

FINAL

Hinckleys Pond Association Annual Meeting  
June 22, 2019  
Community Center, Room 5

**Attendance-** 31 members

Deb Selkow and Anne Guadet , co-presidents, welcomed all to the 2019 Hinckleys Pond Association Annual Meeting.

All meeting participants introduced themselves and identified their addresses. New members put a pin on the map to indicate their place on the pond

### **Old Business:**

A copy of the 2018 minutes had been emailed to all members. A call for additions or corrections was made. No additions or corrections The minutes were voted to be accepted as written.

Meeting participants were asked to keep their contact information updated by contacting any member of the board or their block captain. With correct contact information members will be ensured to receive all notices.

**Treasurers Report:** Current balance is \$2,651. Last year we made a donation of \$1000 to the Harwich Conservation Trust. Expenses this year have been minor and include rental of the room for the annual meeting.

**Social Committee:** Jane King invited interested members to join the social committee. Special thanks went to Bill Crowell for hosting last year's boat parade. This year the boat parade will be on August 3<sup>rd</sup> and the Anderson's will be hosting at 26 Catharine Rose Road

Linda Underwood invited any interested member to join the closed pond Facebook group to help us keep in touch with each other and to serve as a timely communication vehicle through out the year.

Information on planned events for the summer was supplied to all present on a handout.

### **Co-Presidents Report:**

**Alum Treatment Update:** Deb Selkow updated that the final approval for the Alum treatment was received in January. The bidding process was completed and the treatment is scheduled in September. Our guest speaker, Heinz Proft would provide further detail..

**Public access and beach reconstruction:** has not been put out to bid so when that will be completed is unknown.

### **Summer of 2018 Achievements:**

- Neighborhood Block Captains named- Linda Underwood, Ed Weil, Susan Hollis, Martha Crane and Susan Cyr
- Website has continued thanks to Jane Anderson (<https://www.hinckleyspondassociation.com>)
- Facebook Page initiation (Hinckleys Pond Group)
- Task Force Updates -

- **Water Watchers** – The Andersons have been doing water sampling for 18 years. This task force will continue and please contact Jane or Ralph to be trained if you are interested in assisting in this effort.
- **Septic System** guidelines have been posted on our web page. Jane Anderson did the research on this topic.
- Lawn Care**. John Duane has done research on lawn care and did a presentation to the Association. This information will be available on our web site.
- Social Activities** – Full moon paddles, boat parade, book group, and two block parties were held last year and are due to be repeated during this summer

## **Guest Speaker – Heinz Proft, Harwich Natural Resource Director**

Following a study funded by the town several years ago the recommendation was made for an alum treatment for Hinckleys Pond. This project was finally approved and put out to bid. The cost of \$500,000 was estimated but the bid came in at \$347,000. The beach access has not been put out to bid.

The pond will be treated over an 8-day period between Sept 9<sup>th</sup> and the end of September. Residents may see a barge on the pond during this process. The contracted company will need access to the pond and a mooring or perhaps a dock to tie up to.

Heinz will relay information to the Association if we need to do something or not do something during the treatment or after the treatment. The Pond Association will be the agent to send the info out to pond residents.

Ralph Anderson offered a mushroom mooring should it be needed for the barge doing the alum treatment.

We will see immediate results following the alum treatment. The town will be paying for follow up data studies. This will be in addition to our longitudinal water sampling.

We have a bloom currently. The exact reason for it is unknown. Heinz apologized the town didn't do a better job in communicating this information. Several town departments are involved and the communication is not always timely. This is a confusing system as several town departments, as well as county and state agencies, do studies and the all clear notice is not always timely. This issue resulted in a lengthy discussion about the need for better communication.

A bloom can last for a week, but many posted notices are not dated and remain up for months. We are not getting information when the water is safe.

Can the Hinkleys Pond Association receive a notice of both an advisory and an all clear so we can let our members know? Working on this will be a goal for the Pond Association to have a relationship with the Health Department to improve communication.

Heinz reports that potential homebuyers contact him in response to old bloom notices discovered online as they are concerned about the health of the pond.

Heinz was unaware of any home kit to test the water.

Pond residents are encouraged to contact Heinz if you observe a fish kill, cloudy water or anything that concerns you.

Recommendations were made for increased sign posting to appropriately alert non residents who use the ponds. Signage should be dated to help in its impact. And a suggestion made that perhaps a sign near the public access could be large enough to allow the pond association to post information about supporting pond health

Heinz was thanked for his presentation and his fielding of questions.

## **New Business:**

**Thank you** to all members who support the association and more importantly the health of our pond.

### **Board of Directors;**

Thank you to Michael O'Halloran for his service last year.

**New Board of Directors** – Joan Sacchetti and Ruth Anderson's terms are over but they will continue for another term and two new members, Robyn Michaels and Don Crane have been nominated. The proposed nominations for the Board of Directors were unanimously approved.

### **New 2019 Goals:**

1. Produce a list of recommended products for home use that are environmentally friendly
2. Continue dialogues with the involved governmental agencies to improve postings, timely communication, etc.
3. Explore ways to support education on pond health (utilizing signs, for example)

Ethel Debakker thanked Deb and Anne for their leadership

Stan Selkow shared the Hinckleys Pond is a major pond for winter ducks in our area and the eagles are back!!!!!!

Meeting was adjourned on 11:05.

Linda Underwood, Acting Secretary

