

TORSEY POND ASSOCIATION

Annual Meeting Minutes

July 6, 2024

1. President David Gross called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m. He asked the other officers present to introduce themselves: Vice President Darcy Whittemore, Treasurer Keith Coulling and Clerk Mark Dershwitz. The other directors present in the audience also were asked to stand and introduce themselves.

He thanked the TPA members who volunteer to perform courtesy boat inspections (CBI) or who have adopted a shoreline to watch for invasive plants; these actions keep invasive plants out of Torsey.

The Friends of the Cobbossee Watershed (FOCW) and the Maine DEP are our partners in keeping Torsey healthy. We have been working with them to formulate a rapid response plan in the event an invasive plant is found in Torsey. Today we have representatives from each of these organizations to speak to us: John McPhedran, a biologist with the Maine DEP and a resident of Readfield, and Alex Dyer, the director of conservation at the FOCW.

2. John McPhedran spoke about infestations in Maine. Most are in the southern part of the state. When a suspicious plant is found, DNA analysis is used for confirmation. Seven infestations have been delisted. Swollen bladderwort is a new invasive identified in Maine, but not yet in the Cobbossee Watershed District.

A new law in 2023 requires draining water from boats in a way that does not allow drainage to enter a body of water. A new sign at boat launches reminds boaters to "Clean plants – Drain boat – Dry for 5 days."

Inland Fisheries and Wildlife just hired a specialist in invasive aquatic animals like the spiny water flea and the zebra mussel. The DEP goals include "no new infestations."

3. Alex Dyer showed the new sector plan of Torsey. A Level 1 survey covers the highest priority areas like the boat launch (Sector 1) and the unofficial boat launch (Sector 4). Plant surveys of the entire littoral (shoreline) zone are performed biennially. In 2024, Sectors 1-4 (west side) will be surveyed, and in 2025 Sectors 4-6 and 1 (east side) will be surveyed.

On July 18, there will be a plant i.d. training session at the Quiet Harbor beach. What do you do when you see a plant that maybe shouldn't be there? Take a photo and send it to the FOCW.

Is it better to spend money on plant surveys or courtesy boat inspections? The DEP prefers boat inspections if there are people available to perform them.

The rapid response plan worked out between the TPA and FOCW depends somewhat on the species. We may put signs on the shore and/or close an area to water traffic. Invasive plants will be removed by hand by a scuba diver. Large infested areas may be cleared by using the DASH – diver-assisted suction harvester. A benthic barrier may be put over a patch of plants like a blanket to block sunlight. Using herbicides is a last resort.

4. David thanked John and Alex for their presentations. He then asked for a motion to approve the minutes of last year's annual meeting. The motion was made by Joe Field, seconded by Keith Coulling, and approved unanimously.
5. Keith Coulling presented the damkeeper's report. There were three large rain events in 2023. The dam continues to function well. The dates for ice-in keep getting later, this past winter was 12/8/23, and for ice-out keep getting earlier, this year was 3/18/24.

6. CBI coordinator Andy Zuorski presented his report. CBI's are partially funded by the state, mostly by the TPA, and paid personnel provided by FOCW. You can volunteer to perform CBI's on the TPA website as well as donate to support CBI's and plant surveys. About one-third of boats inspected by CBI's came from lakes with infestations.
7. Darcy asked people to consider adopting their own shoreline. You pay attention to your own shoreline and get trained to recognize invasive plants. Please sign up for one of the workshops.
8. Keith Coulling discussed the watershed protection plan. The 2017 watershed survey identified 59 non-point source pollution sites with three areas having the highest impact: Five Seasons Road, Desert Pond Road, and the northeast corner of the lake. In 2020, a mitigation plan was drawn up and a grant application was submitted. The grant was funded at \$80,000 from the federal government matched by \$53,000 by private property owners. The original plan using rip rap was vetoed by the DEP, the next iteration will involve using plunge pools. There are also opportunities for Lake Smart consultations in which the property owner pays for materials and the labor is supplied by the Youth Conservation Corps.
9. Keith also presented the treasurer's report (that is appended). In the last fiscal year, we had about \$20,500 in revenue consisting of dues, donations, and bank interest. Our expenses were a little over \$3,000. We received an anonymous donation of \$5,000 that was matched by a \$2,500 donation from the person's employer.

50% of our dues goes toward invasives prevention. We currently have about \$21,000 in the rapid reaction fund. Our overall balance is about \$44,000, and \$38,000 was put in a CD.

We received \$705 in donations to the scholarship fund and it has a balance of \$2,318. We awarded one scholarship in 2023 and another one in 2024.

Holly Coryell made a motion to award one scholarship in 2025. It was seconded by Joe Field and approved unanimously.

In the next year, we expect about \$12,500 in revenue, and have anticipated expenses of \$3,000 for engineering costs for the watershed project, \$4,800 for CBI's, and \$3,500 for plant surveys. Ben Parish made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. It was seconded by Stephanie Donaldson and approved unanimously.
10. Clerk Mark Dershwitz announced that the terms of Board of Directors members Keith Coulling, Kasey Rogers, and Andy Zuorski expire this year and each of them is willing to stand for reelection. He asked if there were any additional nominations from the floor and there were none. Susan Roberts made a motion to elect the slate of directors. It was seconded by Stephanie Donaldson and approved unanimously.

Mark presented the proposed slate of officers: Darcy Whittemore as President, Kasey Rogers as Vice President, Keith Coulling as Treasurer, and Mark Dershwitz as Clerk. Joe Field made a motion to approve the slate of officers. It was seconded by Jean Scudder and approved unanimously.
11. David asked if there was any new business. He then thanked Keith Coulling, Henry Whittemore, and Andrea Falaguerra for putting in and taking out the buoys, Andy Zuorski for coordinating the CBI volunteers, Holly Ramlow for creating the newsletter, Andrea and Roc Falaguerra for performing the water clarity measurements, Andrea Falaguerra for maintaining the Facebook website, and all of the CBI volunteers.

Respectfully submitted,



Mark Dershwitz, Clerk

Torsey Pond Association

TREASURER'S Report 2023-2024 June 30, 2024

	General Fund	Sandra Memorial	Invasives Reaction	Invasives Prevention	Total
Ending balance June 30, 2023	\$ 5,882	\$ 8,267	\$ 11,300	\$ 8,826	\$ 34,275
2023-24 Revenue					
Dues	\$ 5,150				
General Donations	\$ 10,312	\$ -	\$ 340	\$ 3,445	
2023 Readfield CBI \$787 grant included in Inv. Prev. above					
Bank Interest	\$ 1,045				
Total Revenue	\$ 16,507	\$ -	\$ 340	\$ 3,445	\$ 20,292
2023-24 Expenses					
Paypal	\$ 91				
Website(2023)	\$ 217				
State Corporation filing	\$ 35				
Zoom annual cost(2023)	\$ 159				
Lake Stewards of Maine(2023)	\$ 100				
Maine Lakes Society(2023)	\$ 200				
FOCW CBI Inspections 2023				\$ 4,372	
FOCW Plant Survey				\$ 2,000	
D&O Insurance	\$ 854				
GL Insurance	\$ 603				
Readfield Meeting Rm Fee	\$ 50				
Dirigo Engineering		\$ 465			
Newsletter Mailing	\$ 564				
Free Membership Mailing	\$ 34				
Year End Donor Mailing	\$ 102				
Total Expenses	\$ 3,009	\$ 465	\$ -	\$ 6,372	\$ 9,846
Transfer to Invasives Reaction	\$ (7,500)		\$ 10,000	\$ (2,500)	
50% dues transfer to Invasives Prev.	\$ (2,575)			\$ 2,575	
Ending balance June 30, 2024	\$ 9,305	\$ 7,802	\$ 21,640	\$ 5,974	\$ 44,721

Coryell Scholarship Fund

Ending balance June 30, 2023	\$ 2,318
2023-24 Revenue	
Donations	\$ 705
2023-24 Expenses	
2023 Scholarship for Esme Jamison(Marine Sci)	\$ 750
Total Expenses	\$ 750
Ending balance June 30, 2024	\$ 2,273
Additional Approved Expenditures	
2024 Scholarship	\$ 750
Future Expense Total	\$ 750
Final Balance	\$ 1,523

Budget July 1, 2024 - June 30,2025

	General Fund	Sandra Memorial	Invasives Reaction	Invasives Prevention	Total
Ending balance June 30, 2024	\$ 9,305	\$ 7,802	\$ 21,640	\$ 5,974	\$ 44,721
Future 2024-25 Revenue					
Dues	\$ 2,500			\$ 2,500	
General Donations	\$ 2,500			\$ 3,500	
Bank Interest	\$ 1,500				
Total Revenue	\$ 6,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,000	\$ 12,500
Future 2023-24 Expenses					
Paypal	\$ 100				
Website(2024)	\$ 225				
State Corporation filing	\$ 35				
Zoom annual cost(2024)	\$ 160				
Lake Stewards of Maine(2024)	\$ 100				
Maine Lakes Society(2024)	\$ 200				
D&O Insurance	\$ 877				
GL Insurance	\$ 613				
Readfield Meeting Rm Fee	\$ 25				
Watershed Engineering Costs		\$ 3,000			
Year End Donor Mailing	\$ 125				
FOCW CBI Inspections 2024				\$ 4,800	
FOCW Plant Survey 2024 - 1st half of lake & high impact areas				\$ 3,500	
Dam Signs	\$ 125				
Torsey Postcard/Handout	\$ 300				
2025 Newsletter Mailing	\$ 600				
Total Expenses	\$ 3,485	\$ 3,000	\$ -	\$ 8,300	\$ 14,785
Forecast '24 - '25 Final Balance	\$ 12,320	\$ 4,802	\$ 21,640	\$ 3,674	\$ 42,436
Ending balance June 30, 2024	\$ 9,305	\$ 7,802	\$ 21,640	\$ 5,974	\$ 44,721
Change	\$ 3,015	\$ (3,000)	\$ -	\$ (2,300)	\$ (2,285)

Member and Donation Stats

Calendar Year	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Member dues paid	95	93	89	94	97	59
General Donations	18	17	17	14	29	16
Scholarship Donations	10	9	10	12	11	10
Dam Donations	96	53	0	0	0	0
Invasive Prevention Donations	11	25	53	47	46	23
Invasives Reaction Donations					4	4
Sandra Memorial Donations	11	5	1	5	1	0
Total number of donors(includes members)	141	121	108	102	104	63