

Range Ponds Association

07/31/2016

Cyndi's Dockside in Poland, Maine

Attendance:

President: Ann Gagne, **Vice President:** Robert Limoges, **Secretary:** Jeanne Fifield,
Treasurer: Sandy Moreau, **Directors:** Jeanne Radziszewski, Joe Radziszewski, And Lynne
Richard

The meeting was called to order at 9:00am by President Ann Gagne.

Keynote Speaker: Brad Plante, Town Manager for the town of Poland

He was given a list of question from the Broad and all his answers can be seen on the Range Pond Association's website. One of the highlights of his speech was: before you do anything to your property please check with the Town Hall. He is always willing to meet with Town residents. Also if you see anything report it to the Town Hall.

General Business:

A member asked about the duck blind that has been on the island in Middle Range for a couple of years. He believes it is illegal. He was given the Game Wardens contact information.

Sandy M. reported the balance in the RPA checking account is \$8,736.10.

Ann G. reported that the pay-pal account for on-line donations will be up and running soon, once our non-profit status is approved by Pay Pal.

No one volunteer to take on the selling of merchandise on line. Ann G. will look into selling the Assoc tee shirts at the Poland Spring resort store and on the website to see how time intensive it may become.

Robert L. reported that we are looking for a volunteer to be the ponds "Buoy Tender". It would require someone to place the buoys out in May then remove them in October and store them for the winter. No one has volunteered so Robert will continue to tender the buoys.

Lynne R. explained the monofilament recovery tubes that the Assoc would like to place around the three ponds. She was looking for anyone interested in making the tubes and monitoring the tubes. No one volunteered; she will pursue other avenues for making the tubes.

Jeanne F. would like to conduct another "Plant Paddle" this year. A signup sheet was put out and Jeanne will contact those people who signed up once we have a date in mind.

Ann G asked for any volunteers who would like to join the board. Jane Pentheny volunteered!

Meeting adjoined at: 10:45am.

Post meeting – Carole Testagrose volunteered to be a board member. According to the bylaws, the board will need to vote on her joining at the next meeting.

Q&A at RPA Annual Meeting 7/31/2016 with Brad Plante

- Can you explain what is allowed and not allowed in the NRPA zone (National Resource Protection Act)
 - NRPA is regulated by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (MDEP) and therefore I cannot verify what is and isn't allowed within their regulation. You should contact Dustin Dorr (215-4525) from MDEP to better answer this question.
- Also what is allowed and not allowed in the Shoreland zone, 250' from the high water mark?
 - If you specifically requesting information on permitted uses within the Town's Shoreland Zoning regulations, those can be found in Table 508.27.A of the Comprehensive Land Use Code (CLUC). See attached
- How is the high water mark determined?
 - The definition of the Normal High Water Line is as follows:
 - **Normal High-water Line:** *That line which is apparent from visible markings, changes in the character of soils due to prolonged action of the water or changes in vegetation, and which distinguishes between predominantly aquatic and predominantly terrestrial land. In the case of wetlands adjacent to rivers and Great Ponds, the normal high-water line is the upland edge of the wetlands and not the edge of the open water.*
- Can you explain why these state and local regulations exist?
 - The Federal and State government's enacted these regulations to provide maintenance of safe and healthful conditions; to prevent and control water pollution; to protect fish spawning grounds, aquatic life, bird and other wildlife habitat; to protect buildings and lands from flooding and accelerated erosion; to protect archaeological and historic resources; to protect commercial fishing and maritime industries; to protect freshwater and coastal wetlands; to control building sites, placement of structures and land uses; to conserve shore cover, and visual as well as actual points of access to inland and coastal waters; to conserve natural beauty and open space; and to anticipate and respond to the impacts of development in shoreland areas.
- What is going to happen to the properties that added a beach recently or sand added to a pre-existing beach or cleared property in the Shoreland Zone? Will there be any repercussions? Will they have to restore the property as it was prior to the work?
 - The Town takes every violation serious and works with property owners and contractors to ensure that the rules are followed and enforced. Any violation is unique to the property and the Code Enforcement Officer and Board of Selectmen work with the owners and contractors to bring the property back into compliance within the rules and laws.
- Can the Town of Poland work with the Town of New Gloucester on the portion that NG owns when that happens?
 - I don't know exactly what is being requested here
- What is the Town's preference/opinion/recommendation for camp roads around the lake with regard to public safety?

- My department can only regulate conditions on a planning board approved private road plan. All other public safety items will have to be handled by emergency personnel
- Is the Town directing road associations to plow unused sections in the winter adding to the expense of the road association?
 - Again my department can only regulate conditions on an Planning Board approved private road plan
- Does the town know how many camp roads there are?
 - See the all Roads within the Town list attached
- Is there any mechanism in place for determining if they present a source of sediments to the lake?
 - My department can only regulate the ordinances in place that have been approved by the Town people or Laws enacted by the legislature. I will consider any recommendations that the Association has and I forward to the Planning Board for their review.
- If so, can road associations have help from the Town to reduce runoff?
 - The Town cannot not work on private roads
- Is there a plan to address the drainage issue across from Romano's at the corner of Schellinger and Rt 26? Winter ice there is very dangerous, additional salt is not good for the lake.
 - The shoulder is to high and will be lowered to allow proper runoff into a check dam-
- Can the road be super-elevated at that location to an infiltration trench, plunge pool or other method of diverting water from the road?
 - I would think this is an MDOT question
- Can the town address the Jackson Hill/Schellinger runoff into the lake by using basins, plunge pools or other method of diverting water and sand from the lake? There has been a lot of sand runoff into that area of the lake at the end of Jackson Hill Road?
 - plunge pool installed by the town fills with sediment and is cleaned yearly
- Lake levels are controlled by the dam, the dam is controlled by the town, who at the town? Who is responsible for determining when the water is lowered or raised? Is it someone at the town, a resident, anyone? Who should it be? There needs to be a real schedule for raising and lowering the water level. Lakes should be drawn down before ice up so shoreline is not damaged?
 - The Dam has a permanent concrete spillway-
 - The Dam has a optional center control gate that is opened in the fall and closed in the spring by Public Works-
- Thompson Lake has a Thomson Lake Dam committee with the Town of Oxford.
 - This seems to be a statement not a question maybe they should speak to the Selectmen about creating a committee
- Can the Town direct the Sheriff to address illegal parking along Schellinger Road during the winter (ice anglers) or other times of the year? Dangerous during commutes. Also, what about the illegal parking on Range Hill Road around the public boat launch, if it's not going to be enforced, then why bother with No Parking signs.
 - This is Town Manager, Sheriff, and Public Works question

- How does the town maintain previous BMP installations (Best Management Practices)?
 - The Town does maintain the Erosion Control and Stormwater facilities throughout the Town on a yearly basis. Individual properties owners are required to maintain any BMP installed on their property and make sure its in compliance with State and Local regulations
- How many BMP installations are around the Range Ponds?
 - Are they asking Town owned?
- Ex: 319 Grant work along Birch Drive.
 - I was not around when the Birch Drive work was conducted, there should be a file in the vault
- Is there anything specific that RPA can do to partner with the Town for protection of water quality in the Ponds?
 - Maybe the association can come make some suggestions for the Town and the Town can evaluate this list and see if we can help in any way
- What can we do to make this work better – chain of command.
 - As a department head I work directly for the Town Manager
- Currently, the Town of Poland contributes \$1,000 annually from the conservation fund to assist with protecting the Ponds – we certainly thank the town for that.
 - This is a statement thanking the Town, not a question for my department
- As our costs have increased with two annual professional water monitorings, how do we work to get a little additional money to help offset that cost?
 - Will need to speak with the Manager , Budget Committee, and Manager