

**MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING
ASSOCIATION OF OWNERS OF LOWLANDS AND
MEADOWS AROUND CHILMARK POND
6 AUGUST 2006**

Officers Present:

Judy Herman, President
Tom Bracken, Vice President
Tip Kenyon, Treasurer

Joan Malkin, Clerk
Clarissa Allen, Commissioner
Russell Walton, Commissioner

Officers Absent:

Alan Dworsky, Commissioner

Call to Order

Judy Herman called the meeting to order at approximately 4:00pm.

Minutes

The minutes of the prior meeting held on 8 August 2004 were read. It was proposed that the minutes be amended to.

- Clarify that it was *reported* that the bylaws do not provide for a second vice-president position
- Clarify that it was Rusty Walton's *opinion* that it is preferable that pond openings be closed prior to the commencement of the hurricane season
- Clarify that the 2004 dredgings followed the man-made closing of the pond following the July cut

The minutes were then approved as circulated, subject to the amendments discussed.

President's Report

Judy Herman commented on the matters addressed in her written President's report submitted to the membership in the annual package.

Members of the Pond Association were urged by some of the meeting attendees to make personal contributions directly to the phragmites treatment initiative being undertaken by Jane Wilkie (and others) in conjunction with the Sheriff's Meadow Foundation, the first phase of which is to commence in September 2006 (the "Wilkie Phragmites Project"). It was noted that \$18,000 in government matching funds will be available, and that private individuals have raised approximately \$12,000 to date. It was agreed that the Secretary of the Association would forward to all members (for whom the Association has email addresses) an appeal for further contributions, although it was noted that the Association itself would not be urging the contributions but would rather be facilitating the delivery of the appeal. Christian Halby agreed to coordinate the writing of the appeal.

Members of the audience commented that it is in the interests of the Association to keep Doctor's Creek open and flowing and that they wished to avoid forfeiture of the government matching funds. Following further discussion, the following motion was made and passed:

RESOLVED that the Chilmark Pond Association contribute to the Sheriff's Meadow Foundation, earmarked for the Wilkie Phragmites Project, such amount (not to exceed \$6,000) as is necessary to ensure the Project can commence in September 2006.

Disagreement was voiced with the statement in the Commissioner's Report concerning the necessity of dredging Doctor's Creek.

Treasurer's Report

Queries were directed at the nature of the 'Dune Maintenance' expenses, which were clarified as for snow fencing and hay bales (work done in 2004, but not billed until after the 2005 meeting) . The Treasurer's Report was then approved as circulated.

Nomination of Officers

Sue Miller, on behalf of the Nominating Committee (including Norm Asher and Sue Schaeffer), presented a slate of candidates for officers for 2005-6.

Tom Bracken, President
Liz Lewenberg, Vice- President
Tip Kenyon, Treasurer
Joan Malkin, Clerk
Russell Walton, Commissioner
Clarissa Allen, Commissioner
Alan Dworsky, Commissioner

It was noted that an additional officer position (ie Assistant Treasurer) would be advantageous, enabling a smooth transition from Tip Kenyon to the Assistant Treasurer over the course of the next year, as Tip intends to retire from his position as Treasurer.

The following motion was made and passed:

RESOLVED to create the officer position of Assistant Treasurer.

Nominations for the new position were taken from the floor. Steve Lewenberg agreed to accept nomination for the office.

The floor was opened for additional nominations; none was made. The nominations were accepted and the nominated officers were elected with effect from the close of the meeting.

Commissioner's Report

Clarissa Allen reported on the pond openings during the last year, namely:

- 15 November 2005
- 12 December 2005
- 14 March 2006
- 26 May 2006
- 11 July 2006.

Clarissa noted that forces impacting the Pond are many and complex, eg shallowness and warmth, dune migration, increasing nitrogen loading, algae blooms. She also noted a personal objection to the use of 'Rodeo' to treat invasive species, though she admitted treatment of invasive species is a complicated issue.

Rusty noted that the Commissioners are examining the possibility of joining with other pond associations to share the expense of dredging equipment which might enable more efficient sand redistribution activities.

In response to a question, Rusty noted that the following are amongst the indicators used to assess when the pond water level is high enough to ensure a thorough flushing:

- encroachment of pond water at the east end of the Abel Hill parking lot
- encroachment of pond water in the salt marsh at Hancock Beach
- residue markings on vegetation at the head of Wade's Cove
- marking stake indicating water level above mean low tide (at the dock at the head of Wade's Cove)

It was also noted that the timing of any dredging is, of course, subject to the contractor's availability and can result in several days' delay.

Old Business/ New Business

No old business was noted. Due to lateness of the hour, an audience member agreed to defer until next year new business which she had intended to raise.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:45pm.