

Gilford Islands Association
24th Annual Meeting Minutes
August 16, 2014

Note: The Gilford Islands Association (GIA) Meeting was scheduled for Monday, July 28, 2014 at 6 PM. The first part of the meeting was a presentation about the book, "The Islands of Winnepesaukee" by Ron Guilmette and Jay Leccese. The business meeting was scheduled for the second half of the evening. Due to severe thunderstorms at the time, there were insufficient attendees to hold the business part of the meeting. It was subsequently rescheduled for Saturday, August 16, 2014 at 10:30 AM in the Gilford Town Hall.

August 16, 2014 Jim MacBride called the meeting to order at 10:30 AM. Officers and board members present were Jim MacBride, President, Sue Colbert, Secretary, and At-large Board members Ripley Forbes, Connie Grant, George Hilton, and Richard Holdaway. John Goodhue, Vice President and Diane Goodhue, Treasurer subsequently arrived. Thirty-two members attended the meeting representing the Islands of Birch, Camp, Kinneho, Lockes, Mark, and Welch.

Minutes The first order of business was the approval of the minutes from the 2013 summer meeting and the March 08 2014 winter meeting. Charlie Fairman moved to accept the minutes and Connie Grant seconded the motion. The motion carried without discussion.

Annual Contributions The next agenda item looked at the association's annual contributions to six 501(c) (3) or tax exempt organizations that work to support environmental/conservation efforts around the lake. The contributions from 2013 are as follows:

1. Glendale Cove Association (milfoil eradication) \$475
2. Lake Winnepesaukee Watershed Association (LWWA) \$275
3. Loon Preservation Committee \$200
4. Lakes Region Conservation Trust \$150
5. New Hampshire Lakes Association \$125
6. New Hampshire Audubon Society \$100

In addition, \$500 was allocated in the spring meeting to sponsor the testing costs for two water testing sites that are manned by GIA volunteers for the LWWA water testing project.

Charlie Fairman moved to accept the same contribution levels for 2014 as the previous year. Dot Pangburn seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Election of Officers John Goodhue, Vice President assumed control of the meeting to conduct the required election of the office of President, Treasurer and two At-large members. The board recommended the slate of Jim MacBride, President, Diane Goodhue, Treasurer, Ripley Forbes and Richard Holdaway, At-large members. There were no other nominations from the floor. Rick Holder moved to approve the slate recommended by the board and Harold Dexter seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Treasurer's Report Diana Goodhue distributed copies of the Treasurer's Report. (See Register Report Attachment 1) This report generated a lot of discussion from the floor. The following are the major points of consensus from these discussions.

1. In the future, the report should reflect all of the current assets, income and expenditures of the organization. The balance of savings accounts, checking accounts, and the balances of the Certificates of Deposit also need to be included.
2. The organization spent more than it takes in in dues
3. Next year the luncheon payments will be separated from the actual dues payments on the report. The income from the luncheon will be reflected as a separate line item as will the expenditure for the luncheon.
4. The report should show the current total number of dues paying members.
5. A second mailing for dues needs to be completed for this year.
6. Under Expenses, there are two payments to LWVA for \$275. The first one was pledged in 2013 but the check was not written until 2014. The second one reflects the 2014 amount.
7. The current report needs to be amended and reissued with the minutes.

Jim MacBride called for a vote to accept the financial report pending further review. Charlie Fairman so moved and Connie Grant seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Ripley Forbes suggested that raising the yearly membership fee to \$25 for a family would resolve the negative yearly balance in the future. Following discussion, Anne Baier moved to raise the dues to \$25 per family for 2015 membership. This change would give each family up to two votes in an election. Connie Grant seconded the motion. The motion carried. This means that for 2014, the deficit will be covered from the surplus funds in the checking account.

There were also some suggestions on how to reduce expenses. One was to reduce mailing expenses by emailing notices and billings online to those who prefer it. A check off box on the dues form could request email only.

One suggestion was to eliminate the web site. Sue Colbert suggested that expenses could be offset by selling advertisements for local businesses on the website. The board was previously reluctant to pursue this possibility. Sue Colbert and Jim MacBride recommended that it is time to reconsider this. Moreover, the "contract" with My Lake Town provides for this without any further action."

Jim MacBride reported on his progress with applying for a 501 (c)(3) status (tax exempt) for the organization. He has completed the application and compiled the requisite tax returns. He now wants to have the application reviewed by a lawyer to make sure it is complete.

Jim MacBride moved that the legal fund CD be frozen again this year and in future years with no new contributions added. Connie seconded and the motion carried.

Internet Update We receive a monthly usage report from our web provider. Approximately 130-150 distinct users login each month, some multiple times. Users look at between four and five pages each session. Some are new users and some are previous users.

Users can add their own pictures to the web site by visiting their profile page and uploading a favorite photo. The picture will appear on the home page.

Old Business Amended By-laws passed in 2013 were distributed to the members. A copy also is available on the web site. Jim MacBride urged more islanders to sign up for the web site and the email lists."

New Business

Glendale: There are plans to add more (3) handicap parking spots to the lower level of Glendale to bring the total to 7, so the Town is in compliance with current law. Car parking has become an issue on busy holidays and weekends. Jim MacBride suggested a meeting with the Glendale Committee to address some of the issues.

Glendale Marine is negotiating with the NH Department of Safety (State Police) to sell their property. It may be an opportunity for the town to acquire a few more parking spots along a right of way. The Town Administrator, Scott Dunn has been contacted about this issue.

Dave Pangburn suggested and so moved that Jim MacBride send a formal letter to the town Selectmen requesting them to pursue the additional parking spaces with the State Police. Rick Holder seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Associate Membership

- Some people who do not own island property now give us money each year and are included in our mailings and newsletters. Technically these people are not permitted to be members and the suggestion was to add a new category of Associate Membership. There was much discussion and no consensus on this issue. Connie Grant moved to keep the status quo for now and John Goodhue seconded. The motion carried.

Other

- Carole Jones reported a heavy infestation of an unknown plant between the 3 hour and 8 hour docks. Sue Colbert said she would follow up on the issue. Since that meeting, divers have removed most of the plants in the area.

- Ripley Forbes was concerned about dogs running loose at the docks. Diana Goodhue said there is no leash law in Gilford. Jim will talk to the town administrator about this issue.

- Carole Jones moved that the Annual Meetings be conducted in the evenings. Connie Grant seconded the motion. The motion carried. Ripley Forbes suggested that a rain date be included with the original meeting announcement.

Legislative Report

1. HB292 will raise the boat registration fee by \$2 and earmark the money exclusively for the eradication of invasive species such as milfoil. This bill passed both houses.

2. HB1248 This controversial bill provides that users of outdoor recreational activities accept the dangers to such activities and cannot take legal action against the owners for resulting injuries. This bill passed the House and is being studied by the Senate.

Diana Goodhue moved to adjourn the meeting, Connie Grant seconded it and the motion carried.