

## BLIMP Association Meeting 6/8/19 Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

Twenty people attended representing ten associations – Balch Hill Rd., Jennifer Lane, Lakewood Drive, the Ridge, Shady Nook, Shepard Island, Walden, Wise Cove, Wyman Point, and Balch Pond Acres. There were 2 attendees who are located on the lake but not in an official association. The east end dam keeper attended the meeting.

### **Financials:**

Michael Kattman presented Actual to Budget Financials for 2018-19. He noted that the increase in expenses is due to the increase in acreage being treated with herbicides, having 3<sup>rd</sup> crew member on the DASH boat, and necessary maintenance.

There was a request to have the Financials, as well as the last few years of comparison, emailed in PDF format to everyone at the meeting. Once in PDF format they will be either emailed or put on the new website

Sue mentioned that 30 Camps not belonging to any Association have been identified and sent a letter requesting a \$50 donation.

A question was raised about associations with lower donation rates. It was agreed it is not something we can make them do. Each association is different, with different bylaws.

Michael & Sue are sending a personal thank you to anyone that donates over \$200.

### **On-Water Operations**

Before introducing Kathleen, Dennis was recognized for his years of service on the BLIMP crew, maintaining and storing the DASH boat, and allowing BLIMP to dump the milfoil on his property.

Kathleen Lisbon spoke about managing the water operations. To date, the divers have been in the water for 4 weeks, 17 out of 22 days, and have pulled 39 barrels of milfoil.

Areas completed: Maine, Foy & Loon Cove, 90% of Wyman.

On 6/9/19, BLIMP will be hosting a diver certification program for identification and harvesting of invasive aquatic species. Ted Aldrich, recommended by Amy Smagula of NH-DES, will be teaching. A volunteer in a kayak or small boat is needed for the afternoon.

Investigations are underway for a CPR course, required for all divers.

Kathleen asked that instead of putting out milfoil markers that she be contacted at her new BLIMP email address: [BLIMP-Ops@roadrunner.com](mailto:BLIMP-Ops@roadrunner.com)

DASH operations will include several weekends this summer. We are planning to use those weekends to train volunteers in on-deck crew tasks. This will allow us to have substitutes if we are short a crew member.

The net cleaning schedule was passed out. Nancy Charest will clean the nets before the official schedule begins. Sue reported that someone cut the nets but they have been fixed.

There was discussion that Belleau Lake is trying to control the milfoil on their lake but nothing is being done in Woodman's Lake and that is causing a lot of Milfoil to flow into our lake by the dam.

Kathleen closed by thanking and presenting a gift to Jack McAdam for allowing the divers to, once again, use their camp during the DASH season.

### **Fund Raising:**

Linnie Seaver spoke about the Fundraising events planned for the summer months. A calendar of events was given to everyone that attended the meeting. Linda will email the calendar to Sue to put on our website and will also ask Tracey if we can leave some at the Marina.

A new fund raiser this summer will be aerial photographs of the whole lake. Maps of the lake have been printed, two sizes, twenty-five of each size. They will be available at both Jeff's stores and all fund raisers. Linda will handle the sales.

Ann Willson talked about the Yard Sale/Auction looking for donations as well as volunteers. She gave out signs to be hung at each association with details of the events.

### **Back End Operations:**

Sue Jackman reported that she has recently attended the annual NH Lakes Congress which she sees as a key organization for BLIMP to belong to. NHLakes is very involved in legislative issues, research including working with UNH, and a very successful Lake Hosts program for CBI (courtesy boat inspections).

Currently the Marina's staff handles the boat inspections with BLIMP reimbursing the Marina \$3 for each inspection. Tracey has expressed a concern that it is very difficult to do adequate inspections on busy weekends. She would very much appreciate if BLIMP could help by providing volunteers to do the inspections. Sue will be looking further into NHLakes' Lake Host program including attending their training program. Attempts will be made to recruit

volunteers this summer. In the future it might be good to pursue both volunteers and paid Lake Hosts.

As Sue learned at the conference variable milfoil is only one of the many invasive plant and animal species facing ME & NH lakes. John Castellot offered to reach out to camp-owners to see if there are biologists or others involved in environmental issues that would like to get involved with this area of concern. John's offer was greatly appreciated and accepted.

Herbicide treatment: This year's herbicide treatment of ProcellaCOR will be for 68 acres and will take place on June 12<sup>th</sup>.

Discussion concerned areas not being scheduled for treatment. Sue explained the process which is based on Amy Smagula's lake surveys. We can only treat in areas she has approved. We also are seeing significant areas with native whorled milfoil as well as the invasive variable milfoil. We are not allowed to harvest the whorled milfoil. Kathleen is working on getting pictures of both varieties to put on the website.

Website: Sue announced the new website: [balchlake.org](http://balchlake.org). She thanked Jack McAdam for all his work creating our new website and urged everyone to check it out.

Bylaws: Sue suggested the Bylaws adopted in 2003 needed to be updated. John Castellot has offered to help with the update. The goal is to have simple bylaws that reflect how BLIMP operates without being overly "rule" oriented.