

Westmore Association Annual Meeting 2019

July 25, 2019

Welcome

Daniel welcomed everyone and reminded them of the silent auction. He suggested that folks introduce themselves to each other

Approval of Minutes

Daniel asked that the group review minutes from the 2018 Annual Meeting. Acceptance of minutes moved, seconded and passed.

Scholarship Awards

Eight scholarships were awarded. Present were William Cashin, Nicholas French, Cassie Martin, Emma Strange, Isabel Wildflower. Awarded in absentia to Callie Cashin, Ryan Streeter, and Megen Martin.

Membership

Betsy thanked everyone for their membership renewals. She also thanked Bruce Moffat and Daniel for the work on the Westmore Forest. She reminded members that they can receive information as well as any correspondence through MailChimp.

Town Forest Update

Daniel described the process starting with the alert from Bruce Moffat about the need for work in the Westmore town Forest. RTP grant with collaboration with state and Northwoods. We had a high rating but did not receive the grant. He received great support from the state. He was told the reason that we did not get the grant was economically based.

A capitol campaign to raise the money was started in the Spring. We have raised more than expected. The work has been happening this week and may be finished this week or shortly thereafter. Our Facebook page has many pictures. The Youth Corps is doing most of the work led by Dusty May. Additional funds will be used towards other trail work. Daniel will post pictures on the website as well.

Westmore Association Board

Changes in the board. Irene Salerno and Jennifer Woolard are nominated to be on the board. Jennifer will be acting as clerk. Betsy moves that we nominated Irene and Jennifer. Moved, seconded and passed.

Bruce Tanner's term is over and he will be leaving the Board and his role as treasurer. It was noted that Bruce has served the Westmore Association and the

town for many years. Pam Kennedy is also leaving the board and her role as clerk. Jennifer Woolard will be acting as clerk.

Traditionally when folks move off the Board they get a jug of maple syrup. Daniel presented the maple syrup.

Community Recognition

Daniel explained that the Westmore Association started a tradition in 2018 of acknowledging someone or entity in the community that has contributed significantly to the Westmore community. In 2018, the Ladies' Aid was the recipient. This year the Tanner family was chosen for the many ways they have impacted Westmore. He described the activities that "Uncle Steve" Tanner coordinated that brought so much richness to the community and referenced Nancy Tanner's community leadership. Daniel presented a plaque honoring the Tanner family to Bruce Tanner.

Events

Pam gave an update of remaining events and encouraged WA members to attend. Daniel encourage input about future events.

Fundraising

The Westmore Association is taking a break from the annual calendar and looking for other ideas for fundraising. One that is being explored is creating a T-shirt that would have the Lake Map created by Art Brooks, as the graphic. Other ideas are invited.

Treasurer's Report

Bruce distributed the report for 2018. Donations exceeded the membership income. He described each line item. He explained that we had paid Nature by Design to maintain the triangles, which is now being done by members. Art noted that, in addition to his duties as treasurer, Bruce also takes regular samples of the lake to ensure the quality.

Other Concerns

Milfoil. The question of milfoil eradication was raised and discussed. It continues to be a priority for the Westmore Association

Webcam. The question of having the webcam functioning again was raised. Daniel has discussed it with Gary Seslar, who has maintained it from his home. The problem has been the server, which dropped it due to lack of use. There is also the issue of finding a server that is not asking for compensation. We do hope to set it up another way. Art suggested that working with the Fairbanks Eye on the Sky program might be a good option.

Parking, Parking at both beaches concerns many members. The Westmore Association cannot do anything about the parking problem but suggests that members contact the select board with their concerns. Internet service was also discussed briefly.

Presentations

Bob Hunt from the Old Stone House described the artifacts from the Songadeewin Camp. He showed a calendar that has been created from Robert Decker's collection, which was donated by his wife, Beverly. He gave an overview of the life of Charlie Otis Gill, Westmore's first minister. He concluded by inviting everyone to visit the Old Stone House, especially on Old Stone House Day, Sunday August 11, 2019.

Ethan Swift, Watershed Monitoring, Assessment, and Planning Program Manager for VT ANR, presented from watershed management. The major concern from the agency is the increase in phosphorus. He explained the strategy for decreasing the phosphorus. He explained the protocol for monitoring that is done. Studies show that the clear cold lakes, like Willoughby Lake, are showing an increase in phosphorus. The pace is accelerated beyond natural phenomena. Long Pond, Willoughby and Bald Hill are all areas in Westmore of concern. They are hoping to have local teams to combat the problem. Willoughby is one of the key places for focus. He described what is being done at other lakes such as Lake Seymour including local lake leaders, and active lake association, support of the town, support from the Dec and other technical support.

He described the Lake Wise assessment, which can help. There is some funding for road projects that could help with run off. It is important to have the "three Cs", community, continuity, and commitment. He informed members that there is funding available for conservation efforts. Bruce reminded the membership that change will take active citizens to report and take action.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned and final bids for the silent auction were taken.

Respectfully submitted, Pam Kennedy, Clerk