected to last about two months. Mark Dershwitz made a motion to spend \$75,000 on the dam repairs. It was seconded by Andrea Falaguerra, and approved unanimously.

A member asked how will unanticipated expenses be handled? Keith replied that there is a 20% contingency in the budget.

7. Andy Zuorski discussed courtesy boat inspections (CBI's). There are about 30 invasive plant infestations in Maine and this number is stable. Torsey Pond is near infested waterways: there are 5 in the Belgrade Lakes area, and 5 in the Winthrop/Gardiner area. The infestation in Annabessacook Lake is worse than previously thought and that lake will be treated with an herbicide soon. In the last two years, the cost of managing this infestation has been around \$250,000. This cost must be compared with our cost of performing CBI's that is about \$6,500 per year. CBI's are our first line of defense against an infestation, and the public boat launch at Torsey Pond is covered by CBI inspectors every weekend, plus this past vacation week, and some additional Mondays and Fridays. Andy asked members to please volunteer to perform CBI's. It is now possible to sign up via our website. Please inspect your own boat to make sure it is free of weeds. If you can't be a CBI inspector, please contribute to the CBI fund.

A member asked if training for CBI's is provided. Andy said that this year all inspections are contactless. There are training videos to view. Hands-on training via a current inspector is also available.

A member asked what are best practices for CBI's. Andy said again that CBI's are the first line of defense to prevent an infestation. The Cobbossee Watershed District (CWD) does plant surveys to look for invasive plants. Volunteers also do plant patrols. Some other lakes have boat wash stations, but that requires a large parking lot set back from the lake. In the past, the Friends of the Cobbossee Watershed (FOCW) have presented workshops on identifying invasive plants, and hopefully they will do so again in the future.

8. Treasurer Keith Coulling discussed the TPA's desire to purchase director's and officer's (D&O) liability insurance. Since we own and maintain the dam, organize CBI volunteers, and maintain navigational buoys, such insurance would protect directors and officers if they were sued for their work on behalf of the TPA. The Board of Directors unanimously supports this plan. Thus far, we have obtained two quotes, one about \$500 and the other about \$1,500. We need to clarify why there is such a disparity. Andy Zuorski made a motion for the TPA to identify and purchase D&O insurance. The motion was seconded by Mark Dershwitz, and it was approved with one vote in opposition.

A member asked if we should wait until after the dam repair is done to see if the insurance would be less expensive. Keith said that the risk seems to be related to the perceived size of the dam and the risk to property if it should fail (that, in fact, would be minimal).

9. Darcy Whittemore discussed the watershed survey. The TPA worked on the survey with the CWD in which the watershed was divided into 6 sectors, each separately surveyed by volunteers. The CWD wrote a protection plan that was submitted to the EPA and the Maine DEP and it has been accepted by both. Now property owners can apply for grant funding to assist in repairing areas highlighted in the report.

A member asked where the most critical areas are. Darcy said we can send the report to anyone who is interested. Keith said that the worst area was along Desert Pond Road, and after the report was shown to the Mt. Vernon selectpersons, the problem has been repaired. The next highest priority has been discussed with the property owners. Keith said he wanted to set up a meeting with them and

Bill Monagle, the director of the CWD and author of the report. Typically the property owner is expected to pay 50% of the cost of the repairs, and the state grant matches that. The process is long.

10. Susan Gallo of Maine Lakes talked about the Lake Smart program. Volunteer inspectors are invited to visit a person's property and make recommendations about strategies to improve shoreline health. If the property is found to meet certain standards, the property owners gets a Lake Smart award, including signs to place on the property.

A member asked who is the Lake Smart contact person for TPA. The TPA Board of Directors needs to appoint a new Lake Smart coordinator.

A member asked if watershed protection is based on minimizing erosion. Yes, as well as minimizing phosphorus pollution of the lake.

11. Treasurer Keith Coulling presented the Treasurer's Report. Our fiscal year ends June 30. We ended 2019 with a balance of \$8,798. Half of the dues collected by TPA is earmarked for the CBI fund. In addition, the Board of Directors voted additional funds for CBI's.

	General Fund	Sandra Memorial	Dam Maintenance Fund	Milfoil Fund	Total
Ending balance June 30, 2019	\$ 8,798	\$ -	\$ 6,041	\$ 1,179	\$ 16,018
2019-20 Revenue					
Dues	\$ 5,175				
General Donations	\$ 2,213		\$ 63,069	\$ 1,653	
Sandra Gorry Memorial		\$ 11,720			
State CBI grant 2019(Aug 9, payment #2)				\$ 500	
State CBI grant 2019(final payment)				\$ 500	
State CBI grant 2020(payment #1)				\$ 1,250	
Readfield Milfoil grant 2019				\$ 787	
Maine Business Money Market Interest			\$ 788		
Total Revenue	\$ 7,388	\$ 11,720	\$ 63,857	\$ 4,690	\$ 87,654
2019-20 Expenses					
Paypal Fees(2.2% +\$0.30 per trans.)	\$ 344				
Return check charge	\$ 7				
Lake Stewards of Maine(2019)	\$ 100				
Maine Lakes Society(2019)	\$ 200				
TPA Website	\$ 120				
Maine State Corporation filing	\$ 35				
FOCW CBI Inspections(2019)				\$ 5,520	
Watershed Based Protection Plan	\$ 1,000				
Kleinschmidt(Dam Inspection)			\$ 381		
Dam Donation Sign			\$ 51		
Dam "No Swimming" sign			\$ 97		
Dam Mailings			\$ 438		
2020 Newsletter	\$ 262				
Total Expenses	\$ 2,067	\$ -	\$ 966	\$ 5,520	\$ 8,554
50% dues transfer to Milfoil	\$ 2,588			\$ (2,588)	
Transfer from General to Milfoil 5/11/20	\$ 500			\$ (500)	
Transfer from General to Milfoil	\$ 1,500			\$ (1,500)	
Ending balance June 30, 2020	\$ 9,530	\$ 11,720	\$ 68,931	\$ 4,936	\$ 95,118

Since June 30, we have received \$1,795 in dues and donations, \$2,900 for the dam repair fund, \$525 for the CBI fund, thus leaving us with a balance in excess of \$100,000.

The details of the Stanis Coryell Scholarship Fund are shown on the next page. Two scholarships have been awarded but not yet claimed by the recipients.

The budget for this fiscal year is also shown on the next page. Our fiscal year begins on July 1, but dues and donations are credited beginning January 1. Mt. Vernon residents are encouraged to attend Town Meeting and vote for the warrant item that gives us money for the dam repair fund.

A member asked if we should have a cash reserve fund. Keith explained that we began the dam maintenance fund five years ago, and that is where we put reserves. We also increased the amount

of money in the CBI fund to have money available if we need to do a plant evaluation or deal with an infestation. Therefore, in fact, we do have reserves set aside for specific potential problems.

Mark Dershwitz made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. It was seconded by Darcy Whittemore, an approved unanimously.

		Coryell Scholarship Fund	
Ending balance June 30, 2019	\$		1,640
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2019-20 Revenue			
Donations	\$		808
2019-20 Expenses			
		Total Expenses	\$ -
Ending balance June 30, 2020	\$		2,448
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Additional Approved Expenditure			
2019 Scholarship for McKensie Freise	\$		500
2020 Scholarship for Cole Kubicki	\$		500
		Future Expense Total	\$ 1,000
		Forecast Final Balance	\$ 1,448
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Submitted by Keith Coulling, Treasurer - July 11,2020			

	General Fund	Sandra Memorial	Dam Maintenance Fund	Milfoil Fund	Total
Ending balance June 30, 2020	\$ 9,530	\$ 11,720	\$ 68,931	\$ 4,936	\$ 95,118
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Forecast revenue					
2020 State CBI grant(last 2 payments)				\$ 1,250	
2020 Readfield CBI grant				\$ 787	
Dues	\$ 5,000			\$ 1,400	
Mount Vernon Dam Contribution			\$ 3,500		
Additional Dam Donations			\$ 3,000		
Forecast Revenue Total	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ 6,500	\$ 3,437	\$ 14,937
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Forecast expense(2020-2021)					
Dam Foundation Repair			\$ 75,000		
FOCW CBI Inspections 2020				\$ 7,063	
Paypal Fees(2.2% +\$0.30 per trans.)	\$ 100				
Lake Stewards of Maine(2020)	\$ 100				
Maine Lakes Society(2020)	\$ 200				
State Corporation filing	\$ 35				
Newsletter Mailing	\$ 300				
Liability Insurance		???????			
50% dues transfer to Milfoil	\$ 2,500			\$ (2,500)	
Forecast Expense Total	\$ 3,235		\$ 75,000	\$ 4,563	\$ 82,798
Forecast Final Balance June 30, 2021	\$ 11,295	\$ 11,720	\$ 431	\$ 3,810	\$ 27,257
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Submitted by Keith Coulling, Treasurer - July 11,2020					

12. Clerk Mark Dershwitz presided over the election of directors and officers. There are four directors whose terms expire this year: Mark Dershwitz, Darcy Whittemore, Alan Howie, and Fran Zambella. Mark, Darcy, and Alan agreed to be nominated to serve three-year terms. Fran said that he would like to step down from the board, and Greg Parish has agreed to be nominated for a three-year term. There were no additional nominations from the floor.

A member asked how many directors there are on the board. We have 12 directors, although the bylaws permit up to 15.

Keith Coulling made a motion to accept the slate of directors as presented. It was seconded by Andy Zuorski, and approved unanimously.

Mark then presented the slate of officers to serve one-year terms:

- President - Darcy Whittemore
- Vice President - Andrea Falaguerra
- Treasurer - Keith Coulling
- Clerk - Mark Dershwitz

Keith Coulling made a motion to accept the slate of officers as presented. It was seconded by Andy Zuorski, and approved unanimously.

13. Clerk Mark Dershwitz acknowledged two members of the Board of Directors:

- "Now that Andrea is stepping down as President, I would like to acknowledge her as serving during one of our most difficult years as an organization, and I say this as someone who has previously served six terms as President. We had to raise a lot of money to fix the dam, we had to plan this meeting in the middle of a pandemic, causing a most difficult environment, and with the help of the other officers and directors, she pulled it off. So thank you, Andrea."
- "And Fran Zambella, my friend and neighbor for 25 years, is leaving the board after a very long tenure. He has done many things for the TPA, mostly behind the scenes. For many years, he was our representative to the Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program which means he went out on the lake many times each year and measured the water clarity with a Secchi disk. It was also his idea to replace our old wooden dam boards with our current steel plate with windows that could be opened and closed to adjust the water flow. Its design is mostly his, and no longer would the damkeeper need to put in and take out the heavy wooden boards in order to regulate the water levels. So thank you, Fran."

14. Andrea closed the meeting by saying that last year, we had over 100 members. Since we have about 160 properties on the lake, that is a great percentage to have as members. Please ask your neighbors who are not members to join. We are unique in that we own a dam and have to operate and maintain it. Many lake associations exist primarily to have fun. We should do more fun things together in the future, but we also have serious business as an organization. This year, the hope was to have a coffee hour after the meeting to give people an opportunity to meet and get to know one another, and talk about fishing and loons and not the budget. So if people would like to hang out, we will add you to the video feed so that everyone can see one another.

The official portion of the meeting ended at 11:37 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Dershwitz". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Mark Dershwitz, Clerk