

**MOOSE POND ASSOCIATION**  
**MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 30, 2008 MEETING**

- Board Nominations and Elections  
The following people were elected to the board:  
  
Harold Arthur, Steve Cavicchi, Tom Churches, Paul Croteau, Katie Dunn, Paul Dwyer, David Ehrman, Byron Gayman, Mark Patterson, Joe Shubert, Brian Thomas, Robert Weishapl, Chip Wendler
  
- Officer Nominations and Elections  
The following Officers were elected:  
  
President – David Ehrman  
Vice President – Mark Patterson  
Treasurer – Brian Thomas  
Clerk – Joe Shubert
  
- Progress
  - Association Formation  
The Association is now registered with the state of Maine as a non-profit corporation. The association by-laws were incorporated into the registration.
  - Finances  
The Aug. 127, 2008 Financial report was reviewed and is available on-line at the MPA website, by request to members only. During the review it was noted that the Association has taken responsibility for the maintenance of the wash stations at both the Route 302 firehouse and the Denmark boat landing.
  - Courtesy Boat Inspections  
Fulltime inspection has been organized for the 302 launch site and some testing of the volume of launches at the Denmark site has been conducted. We experienced some difficulties with people showing up for their assignments at the 302 site and so next year the Association will take steps to be more involved in the scheduling of the inspectors. At the Route 302 boat ramp, boat inspectors put in 345.5 hours and inspected 191 boats, through August 17, 2008. We have not yet compiled the results of the survey at the Denmark site but we are leaning towards full time inspectors for next year.
  - Website  
Thanks to the hard work of Brian Thomas we have a website; [www.moosepondassociation.org](http://www.moosepondassociation.org) Take a look and give us your feedback. We're trying to load on all the things we think members and visitors would like to know.
  
- Opportunities
  - Water Quality  
LEA has provided a water quality report and we have posted this information on the website. LEA rates the lake as one of high concern due the substantial cold water fishery that warrants protection; otherwise the pond would probably be in the moderate category.
  - Denmark Dam Control  
We are in communication with the town of Denmark and they will accept input if we wish to alter the existing management. The dam has been in the past and will again this year be opened around the 25<sup>th</sup> of October and the lake level will be lower one vertical foot.
  - 302 Boat Launch Improvement

The Maine Bass Federation is in discussion with the town of Bridgton (the town owns the boat ramp) and they estimate the cost will be around \$9000 to rebuild the ramp. They have obtained all the permits and the town has committed \$1000 to the project. The next steps are for the Federation to find grants to fund the project.

- **Obstruction Marking**

If the Association installs markers and there is a law suit because of an accident then the Association is liable. The decision has been made not to fund obstruction markings.

- **Toilets**

A concern had been raised on the people using the lake on a day basis have no place for relief other than the lake and this is detrimental to the lake. There is a portable toilet on Sabbatis Island and a sign can be made to let boaters know and the Courtesy Boat Inspectors can also inform people.

- **Island Preservation**

Interest has been voiced as to what can be done to preserve the island on the south side of the causeway. We have learned the name of the island is Caruso Island. Joe Shubert ([jshubert@fairpoint.net](mailto:jshubert@fairpoint.net)) is heading the work to investigate what can be done. Please contact Joe if you would like to participate.

- **Fund Raisers**

We'd like to continue to have fund raising events and would like to hear from anyone who would like to host an event.

- **Moose Pond Shirts**

We had 100 shirts made and they are almost all gone. The plan is to have a new design done every year so these will certainly become collectors items! Be sure to let us know if we should reserve a shirt for you for next year. Also anyone who would like to submit a design for a future shirt design let us know.

- **Next Steps**

- **Webcam**

Winona has agreed to host a webcam but they first need to get their internet connection stabilized. We are also looking for business sponsors for the webcam so we will have the funding to buy a camera.

- **Detail Invasives Survey**

Next year the Association will undertake a detailed survey of the lake to look for invasive plants. We have approached Winona and Wyonegonic about the idea of making this a learning project for their campers and we have received enthusiastic support. If you would also like to participate in this important event please let us know. The survey will take place during the July August period next year.

- **Watershed Project**

We have been in discussion with LEA about a project to correct erosion and water quality issues in the Moose Pond watershed area by installing conservation practices on roads, public land and private property. We would work with LEA and the Maine Environmental Protection Agency to get grants to work in partnership with the state, town and property owners on a cost sharing basis to correct any problems found. We are told that a survey done and paid for by the association will greatly help to get the funding for the implementation work. The implementation work usually goes on over a two to three year period. We will start immediately to look into funding for the survey portion of the project.

- **Input and Questions**

- A question was asked if the unused funds in our account at LEA can earn interest. We will find out.

- A question was asked if there is any management of the dam during the year, other than the fall lowering, and under what circumstances would they take an action. We will find out.
- A request was made for Maine residents to contact their reps on the use of the money collected for milfoil prevention. It is believed that only a small part of the money collected actually is devoted to milfoil prevention.
- It was suggested that a sign be made for the boat launches that there may be unmarked obstructions and so boaters should proceed at their own risk. We will look into a sign to say this.
- It was also suggested that we have a milfoil display at the launch sites to show boaters what milfoil looks like and enlist their support to be on the lookout for invasive plants. We will look into this as well.
- It was suggested that the quality of life on the lake can be more than just milfoil prevention. Perhaps a handbook for residents and visitors on “Good Neighbor/Boater Behavior” could be developed. The website contains recommendations for fertilizers and soaps to use to help water quality maintenance.
- We should be on the alert for information about plans for new development around the lake and work to ensure that the work will not have negative impacts on the lake.