

FEDERATION OF VERMONT LAKES AND PONDS, INC
MINUTES—SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING
JULY 23, 2007

The sixth annual meeting of The Federation of Vermont Lakes and Ponds, Inc. was held at the Elks Club in Montpelier on July 23, 2007. President Jackie Sprague welcomed all participants and called the meeting to order at 9:15 AM. Officers and members of the Board of Directors were introduced, including President Jackie Sprague, Vice President Dick Simpson, Treasurer Reggie Lamb, Secretary Jo Wright, and Board Members Cliff Aikens, Andy Dales, Dave Wood, Bill Fisk, Jeannie Jenkins, and DEC liaison Susan Warren. Attendees from 21 lakes and ponds as well as representatives from the DEC were included in the roll call.

The secretary's minutes from the 2006 annual meeting were reviewed. Roger Cartee moved that the minutes be approved as written. The motion was seconded by Jim Candors and approved by the membership. Treasurer Reggie Lamb reported a Federation net worth of \$5,952.58, with an expected \$2,500.00 legislative grant pending. The Federation currently has 26 association and 16 individual memberships. Bill Fisk moved that the treasurers report be accepted. Anita Capella seconded the motion and the membership voted in its favor. Jackie reported that the recipient of our first VSAC Grant of \$500 has just been named.

REPORTS:

Legislative: Ginny Lyons was unable to attend the meeting, but encouraged contacts communicating concerns, issues, and suggestions. Ginny Garrison reported that she had attended the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Lake Morey Association, where she presented the Robert Arnold Lake Protection award to Don Weaver and Greg McGrath. She also spoke about the upcoming major reorganization of the Agency of Natural Resources. Task forces with specific charges have been created, and the "Center for Watershed Management" will be most specific for lakes and ponds. This organizational report is to be finished by the end of October. The final structure will include no more than 6 subgroups functionally organized, including permitting, education, and financing. Susan Warren expressed concern that with the shift from a resource to a functional organization, it is unclear where lakes and ponds fit in. We should be involved in the process, and informational meetings will be held. Information can be found at the website vtwaterquality.org.

Legislation passed this session includes a bill that reduces phosphorus in household cleaning products and a repeal of the sunset of the surcharge on motorboat registrations that funds ANS Grants. Legislation regulating waterfront buffer zones is being reviewed this summer with potential for action in the fall.

ANR Reports: Leslie Matthews reported that 36 Grants in Aid totaling \$401,000 were awarded this year, and that the majority were for projects focused on milfoil management. Renovate (chemical) projects are occurring this summer on Lake Morey, Lake St Catherine, Hortonia and Star Lakes. She announced a new potential for Aquatic Nuisance Species spread. Didymo algae has been found in the Connecticut and White Rivers. The Lake Champlain Basin Program has begun a boat stewardship program this year on Lake Champlain, and the VT Invasive Species Sticker Program continues, now offering online sales. Leslie has introduced a VIP (Vermont Invasive Patrollers) Program and has held 4 workshops and training programs, involving 60-80 people. Thirty have signed statements of commitment to inspect their lake 2 times this summer.

UPDATES: Dave Wood reported for the FOVLAP legislative committee. It has been a frustrating year getting lakes and ponds concerns to legislators, and they were unable to meet with the Senate Natural Resources Committee. He also expressed a need for better cooperation between Fish and Wildlife and DEC .

SHORELAND MANAGEMENT REPORT: Susan Warren explained the agency's four pronged approach, which includes:

1. Shoreland Conservation
2. Education and outreach to existing landowners
3. Reaching new shoreland owners
4. Technical assistance to towns re: local measures

She presented an excellent power point slide show that she is willing to share on request.

LAKE REPORTS:

Lake reports were given by 20 lakes and ponds including Caspian Lake, Cedar Lake (Monkton), Fairfield Pond, Greenwood Lake, Lake Groton, Harvey's Lake, Lake Iroquois, Lake Paran, Lake St Catherine, Maidstone Lake, Memphremagog Watershed, North Montpelier Pond, Salem Lake, Seymour Lake, Shadow Lake, Silver Lake, South Pond, Lake Willoughby, and Woodbury Lake. These reports will be included in and made available in a folder. They will also be incorporated by Susan in her next update of the Compendium of VT Lake and Pond Association Projects. She provided meeting participants with a new revision based on 2006 reports. The reports are valuable for sharing information and concerns. All shared their love for their special lake or pond, as well as general (and specific) concerns about invasive species and water quality issues, including increasing concern over the effects of shoreline erosion and sedimentation. Many lake associations have made major commitments in volunteer time and money on lake protection projects, and they shared information about their access monitoring and other ANS spread prevention projects, as well as their potlucks, educational and social events.

LUNCH and networking

BUSINESS MEETING:

OLD BUSINESS:

Email contact lists are being created, and Don Bordner, Retta Dunlap, and Sally Collopy are working on ways to facilitate communication among Lake and pond folks.

The Federation website needs updating, and Sherm Sprague will work on doing the update in the next 2 weeks.

NEW BUSINESS:

2008 NECNALMS Conference: Vermont is hosting the June 2008 meeting of the New England Chapter of the North American Lake Management Society. Meetings are held annually on a rotating basis through the states. Cliff Aikens attended this year's conference as a FOVLAP representative and came back with much new information. The Federation will be involved, and we will be looking for presenters, help with registration, etc. People who are interested in helping should contact Jo Wright or Reggie Lamb. This conference will take the place of the lake seminar.

Dave Wood suggested that the FOVLAP President should speak on behalf of the Federation at events focusing on the reorganization of the Agency of Natural Resources.

Don Weaver of the Northern Lake Champlain Advisory Committee announced an important meeting August 11 from 12-3 at Shore Acres. Agency of Natural Resources officials and others will be present.

BY-LAW REVISION:

The original Federation by-laws did not include term limits for officers, and Jackie proposed a by-law amendment that would make such a provision. Dave Wood moved to incorporate the amendment as written, and Don Weaver seconded this movement. Dick Simpson proposed an amendment that would clarify the last sentence of Jackie's proposed amendment. Dick made a motion to approve his amendment, and Roger Crouse seconded his motion. The vote on Dick's amendment to change the last sentence carried, and the following vote on the amended by-laws amendment carried.

The by-law addition regarding the term limits of the officers as approved is:

Terms for officers will rotate on the odd and even number year. President and Treasurer will be up for election after serving two (2) consecutive 2-year terms in even years. The Vice-President and Clerk will be up for election after serving two (2) consecutive 2-year terms in odd numbered years. Officers can only serve two (2) consecutive 2-year terms, but may continue as a director if elected and return as an officer after a one year absence.

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS:

John Washburn prepared a nominating committee proposal, which Jackie presented:

Andy Dales, Vice President (replacing Dick Simpson)

Stewart Dittmeier, Board Member: 1 year term, expiring 2008 (replacing Tom Benoure)

Kingsley Boyd, Board Member: 2 year term, expiring 2009 (replacing Andy Dales)

Perry Thomas, Board Member: 3 year term, expiring 2010 (replacing Phil Pope)

Don Hendrich, Board Member: 3 year term, expiring 2010 (replacing John Washburn)

Cliff Aikens, Board Member: 3 year term, expiring 2010 (reelection)

Reggie Lamb moved to accept the slate as presented, Jim Candors seconded the motion, and the motion was approved.

Our afternoon speaker was Vermont naturalist Bryan Pfeiffer, who gave a delightful presentation he titled "A Closer Look at Shorelines: One Man's Ongoing Adventures in the Waters of Vermont".

Jackie presented Dick Simpson with a Ray Richer photograph as thanks for his membership on the FOVLAP Board of Directors since its foundation. His involvement as board member and vice president has been invaluable. Jackie also honored retiring board members Phil Pope and John Washburn, who were unable to attend the meeting. Their help, support, and advice will be greatly missed.

A drawing for door prizes (won by Dave Mechler and Ginny Garrison) was followed by a 3 PM vote for adjournment, called for by Dick Simpson, and seconded by Bill Fisk.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanna Wright, Secretary