

BEARCAMP POND ASSOCIATION  
MINUTES OF 8/13/2023 ANNUAL MEETING

Board Members:

Lou DeMaio, Chair	Linda DeMaio
Stewart Haviland, Treasurer	Mary Hillsgrove
Sam Bensley	Gerry Butters
Meredith Heard Gisness	Marin Emery, Secretary
Andrea Everett-Wilson	Karen McCall (absent)

Attendees:

Kristin Abernethy, Mark Abernethy, Sarah Anderson, Erik Anderson, John Banderob, Erica Banderob, Susan Bryant-Kimball, Ettie Butters, Stephanie Casale, Matt Doubleday, Dwight Emery, Peter Gifford, William Gisness, Jon Greenawalt, Portia Henle, Jim Henle, Michael Henle, Hayden Hillsgrove, Nancy Hubbard, Chris Neefus, Katrina Neefus, Carolyn Rees, Jon Rees, Chris Sloan, Kathy Vittum, Ardyce Walsler, Nancy Walsler

1. Call to order and introductions  
The meeting was called to order at 4:10 pm by Lou DeMaio, Board Chair. Lou welcomed everyone to the 66<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Association and introduced each of the other board members.
2. Approval of minutes  
Minutes of the 8/13/22 annual meeting were approved unanimously.
3. Committee updates
  - A. Treasurer’s report – Stewart Haviland

Balance Sheet as of 7/31/23

Assets	
Cash	11,392.63
CDs	<u>9,518.86</u>
Total	20,911.49
Liabilities & Equity	
Assets	3,689.44
Retained Earnings	17,289.46
Net Income	<u>-67.41</u>
Total	20,911.49

Profit & Loss for Fiscal Year 8/1/22 – 7/31/23

Income	
Bank Interest	1.17
CD Interest	67.69
Dues	<u>2,054.17</u>
Total	<u>2,123.03</u>

Expenses	
IT Expense	188.00
Office Supplies	139.00
Accounting	160.00
Bank Fees	44.91
Charitable	600.00
License & Application Fees	<u>435.00</u>
Total	1,566.91
Net Income	556.12

B. Loon report – Mary Hillsgrove

Two loon rafts were launched on May 5<sup>th</sup>, including a new raft given to BCPA by the Loon Preservation Committee. The new raft was placed in deeper water with fewer weeds than the previously used location in hopes of improving the appeal to the loons. Unfortunately, the loons built their nest on a rock near shore instead. High water threatened to swamp the nest, but dam boards were removed to lower the water level. On May 28 two eggs were seen in the nest, but by June 11<sup>th</sup> only one remained and that one was gone by June 19<sup>th</sup>. Loons are still present at the pond however. Mary commended Susan and Chip Kimball for their flexibility and ongoing management of the dam.

C. Dam report – Susan Bryant Kimball

Her family has been responsible for management of the dam for over 70 years. The dam has 2 sections, the widest being 25 feet across. Each section has 5 boards which in total can change the water level by 2 feet. It's very difficult to place and remove boards and hard to manage the water level to a particular height. That's why the normal procedure is to put all of the boards in on Memorial Day and take them all out on Columbus Day. This year, however, since the loon nest was on a fixed location, they tried to manage the water level more actively. John Cooley of the Loon Preservation Committee recommended trying to keep the water level at 9" below the dam, but this required putting boards in and out based upon the weather and water flow. Once it was determined that the nest had failed, all the boards were put in. We had so much rain this summer that by mid-July the water was actually 11" over the top of the dam.

D. Water testing – Gerry Butters

Water testing is carried out three times each summer as part of the Volunteer Lake Assessment Program of the NH DES. Testing evaluates many different components of water quality such as phosphorous levels, water clarity and the presence of algae and cyanobacteria. Historically the pond's water quality has been very good. The major issue is the inflow of nutrients. Reducing stormwater runoff is important to keeping phosphorous levels low. The Association has been encouraged to promote the LakeSmart program of NH Lakes to area landowners.

4. Presentation by Andrea LaMoreaux, President of NH Lakes.

Andrea's presentation began with an explanation of the various threats to lakes and why the lakes need our efforts to maintain them. Invasive species, run-off from heavier rains and the warming climate are some of the challenges that lead to premature aging of lakes. This year was a record for cyanobacteria warnings.

The LakeSmart program is a voluntary program that teaches ways to live in lake-friendly ways. Landowners can choose to have a free evaluation of their property and can earn the LakeSmart award as recognition of their positive efforts to help maintain their home and land in ways that preserve their lake's health. Andrea talked about many ways to live in a lake-friendly way:

- Make sure beaches are perched to hold in sand.
- Minimize road and driveway run-off and don't use salt.
- Use only phosphate-free detergents.
- Use low-salt water softeners.
- Use trenches and drains to control roof run-off.
- Maintain vegetative buffers at the shoreline, not lawn.
- Do not use lawn fertilizers.
- Leave shallow water natural.
- Don't feed ducks and geese.
- When boating, control wake to prevent disturbing the bottom and shoreline.
- Clean and dry boats after pulling.
- Use lead-free fishing tackle.

Following the meeting Andrea emailed a PDF of her presentation to the Association so that it's available to the members.

5. New Business

John Greenawalt talked about the subdivision of his property and the construction his son will be doing and gave assurances that it would be handled appropriately.

6. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn approved unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 5:01 pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Marin Emery, Secretary