

**The Island Pond Association  
Stoddard NH 03464  
32nd Annual Meeting  
August 11, 2007**

Members of the Island Pond Association (IPA) met at the Stoddard Town Hall at 6:00PM for a potluck supper, program and meeting.

After dinner, James (Jim) W. Gallagher, Chief Engineer from the Department of Environmental Services, spoke about Dam Operations Management and planned improvements to the Highland Lake Dam. Among other comments, he indicated that Highland Lake and Island Pond serve as drainage for about 30 square miles, a substantial area, and as a result, both bodies of water are prone to flash flooding. Regarding State action in the Fall and Spring, he mentioned that the usual Fall “drain down” would occur after Columbus Day and refill would occur as usual after May 1<sup>st</sup>. As we have heard, at some point, a dam gate similar to Island Pond’s will be installed at Highland Lake. Jim confirmed this but reported that State money has not yet been approved for the project. When the work can be done, at the same time, it is likely that an automated weather station will be added to allow “real time” monitoring via satellite of the temperature and water level of Highland Lake. When that is added, weather conditions will be available through the DES website. He mentioned that dam gates of this design could be automated. He indicated that he would consider the Island Pond dam for such automation in the future due to the “flashy” nature of the drainage area, but again reminded us that money was very scarce at this point. After answering numerous questions, he concluded his remarks and President O’Brien thanked Jim for joining us.

Following Jim’s presentation, President Bob O’Brien called the meeting to order at 8:10 PM. Bob asked if there were any additions or corrections to IPA 2006 meeting minutes distributed prior to the meeting. No comments or corrections were provided, and a motion was made and carried to accept the minutes as written by Geof Molina, IPA Secretary.

Leslie Grady, IPA Treasurer outlined the Association’s financial condition and indicated the starting balance on hand as of August 2006 was \$1,103. The Association received a total of \$714 since then in dues and postcard sales. She summarized expenses to date of \$578 for various contributions and Association expenses, leaving a balance on hand of \$1,239. A motion to accept the report was made and carried and a copy of the report was provided to the IPA Secretary for the permanent record.

Bob O’Brien introduced the IPA Board of Directors and asked those present to stand. He noted that the “Boat Garden” located at the Stoddard beach/boat launch had won first prize from the Stoddard Garden Club and thanked Ed and Ginger Saleski for their work. Bob reminded members that as of 1/1/2008, all persons who operate a motorboat must be certified by the State. Regulations are contained in the State’s Boating Guide. Training sessions are offered periodically by the State or a web-based training program can be accessed on-line. He also reminded us that there is a \$50 fine for feeding geese.

Don Flemming provided an update on the Lake Host program, a NH Lakes Association program designed to guard against the spread of invasive aquatic weeds from lake to lake. This is the fourth year that the program has been available through a State grant administered by the NH Lakes Association (and supervised locally by Don and Paula Flemming). Don indicated that we continue to have three paid lake hosts and additional volunteers who donate “in-kind service” in accordance with the program. Don indicated that boaters have generally been very cooperative this year. He named the volunteers and thanked them for their contribution and time. Bob O’Brien, who

developed the grant request, mentioned that 47 “saves” (removal of invasive weeds from boats and trailers prior to launch) had been recorded statewide over the life of the program so far. At Island Pond, our lake hosts do a thorough check on boats from infected lakes, but no problems have been found to date.

Paula Flemming provided a status report regarding weed watching. This year a State expert, Amy Smagula, came to Island Pond to conduct a combined dry land and water based training session for our volunteer weed watchers. Paula reported that volunteers visit and observe various sections of the lake once a month looking for invasive weeds. She recognized all volunteers and encouraged members to join the group.

Don Flemming provided the membership with a brief review of water testing results year to date. He noted that the acidity of the pond is higher than desirable (“endangered” based on State criteria) but that otherwise, results are quite good. Geof Molina referred to historical results which were left on each table for review and indicated that these were drawn from VLAP water testing for e-Coli, water clarity, etc. for 2006 and prior years. These seem to indicate no major trend of note. He also reminded members that last year a member asked if water testing includes tests for volatiles (petrochemicals and related substances). An inquiry was made to the State but the State does not test for these substances. They will, however, test fish for lead if they are brought to Concord for testing.

Bob indicated that the Board had met earlier in the year and recommended contributions in the amounts of:

- \$300 to New Hampshire Lakes Association (and increased amount as required for participation if the Lake Hosts program)
- \$50 to the Stoddard Fire Department
- \$50 to the Loon Preservation Committee, and
- Up to \$25 for upkeep of the flowers at the boat launch.

These amounts were moved, seconded and carried unanimously.

Bob presented the slate of Officers recommended by the Board: Bob O’Brien as President, Harriet Beckwith as Vice President, Leslie Grady as Treasurer, and Geof Molina as Secretary. A motion to approve the slate of officers was made and approved unanimously.

Geof Molina mentioned that he was working on developing an Island Pond website that would include information about Island Pond, meeting minutes, useful links to other related websites, and potentially, pictures.

The meeting was adjourned about 9:00PM.