

Board Meeting May 20, 2014

MacSherry Library – 7 pm

Present: Larry and Jill Partridge, Laurie Andre-Amis, Pam Andre, Stewart Davey, Carol & Bob Lamoureux

Old minutes read and accepted without changes.

Treasurer's report: to date we have \$24,640.27 we started with \$25,789.27 added \$470 in dues and donations. Expenses of \$1,619 were incurred for the beginning of a flow study required by the DEC.

Laurie stated she went to the Oct., Nov., and Dec. Town Board Meeting with no response from the Town. We are still on the agenda but they still have to research the issue of partnering with us on saving Goose Bay. Dale Honeyman, town supervisor, wanted us to provide him with information on other towns that have helped waterfront property owners control the Eurasian Milfoil. Bob provided the requested information. We will contact Town Board to see if they have reached a resolution on helping the GBRC. Laurie stated that Greg Wills from the Town Board is very interested in helping us. Bob will follow up.

Boat Ramp Monitors. Kevin Bamerick is working with a person to establish a ramp monitor at the Goose Bay boat ramp. The State Parks have established monitors at three of their parks in the region. We have not received approval for funding from Dave White of Sea Grant on establishing a monitoring program at the Goose Bay boat ramp. JCC Academic Affairs office has agreed to provide a room for, one-day training instruction. Kathy Wiley of Paul Smith's College has an instructor, but she indicated we would have to provide funds for travel expenses. Paul Smith's College is the right institution to work with on development of this program. Bob will check with Kevin to see if this can still be done. He will also check with Patty Ritchie, and Addie Russell for help regarding a boat monitor.

Grants. Bob has checked for NYS grants but they are 25 cents on the dollar. It was decided that maybe we should go Federal. Bob contacted Diane Leonard from DH Leonard Consulting and Grant Writing Services. David Krill who originally said that he would be able to help us with grant writing is no longer available.

Diane was gracious enough to attend the Board Meeting and gave a short talk on grant writing pertaining to the Bay. Diane stated that it is extremely important that we get some partnerships with other agencies in writing as it would help with our grant requests. The Board will follow up with Diane regarding all necessary paperwork needed in applying for grants. We need a formal plan and time line before applying for any grant monies. We need to pursue organizations to partner with us and get letters of partnership or commitment supporting our efforts (example: Senator Ritchie, Addie Russell, or agencies we have dealt with over the years).

Aerial shots of the Bay were done late September showing the infestation of Eurasian Milfoil throughout the Bay. We plan to continue this on an annual basis. This will provide visual documentation of the

degradation of the bay as well as proof of improvement provided we get the approval to treat areas in the bay. Jill Partridge has aerial photos of the bay in the late 70s, 80s and early 90s. The cost of the 2013 aerial photos was \$378.

Flow study meeting with Rob Freese from the DEC was attended by Larry Partridge and Stewart Davey, Tony Galluppi and Bob Lamoureux at the MacSherry Library in September. Stewart, Jill, and Larry were designated to lead this project. They contacted Lee Harper, John Farrell, and Michael Parks regarding a flow study. They recommended Michael Parks to do the study.

Stewart stated that Mike developed a protocol for the study and forwarded it to Rob Freese (DEC) for his approval. The flow study was scheduled for completion in early November but was cancelled because of weather conditions. The flow study was suspended and rescheduled for this spring. Michael Parks recently sent us a revised protocol for the flow study. The revised protocol calls for fewer sampling points which should reduce the cost of this study. Michael Parkes will forward the revised protocol to Rob Freese for his approval. We are hoping that the study will show little if any outflow to the river. Providing there is little or no outflow we will be able to petition the DEC to allow the use of another chemical, Renovate OTF, to control the Eurasian Milfoil. Rob Freese wants us to use Sonar which we feel is less effective in the control of milfoil and more expensive to apply. Sonar needs multiple applications where as Renovate OTF can be applied once therefore reducing applications expenses.

New Business: Carol Lamoureux sent in a letter of resignation which she read at the meeting. Carol was a voting board member and secretary. Pam Andre sent an e-mail that Debbie Scholes is interested in becoming the new secretary and board member. Debbie was at the meeting and a vote was taken by the board members for her approval. She was elected into the GBRC unanimously.

The Fish & Wildlife Service proposed a channel from the river to the bay on the south side of Number Nine Island during the fall of 2013. This channel, only six feet wide and a foot and a half deep, would provide additional oxygenated water to enhance pike spawning in Goosebay by Cranberry creek. The GBRC received a e mail from Scott Schlueter (Fish and Wildlife) Bob read the e-mail sent from Scott which stated that the Fish and Wildlife Service was denied landowner permission to conduct the restoration project and will not be moving forward. One of the two land owners declined access to the marsh between No 9 Island and the mainland. Scott will continue to work with the property owner to see if he can do anything to change the decision. The opening near #9 Island is not dredging it is a 6 ft. swatch through the marsh to enhance pike spawning. We at the GBRC have been working with the Fish and Wildlife for a few years and regret the postponement of the project but it is out of our control.

On January 16, 2014 the Jefferson County Water and Soil Conservatory called a meeting with the DEC regarding our invasive weed control application in Watertown with Jessica Heart, Environmental Analyst DEC, Jake Ambrose from the Jefferson County Water and Soil Conservatory, Stewart Davey, Jill and Larry Partridge, from GBRC, Erik Latremore, Frank Flack and Robert Freese all from the DEC, Lee Wilbanks from Save the River, and Michael Parkes from Parkes Ecological LLC were also in attendance. Bob Lamoureux and Lee Harper attended the meeting via conference call. It was stated that the grant we received from Patty Ritchie would be held over into 2015 if we could not receive permission to complete

treatment this year. The Jefferson County Water and Soil Conservatory was named administrators of the grant. The DEC is concerned since there is some wetland issues in the area designated for treatment. If we are treating in wetland area we will have to file an article 24 permit before moving forward. The attendees were very cooperative, but it has now become more complicated. Because of the wetlands there has to be a base line study of the vegetation before the herbicide is applied and 2 or 3 months after the herbicide is applied to determine its effectiveness. This baseline study has to be done the same time each year, which means that we begin the study this year but won't be able to apply a chemical until next spring, provided we obtain the DEC approval. Water temperature has to reach 59 degrees before we can apply the herbicide, because that is when the Eurasian Milfoil starts growing. We will do the flow study early June and hopefully determine there is little or no outflow into the St. Lawrence River. If we can prove that there is no outflow we can petition the DEC to use Renovate OTF. There was another meeting held on January 27, 2014, to discuss associated costs and a plan of action going forward.

Jessica Hart from the DEC requested another meeting on February 10, the meeting included DEC personnel, the Jefferson County Soil and Water Conservatory, Mike Parks, Stewart Davey, Larry Partridge also with Bob (on the phone). They gave us the proposal for doing the weed count. Stewart Davey is in the process of putting the GBRC protocol together which will have to be approved by the DEC.

The cost involved with these studies is significant and if at all possible to cut some of the cost Stewart, Larry, Bob will help.

If anyone is interested in information regarding Renovate OTF it is manufactured by SeaPro and can be obtained by contacting Bob, or will be put in the website (links) to get information.

Membership drive will be starting in June. There are approximately 132 homes (cottages) on the bay. In 2012 we had 30 members. In 2013 we had 61 members, this represents less than half the residents of the bay. It was brought up that some people thought the \$20 membership fee was a one-time fee, even though every mailing that has gone out states annual membership fee. Please talk it up with you neighbors about joining the GBRC.

Fundraising: Shore Dinner at Coyote Moon June 21, 2014 from 3 to 6. \$30 pre-sale tickets, \$35 at door. \$5 if only wants to come for bands and raffles. Come one come all. Please spread the news on saving goose bay. If anyone would like to donate an item, please get a hold of one of the Board members. Use our website to contact us.

Website has changed: savegoosebay.weebly.com this is a free website and is still under construction but can be accessed now. You can get on line and leave questions and we will forward it on to the appropriate individual.

Ended at 7:45 1st Jill 2nd Stewart