

## **Hinckleys Pond Association (HPA)**

### **Annual Meeting**

**June 24, 2023**

- Glenn Suter, HPA President, welcomed everyone and introduced our two guest speakers to kick off the meeting.
- Meeting took place in the barn on the bog, thanks to the HCT.

### **Julie Hambrook; APCC (Association to Preserve Cape Cod)**

- Julie provided an overview of some of the pond projects going on with APCC (we have 890 ponds on the Cape!)
- There is currently a 50-pond project going on (Hinckleys not included) where they will measure water quality across 3 years.
- Explained the contributors to pond decay – too many nutrients that come from the runoff from lawns and into the groundwater. Elimination of fertilizers and septic tank upkeep are important. Vegetation around the pond is good.
- Glenn presented a donation for APCC for \$250 to Julie on behalf of HPA.

### **Mike Lach, HCT (Harwich Conservation Trust)**

- Mike discussed the mission of HCT – Preserve, Restore & Explore. Talked about the latest Red River Valley preservation effort.
- Thanked the HPA for our fundraising efforts to save the bog!
- Currently in the last 25% of the design phase for our bog. Next phase would be restoration – estimate to be between \$1.2 and \$1.5m. Listed below are some of the things planned at this point for the restoration although that is subject to change.
  - Roughening of the surface (removing the sand) and liberating the seedbank for native vegetation to come back.
  - Wheelchair accessibility for a piece of it, depending on cost.
  - Replace the berm with a boardwalk
  - Involving faculty and students from Cape Cod Tech
  - Working with bike trail association to fix the erosion down to the pond
  - Remove the pumphouse and build a viewing platform
- Office trailer at the cranberry barn belongs to the construction company working on the Azalea St bridge.
- Concern raised about the pitch pine already starting to grow in the bog. Similar to the work planned for Cold Brook, reducing the amount of sand down to the natural water table should inhibit the proliferation of pitch pines taking root.
- Mike took two suggestions from the association –
  - Leverage the CC Tech carpentry students to build benches for the bog trail.
  - Add a Leashes Required sign by the entrance off the bike path to reinforce the policy.
- Glenn presented Mike with \$250 donation to the HCT on behalf of the HPA.

### **2022 Recap – Glenn Suter**

- Approval of 2022 minutes
- Intro of new neighbors

### **Finance Update – Scott Norum**

- \$2k in reserve – totally funded by annual dues - \$20/family.
- **If you missed the opportunity to pay your dues, please mail to:**

**Scott Norum**

**1 Catherine Rose Rd**

**Harwich, MA 02645**

### **Social Update – Ruth**

- HPA PARTY with JAZZ– Wednesday, July 19 from 4pm – 7pm at Jane King’s house; 3 Edith Grove Rd. Matt Brown and his jazz trio will provide music! Rain date July 20. Thank you, Jane and Matt!
- Party replaces the boat parade which has had less participation in past years.
- Moonlight paddles and beach pop-ups will be announced as they approach.
- Aug 25 – block party – TBD on details

### **Ralph Anderson**

- Provided a very nice tribute and thanks to Heinz Proft who has been an advocate for HP’s water quality in his role with the Town of Harwich. We have him to thank for the town funded alum treatment several years ago which has restored the quality of Hinckley Pond. The association voted to award him a lifetime membership HPA card as thanks for all he has done for us.