

TORSEY POND ASSOCIATION

Annual Meeting Minutes

July 10, 2021

1. President Darcy Whittemore called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. She introduced herself as President and asked the other officers present to introduce themselves: Treasurer Keith Coulling and Vice President Andrea Falaguerra. Darcy said that Clerk Mark Dershwitz was unable to attend. The other directors present in the audience also introduced themselves. Darcy thanked Holly Rahmlow who creates and mails our newsletters.
2. Darcy described a successful year of fundraising that culminated in the repair of our dam. She thanked damkeeper Keith Coulling who oversaw the project and manages our dam 24/7. She also thanked the Social Committee for organizing the Paddle Parade that took place last week.
3. Darcy introduced the speaker, Tracy Hart of the Maine Audubon Society and director of the Maine Loon Project. A synopsis of Tracy's presentation is appended.
4. Darcy asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the 2020 annual meeting that are available on the website. Ben Parish made a motion to approve the minutes. It was seconded by Judith Beck, and there was no opposition.
5. Keith Coulling presented the damkeeper's report. He described the renovation that started with a coffer dam being installed made of hundreds of bags filled with sand. Once the dam was dry, crack damage was found to be worse than expected. Loose concrete was removed from the face of the dam to reach solid concrete, then a mesh of rebars was embedded in the concrete, forms were constructed around the rebars, and then concrete was poured into the forms. Concurrently the dam plate was removed, sand-blasted, and repainted with epoxy paint. Large boulders were added at the bottom of the dam. A swale was added to improve drainage off the road.

The TPA raised \$76,616 toward its share of the renovation. The Town of Readfield paid for repairs to parts of the bridge over Old Kents Hill Road. The renovation costs were as follows:

| | |
|--------------------|-----------|
| Total project cost | \$144,666 |
| Readfield share | \$68,289 |
| TPA share | \$76,377 |

The expectation is that the plate will last 10-20 years before requiring maintenance, and the concrete work should last for decades.

6. Andy Zuorski discussed courtesy boat inspections (CBI's). This was the 15th year of CBI's on Torsey Pond. He thanked the Friends of the Cobbossee Watershed (FOCW) for partnering with the TPA to hire boat inspectors paid for by the TPA. The more volunteers we can recruit, the more days that can be covered at the boat launch, and the fewer sessions we need to pay for. Prevention of an infestation is the most cost-effective expenditure of our money. Because Torsey Pond is surrounded by infestations, Torsey Pond is considered to be at high risk for experiencing an infestation. Members of the TPA can sign up to be a boat inspector on our website.
7. Toni Pied of the FOCW manages early detection and management of infestations. She described infestations in two lakes near Torsey Pond. In 2014, variable leaf milfoil was found in Annabessacook Lake and that resulted in an initial rapid response by the State, but subsequent management of the manual removal of invasive plants has been by the lake association, the Cobbossee Watershed District (CWD), and the FOCW. That approach did not work, and last year the State applied an herbicide. Thus far, this year there has been no apparent return of the invasive plant. Cobbossee Lake has three different invasive plants, European frogsbit (the only lake in Maine with this invasive plant), Eurasian watermilfoil (the only public lake in Maine with this invasive plant), and variable leaf milfoil. The State applied herbicide in 2019, but the FOCW plant surveyors found Eurasian watermilfoil had

returned at the end of 2020. Another herbicide treatment was applied this past June. FOCW devotes huge resources to surveying the entire shore of Cobbossee Lake frequently.

FOCW will hold a workshop in identifying invasive plants on Wednesday, July 14, at 9:00 a.m., at the Quiet Harbor Road boat launch.

8. Darcy described the association's water quality initiative that is named for Sandra Gorry. Sandra was a long-time member of the board, and was our Clerk at the time of her death in 2019. Her family established a memorial fund that now has \$11,770. The family decided to let the TPA Board of Directors determine how best to use these funds, and the board decided to dedicate the money to improving the water quality of the lake.

The TPA's existing Watershed Protection Plan has four goals:

- Reduce current sources of phosphorus loading
- Limit new sources of phosphorus loading
- Build local capacity for watershed stewardship
- Conduct ongoing assessment of lake and watershed conditions

In the 2021-22 budget, there is a line item to spend up to \$5,000 on this initiative.

9. Keith Coulling presented the treasurer's report that is appended. We ended 2020 with \$95,118, most of it raised to repair the dam. We collected \$4,400 in dues, \$1,190 in general donations, \$50 toward the Sandra Gorry Fund, \$3,950 toward repair of the dam, and \$1,880 toward CBI's. We also received \$2,500 from the State toward CBI's, \$3,500 from the Town of Mt. Vernon toward repair of the dam, and \$787 from the Town of Readfield toward CBI's. Our expenses are as shown in the report; our major expenses were \$76,377 toward repair of the dam and \$6,070 to FOCW for CBI's. Our balance is \$28,630. A member asked about 50% of dues that goes toward CBI's. Keith responded that we had previously approved that half of our dues would be earmarked toward paying for CBI's. That amount was \$2,200 in 2020.

Regarding the Stanis Coryell Scholarship, we received \$210 in donations giving us \$2,658 in the fund. Two of the previously awarded scholarships in 2019 and 2020 have not been requested by the awardees. In 2021, the school told us no one qualified for the scholarship.

In the proposed 2021-22 budget, we are including \$5,000 from the Sandra Gorry Fund to be spent on the water quality initiative. The total budget for the coming year is \$14,920 leaving us with a projected balance of \$24,147.

Judith Beck made a motion to approve the treasurer's report. It was seconded by Alan Howie, and approved without opposition.

10. Vice President Andrea Falaguerra presented the nominations for the Board of Directors. The terms of two current board members, Keith Coulling and Andy Zuorski, are expiring, and both wish to be renominated. In addition, the terms of board members Mike Pastore and Barry Kutz are also expiring, and they do not wish to be renominated. Kasey Rogers has volunteered to be nominated to the board. There were no additional nominations from the floor. There was no opposition to electing the slate as proposed.

All of the current officers are willing to continue serving, and there was no opposition to the slate of officers.

11. Darcy thanked board member Barry Kutz for serving on the board as well as for taking responsibility in 2008 for our buoys. Since then, every spring the buoys have appeared in the right places, and every fall before the lake freezes, they have disappeared. She thanked Barry especially because taking care of the buoys is a grimy and slimy task. She also announced that board member Alan Howie has volunteered to take over responsibility for the buoys.

Mike Pastore is also stepping down from the board. Clerk Mark Dershwitz wanted to read a tribute to Mike, but he was unable to attend in person because he and his family are seeing the U.S. Sabre Team off today as they travel to Tokyo to compete in the Olympics. She read the following message from Mark:

"I would like to take a moment to thank Mike Pastore, my friend and neighbor for over 30 years. When we elected new members of the Board today, it became first time since the TPA was founded that Mike was not a member of the Board. Mike spent much of his life working in the forest as a woodcutter. He had a vast knowledge of good land practices and how to apply them properly in a watershed. One of the primary reasons that Quiet Harbor Road is in such excellent shape, and has been so since the mid-90's, is that he chaired our road association's Road Committee for over two decades. Whenever any road work was proposed, he always considered the potential effects on the lake. When I was TPA President in 1991, Mike was first elected as the TPA's Treasurer. And he served as Treasurer until he handed the checkbook over to Keith in 2016. That's a lot of checks to write in 25 years. In terms of his service to the lake, and to the lake association, his longevity surpasses everyone else's. So thank you, Mike, for being our colleague for 33 years."

12. Linda Lally made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:42 a.m. It was seconded by Judith Beck, and was approved without opposition.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Mark Dershwitz, Clerk

Torsey Pond Association

TREASURER'S Report July 1, 2020 - June 30,2021

| | General Fund | Sandra Gorry Water Quality Initiative | Dam Fund | Milfoil Fund | Total |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|---|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Ending balance June 30, 2020 | \$ 9,530 | \$ 11,720 | \$ 68,931 | \$ 4,936 | \$ 95,118 |
| 2020-21 Revenue | | | | | |
| Dues | \$ 4,400.00 | | | | |
| General Donations | \$ 1,190.00 | \$ 50.00 | \$ 3,950.00 | \$ 1,880.00 | |
| 2020 State CBI grant(2nd payment) | | | | \$ 625.00 | |
| 2020 State CBI grant(final payment) | | | | \$ 625.00 | |
| 2021 State CBI grant(first payment) | | | | \$ 1,250.00 | |
| Mount Vernon Dam Contribution | | | \$ 3,500.00 | | |
| 2020 Readfield CBI grant | | | | \$ 787.00 | |
| Maine Buisness Money Market Interest | | | \$ 234.13 | | |
| Total Revenue | \$ 5,590 | \$ 50 | \$ 7,684 | \$ 5,167 | \$ 18,491 |
| 2020-21 Expenses | | | | | |
| Paypal | \$ 48.35 | | | | |
| Lake Stewards of Maine(2020) | \$ 100.00 | | | | |
| Maine Lakes Society(2020) | \$ 200.00 | | | | |
| Website | \$ 215.01 | | | | |
| State Corporation filing | \$ 35.00 | | | | |
| D&O Insurance | \$ 1,585.00 | | | | |
| Dam | | | \$ 76,377.39 | | |
| New TPA Sign for Boat Launch | \$ 44.31 | | | | |
| Readfield Meeting(Annual) Room Fee | \$ 25.00 | | | | |
| Newsletter 2021 | \$ 276.28 | | | | |
| Annual mtg sign update | \$ 2.64 | | | | |
| FOCW CBI Inspections 2020 | | | | \$ 6,070.00 | |
| Total Expenses | \$ 2,532 | \$ - | \$ 76,377 | \$ 6,070 | \$ 84,979 |
| 50% dues transfer to Milfoil | \$ 2,200.00 | | | \$ (2,200.00) | |
| Ending balance June 30, 2021 | \$ 10,389 | \$ 11,770 | \$ 238 | \$ 6,233 | \$ 28,630 |

Summary of Tracy Hart's Presentation on Loons

Why do we focus so much on the common loon?

- They are charismatic
- They provide economic benefit to many Maine businesses
- They are an indicator species, a visual predator that needs clean, clear water to find prey. If there are loons on a lake it is a good sign of lake health. They are one of the species chosen to evaluate climate change in our environment.

What makes Maine loons so special? Southern Maine has over 3,000 loons, over 70% of all of the loons around in the northeast. They have a wingspan of about 4 feet, females weigh about 9-10 pounds, and males weigh about 13-15 pounds. They are therefore larger than loons found elsewhere, and are about the same size as American eagles.

Loons breed on fresh water and may not return to a lake to breed for the first time until they are 3-6 years old. But overall, loons spend more of their time on the ocean, where they winter. Maine loons do not migrate far, most spending their winters on the northeast coast, some as far south as New York.

Soon after ice out each spring, male loons arrive first and establish their territory by fighting with potential competitors, sometimes to the death. The average length of a loon "marriage" is about 7 years. Usually two eggs are laid at the water's edge, and both parents share incubating the eggs, females during the night, and males during the day. Their incubation time is about a month, and the newborn chicks leave the nest and begin swimming within a day.

The primary threats to our loons are:

- Lead, from fishing sinkers, and mercury, from earlier lake pollution; these toxins used to be the most frequent cause of loon deaths, but their importance is decreasing now that larger lead sinkers have been banned and many fisherman have adopted alternatives
- Boat collisions are now the leading cause of loon deaths
- Wakes caused by boats often flood the nests and cause the eggs to be lost
- Climate change and loss of habitat
- Diseases and parasites

Maine conducts its annual loon count on the third Saturday every July. The loon count on Torsey Pond since 1983 has been remarkably stable, with an average of 11 adults and 2 chicks.