

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING
OTTER POND HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.
September 8, 2020
[revision 1]

***Note:** this virtual meeting was held via Zoom...*

Present: Lois Sailors, Charli Oswald, Roy Anderson, Chris Hebert, Wade Pynes
Meeting called to order at 3:05 pm.

Guests: (none)

Minutes: Minutes from the August 11, 2020, OPHOA Board Meeting were approved.

Committee Reports:

Open Space — question came up regarding a fence within Open Space #3 – Lois is in contact with owner.

Pond — folks have reported minks eating dead fish! Mark's (extensive) Pond Report is attached.

Neighborhood Watch — only 8 people asked Chris for window decals. He feels it is important for everyone to participate.

Social — ice cream "party" was a success; Alternate ideas are being discussed for Christmas lighting to be held outside... possibly by the Boat House this year; not at anyone's home. Watch for details in a future Newsletter!

Other Committees — no reports

Unfinished Business:

Ditches — no new report. Lois will contact Tadd regarding his continued services.

Boat House — secondary applications must be renewed by September 30th.

Legal Issue — the Board approved Lois' draft response to the attorney representing a neighbor wanting to build a shed on HOA Open Space (which has been denied).

New Business:

Financial Reports — Finances are all on track. Wade is preparing the 2021 Budget which will be presented to the Board at the next meeting. It will include special projects like pond shore rocks, new docks at the marina, and snowplowing added to the Landscape contract.

Non Compliance Issues — Lois sent two letters (street parking & weeds).

Annual Meeting — Roy will prepare all documents by the October meeting; due to Covid he will attempt to secure a large meeting room at the County Event Center during an evening, the week of November 16th. Please try to keep those dates open.

Next Meeting — Next month's meeting will be Tuesday, October 13th at 3:00 p.m. **on Zoom**
The meeting adjourned at 3:55 pm.

From: Mark Bollinger <markbollin@aol.com>
Date: September 8, 2020 at 11:14:52 AM CDT
To: loissailors@aol.com
Subject: Pond Update

Hi Lois,

Here's a brief summary of what I'm seeing now in the pond.

An extremely hot and dry summer, along with poor incoming water quality have had an adverse effect on the overall health of the pond. Careful observers have noted distressed trout swimming near the inlet in search of the cooler incoming water. Undoubtedly we have seen some mortality in our trout population; however, our aeration system has functioned continuously throughout the summer. In earlier discussions with our pond limnologist, Doug Eccher, we learned that if we had experienced a significant fish kill, the banks would be strewn with dead fish and the smell would be overwhelming. Also, during the evenings fish rising to feast on emerging midges let us know that the warm water fish are especially active and playing their role in our pond's ecosystem. As the weather cools, the trout will become more active, and we will be able to assess how significant was the impact of the hot summer on our trout population. As the new school year is beginning, we have reached out to Doug to see if we are going to be able to implement any of this year's plans that were put on hold in the spring and summer due to COVID restrictions.

Hopefully the above paragraph will work for the minutes. In terms of comments, I will add that talking to a hemp farmer I learned that 1) Hemp farmers fertilized in the fall, when we saw last year's algae bloom (recall that Tadd says hemp growers were everywhere upstream when he ran the ditches) 2) they didn't get the prices they had hoped for, and many switched back to corn, which they fertilized in early this spring, after plowing under the hemp. So, in addition to the increased heat and dryness, we got a "double dose" of fertilizer, plus all the plowing etc. which may have increased the amount of sediment in the runoff from the fields. This is just an educated guess on my part, based on experience and observation, and I would not assert it as "fact." I hope to hear back from Doug soon as to when the project with the Peak students (including Jonathan's kid) will start up again. I would like to get them to help me with adjusting the aeration system so I can teach them about that.

Let me know if the board has any questions!

Mark