

Hinckleys Pond Association, Inc.
Meeting Minutes Annual General Meeting

July 25, 2015

I. Call to order

President Ralph Anderson called to order the regular meeting of the Hinckleys Pond Association, Inc. at 10am on July 25, 2015 at Harwich Community Center.

II. Roll call

A quorum being present, the President asked each attendee to introduce themselves.

III. Approval of minutes from last meeting

The minutes were approved as submitted.

IV. Old Business/Open issues

- a) Presidents report. Ralph Anderson reviewed the highlights of the Presidents annual report, a copy of which was attached to the meeting hand-out. The following matters constitute the highlights;
- Noted the sad passing of Harry Powell, noting his significant contribution to the Association over the year. Noted in addition that Harry was scheduled to become Association President in 2016, resulting in a vacancy for the role.
 - Provided an update regarding the algae bloom of last summer and the resulting efforts to obtain support for remediation assistance for the health of the pond. The President further explained the ongoing efforts by the Association to monitor water quality via regular sampling, which enables the Town to have an effective database in order to review changing quality.
 - The new association website was shared, including a request for content to be shared that will be posted by Jane Anderson (webmaster). It was further explained that the site includes many interesting links to research data, interesting information and updates.
 - Last year's boat parade was a great success.
 - A reminder the association is a 501-(3)-c (non-profit) meaning both annual membership fees and any other donations are fully tax deductible.

- The major event in 2014, early 2015 related to the efforts to gain remediation assistance for the pond and the President provided a detailed overview of what happened with respect to the Community Preservation Committee (CPC). In short, the Town Administrator made a recommendation to the CPC to use \$500k of their available funds to pay for the necessary pond treatment. The CPC appeared initially in favor of the investment, however at the meeting where funding was to be approved it became apparent moods had shifted into the negative and the motion failed to gain approval. The President indicated further discussion on this matter would occur under New Business.
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- b) Treasurer's report was submitted, with details provided in the hand-out. (copy attached) It was noted the need to spend funds for the new website, however the Association still has \$1,826.63 as a positive balance
 - c) Election of Directors. The new staggered terms for board members was explained to the membership. It was noted with Harry's passing a vacancy now existed for President. Current board members up for re-election were noted and without any other individuals nominated, were re-elected unanimously. (See attached Nominating Committee Report, containing the list of the names and terms of elected Directors)
 - d) Board member Jane Temple, reviewed the 2014 boat parade. There were 24 boats and 60+ people came to the brunch/party after the event. It was noted we now have an annual award for "best dressed" boat courtesy of the de Bakker's. Expenses for the event was less than \$100 owing to the generosity of members.
 - e) Pond Access Committee – Peter Hollis (Vice President). Peter provided an update on the activity of the Pond Access Committee and what had been a very active year. He started by explaining how our initial efforts to support the improvements to Rt124 as a means to gaining support for pond remediation was unsuccessful owing to an effective "No" campaign to the improvements. Peter provided a detailed update on the history and confusion around public access to the pond including the matter of the existence of a beach. Peter proved conclusively through research that a beach did exist, was owned by the town and showed where exactly it is located. This is significant when considered in the context of pond remediation efforts. Peter outlined how disabled access under ADA would appear to be moot as it would be exempted

under the terrain exemption. It was also noted that as a Great Pond public access is a legal requirement and should be maintained by the town, not the case today. Barnstable Co. still conducts regular bathing quality studies on the pond and the results are published (link is on the HPA website). Further discussion on this matter was tabled until New Business.

V. New business

- a) Annual dues; The President explained the Board of Directors had proposed an increase in the annual membership dues from \$25 to \$35 in large part because it was expected that funds would be needed to explore pond access options. The fee increase was passed unanimously. Linda Underwood suggested the association create a statement of need to be distributed to members who make annual charitable donations so they may consider HPA as a recipient.
- b) The chair of the 2015 boat parade committee, Mo Steverman provided an update. The parade will be held on Saturday September 5, 2015, with a rain date of Sunday September 6. Details and invitations will be sent out as flyers and emails within the next few weeks.
- c) Grant Proposal; Grant Proposal- search for other sources of money beyond the CPC and taxes, the President asked the membership if the HPA should pursue grants to assist paying for the pond remediation or focus entirely on town based funding solutions.. The goal is to look for funds for pond cleanup. Long Pond used some grant money. There exists a perception that Hinckleys is private and so there is little reason to spend public money for the cleanup. Since Hinckleys is a “Great Pond” by Mass Law, it requires some public access. The CPC has a different perspective: there is no public access – false, it is not advertised – neither are the other ponds, no parking – several other beaches accessible by bike or foot only. Peter De Bakker advises that the best way to get funding is still from the CPC. They have \$1M unspent. Even though we think we have a wonderful case it is not clear-cut. Peter DB says Chris Clark, Town Manager will try again. HP owners requested to be advised of times of meetings. While the membership was in favor of pursuing grants in parallel with the town funding solutions the absence of any volunteers with expertise or interest in researching these channels led to the matter being tabled.
- d) Discussion on Pond Remediation/Town funding options. At the invitation of the President, HPA member Peter De Bakker (CPC member), provided an overview of the CPC discussion and the challenges in obtaining funds even though the CPC has significant reserves. Peter indicated the Town

Administrator remained determined to place another request before the CPC and he encouraged all members to take an active role in advocating in favor of the funding, including letter writing and lobbying. Some discussion was held regarding other town funding options outside of CPC. However it was agreed that extra budget funding from the town in the current climate was unlikely to succeed. Peter Hollis and the Pond Access Committee will lead and coordinate the HPA's activities in raising awareness of the need for pond remediation and the town's responsibilities with respect to the ponds status as a Great Pond, including the matter of public access. Handicap access: There are several reasons why the ADA does not apply: one is that terrain does not permit; another is that the level of renovation does not exceed a certain percentage of the existing conditions. Simon Evans mentioned that there are 2 new selectmen; perhaps these new people could be invited to view the existing beach conditions. Simon will contact the selectmen.

- e) Discussion on authorizing funds to be provided to the Pond Access Committee to conduct a feasibility study regarding the matter of public access in general and the town beach specifically. The membership discussed allocating up to \$1500 for the Pond Access Committee to use in obtaining a professional engineer's assessment of the cost/options to make the public beach accessible for walkers, cyclists and others (there is no current parking solution). After some discussion the funding request was approved with 1 objection noted.

VI. Any other business; several social and informational activities were shared with the membership including

- A woman's reading club currently is meeting May-September on the 3rd Monday of each month,
- Debbie Selkow has created a referral network for service providers trusted by members. She will share her "Pond Angies List" with the HPA members list.
- Stan Selkow and Bill Dowling would like to start a second book club open to men and women.
- The initiation of a (men's) whiskey tasting club to meet on a regular basis starting August 17 at 4:30 at Ralph Anderson's house. Jon Estrellado volunteered to help.
- Details of each group will be posted on the HPA website.

- The first annual block party on Catharine Rose Road, is to take place July 25 at 4pm, with an invitation to all.

VII. Adjournment

A motion was voted to adjourn the meeting at 11.55am.

Board of Directors Meeting Followed. Present were Ruth Anderson-Zabre, Mike O'Halloran, Linda Underwood, Maureen Steverman, Peter Hollis, Jane Temple, Simon Evans, and Ralph Anderson, Jane Anderson.

The president's job was described as running meetings, preparation, and follow-up, and general leadership.

Stan Selkow agreed to be a co-president with term ending in 2017; Ralph Anderson will be a co-president with term ending in 2016. (We may need to change the by-laws to allow for co-presidents.)

The following officers were elected for the terms indicated:

Co-President: Ralph Anderson (2016)

Co-President: Stanley Selkow (2017)

Vice President: Peter Hollis (2017)

Treasurer: Jane Anderson (2016)

Clerk/Resident Agent: Peter Hollis (2017)

Secretary: Simon Evans (2017)

Minutes submitted by: Simon Evans, Secretary HPA.

Minutes approved by: [Name]

Attachments:

- Treasurer's Report
- Nominating Committee Report

HPA TREASURER'S REPORT JULY 1 2014 - JUNE 30 2015

BEGINNING BALANCE 6/30/14		\$1542.66
TOTAL INCOME (DUES)	(31 paid)	\$450.00
EXPENSES		
Website registration		(\$84.03)
Room Rental 2014		(\$35.00)
Legal Expense- MA		(\$45.00)
TOTAL OUTFLOWS		(\$164.03)
Net income		\$285.97
BALANCE 6/30/15		\$1,828.63

By Jane Anderson 7/25/15

- Nominating Committee Report

Hinckleys Pond Association- Nominating Worksheet

Sept 2014

Name	Current Office	Current Expiration Date	proposed Office	proposed Expiration Date	Expiration dates		
					2016	2017	201
Harry Powers			president	2016	x		
Jane King			assistant	2016	x		
Ralph Anderson	president	2015					
Jane Anderson	treasurer	2015	treasurer	2016	x		
Simon Evans	secretary	2015	secretary	2017		x	
Peter Hollis	vice-pres	2015	vice-pres	2017		x	
Linda Underwood			BOD	2018			x
Ed Weil			BOD	2018			x
Mo Steverman			BOD	2018			x
Simon Evans	BOD	2015	BOD	2017		x	
Ralph Anderson	BOD	2015	BOD	2016	x		
Jane Anderson	BOD	2015	BOD	2017		x	
Harry Powers	BOD	2015	BOD	2016	x		
Bill Dowling	BOD	2015					
Peter Hollis	BOD	2015	BOD	2017		x	
Mike O'Halloran	BOD	2016	BOD	2016	x		
Ruth Anderson-Zabre	BOD	2016	BOD	2016	x		
Stan Selkow	BOD	2016	BOD	2016	x		
Jane Temple	BOD	2017	BOD	2017		x	