



HAMMOND ACRES CLUB, INC.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING

August 6, 2022

The Annual Meeting of the Hammond Acres Club was called to order at 7:05 after a quorum was reached.

President Charlie Lotspeich welcomed the members and introduced the Board members who were present: John Rooney, Mike Martin, Margaret Wood, Russ Gibson, Dawn Monahan, Peter Contuzzi, Dorothy Martin and Alan Kirouac.

New Members. Charlie introduced and welcomed members who have joined since the last Annual meeting:

- Noel Raley, Mike Dunkerley, Lizzy Tyler and Ken Majka of 39 Lake Drive;
- Patricia Voss of 35 Lake Drive, and
- Tom Wartenberg of 99 Lake Drive

Charlie recognized the passing of members David Pesuit and DiAnne Mimitz.

Minutes. Members reviewed and voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the prior year's meeting. John Rooney motioned to approve the minutes, which was seconded by Peter Contuzzi. Member voted unanimously to approve.

Treasurer's Report. Treasurer Mike Martin summarized the Treasurer's report (attached). Members had the following comments:

- Mike noted that the Club installed a new dock at the request of members.
- Bob Labrie asked what is budgeted as part of "future" for the bridge (\$10K): John Rooney noted it is mostly for decking and railings. Separate from the dam.
- Jackie Daiber commented that the short term rental number seems low: Mike agreed. He noted that the Board hasn't yet figured out enforcement on this issue. Peter noted that he wants to have a serious conversation about this at the next Board meeting. Mike said the Board would contact AirBnB. Joe Silverman said that it shouldn't be that hard for a Board member to keep track.

Howie motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report: Nick Callahan seconded the motion. The report was unanimously approved.

Future Capital Projection (attached). John Rooney reviewed this projection. Members had the following comments:

- Steve Daiber asked what scope of dredging and weed eradication. John responded that the scope is to be determined. Steve suggested that landscaping should also be on the list of projects. John agreed that there are many other items that should be considered.

Dues. Peter noted that the Board has voted to increase due to \$590 for the coming year.

Election of Directors. The following were presented as nominated candidates for office:

- Russ Gibson, 37 Pond Hill Road
- Dawn Monahan, 41 Pine Road
- Dan Pikett, 54 Hammond Circle

Alan introduced Dan Pikett who could not attend. Alan noted that he has been on the Board in the past and is a very handy guy.

Election of Officers. The following were presented as nominated candidates for office:

For Treasurer: Michael Martin
For Vice President: John Rooney
For Clerk: Margaret Wood

Bob Labrie made a motion to cast one vote for the Directors, which was seconded by Alan Kirouac. The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

Bob then made a motion that the Officers be elected as one vote which was seconded by Peter Contuzzi. This motion also passed unanimously by acclamation.

Volunteers. Charlie thanked the many volunteers who help maintain the assets of the community. This included a special thank you to long time Board Chair Gerry Glasser who was not in attendance. Charlie read a letter from Gerry which is attached. Other thank you's included:

- Dam Administrator: John Rooney
- Watershed Stewardship: Steve Daiber
- Roads: Chris Rooney
- Lake Stewardship: Don Patenaude
- Golf Course: The Golf Crew
- Website and Google group: Phil Hurzeler
- Library: Pat Potter
- Water Board: Joe Silverman and John Leary
- Corn Boil volunteers: Karen and Jonathan Bisset

Charlie noted that the Corn boil is coming up on August 13th and encouraged members to sign up.

Updates on Community Assets

Dam Project. John Rooney noted that the estimate is up to \$100K. The engineer is behind on the design work and has apologized for not being on top of the project. John added that we are still on schedule for 2024 dam construction and should be able to meet the budget with the assessment. Next steps include permitting and approvals from the state. The work is proposed to be done in the winter.

Tree Inspections. Peter Contuzzi began his report by noting that our hemlocks continue to be under attack by wooly adelgid which is being made worse by warming weather: a number of trees have been sprayed by Bartlett Tree Services with a horticultural oil which stifles the bugs. Bartlett did the same type of spray in May. Peter encouraged property owners to participate in this program. Bartlett told Peter there is also quite a bit of scale. Peter commented that the Club has paid \$1K for the wooly adelgid on community trees: the scale treatment estimate was \$5K. Members made the following comments:

- A member asked if other trees are infected by scale: Peter is going to check.
- Bob Labrie commented that scale is notoriously hard to control.

Watershed. Steve Daiber noted that it is not just the trees that are impacted by climate change: this needs to be looked at in a holistic way. This year Hammond Acres Watershed Committee (HAWC) had Westfield State come out and repeat a study they had done previously: two invasives were identified in the pond. One is [phragmites](#): once it gets a foothold in wetlands, it grows everywhere. Right now it is just in a couple of locations. The other invasive is [Yellow Floating Heart](#) which is also aggressive. Both were found at the northwest shoreline. The investigation was done early in the year (June) and they may have missed some plants, like purple loosestrife. A big problem at other ponds is [Asian Milfoil](#). Ashfield mows their pond which is completely invested which costs \$10K a year. Steve noted that boat hulls going in to Hammond Pond MUST be clean to prevent further infestations. Peter noted that the Rules & Regulations include clear directions about the requirements for cleaning boats.

Steve also noted that the Hawk Committee has cut back [Burning Bush](#): it is beautiful but really aggressive. They have also pulled a lot of [Bittersweet](#). He noted that the Hawk Committee has also identified native plants and hopes to put up signage: look for little white tags on plants around the golf course. They have also placed red warning flags for poison ivy, which is really good for bird habitat, if not for humans and yellow tags for non-natives (look for these in the northwest corner of the golf course). Steve also commented about the presence of [Japanese Knotweed](#) as well.

Barn WIFI! Bob Labrie noted that the Barn now has WiFi and that the password (for members only) is Goshen01032.

The business of the Annual Meeting being successfully concluded, the meeting adjourned at 8:18.