

21st ANNUAL MEETING REPORT - GILFORD ISLANDS ASSOCIATION - AUGUST 18, 2011
256 JUSTICE HILL ROAD, STERLING, MA 01564
EMAIL CONTACT: Jim MacBride, President - jimmacbride@msn.com

Minutes of the Annual Meeting - July 23, 2011-10 a.m.

Part 1: Twentythree (23) members were present including elected officers. J. MacBride explained why there wasn't a speaker from NH-DES as there is legislative turmoil over the Shoreland Protection Act and things are subject to change. We may want to have such a speaker at the winter meeting. He then introduced Sheldon Morgan, Director of Gilford DPW, who gave a detailed presentation on Single-Stream Recycling. The old dump trailer has been replaced with a New Recycling Dumpster. You can now put all recyclables in the one dumpster: cans, bottles, paper, plastic. It is sorted by a new automatic facility in Pennacook. Director Morgan has seen an increase in the number of people recycling. With the change to Single-Stream it is now easier and more convenient than ever to recycle. Recycling saves the town money and at some point in the future will actually make the town money. Director Morgan pointed out that if you could still rinse items so the dumpster does not attract bees and bugs, it would be appreciated. **IF YOU CURRENTLY DO NOT RECYCLE PLEASE GIVE IT SOME CONSIDERATION. IT IS IN YOUR BEST INTEREST AND IT IS VERY EASY. (SEE THE INCLUDED BULLETIN FROM GILFORD RECYCLING CENTER.)**

Part 2 Regular Business-10:30 a.m.: The first order of business was to approve the 2010 minutes and the March 2011 minutes. Both were mailed to all. Tom Mullen moved to approve the minutes as written and Ripley Forbes seconded. All were in favor.

2nd Item-Elections of officers and board members at large for 2 year terms: J. MacBride first mentioned that Steve Grant has volunteered to sit on the Glendale Committee and he will send a request to the Gilford Board of Selectmen seeking their appointment. Debbie Kelley-Milburn is stepping down as secretary and Sue Colbert is seeking election. As there were no challengers for any seat on the GIA Board, J. MacBride suggested an all encompassing motion be made. Tom Mullen made the all encompassing motion to elect all existing board members and in addition Sue Colbert as Secretary. Dave Pangburn seconded. A vote was called and all were in favor. The officers are: John Goodhue, Vice President, Dave Beardsley, Treasurer, Sue Colbert, Secretary, Connie Grant, Lisa Harris and Bob Dean, Board Members-At-Large. Jim MacBride, Ripley Forbes and Richard Holdaway, At-Large, were elected in 2010.

3rd Item - Treasurer's Report: As of 6/30/11 Total Funds = \$21,481: Operating fund = 14,938 + Legal fund = 6,543. Contributions for 2010 = \$1,325. Winter Lunch Meeting = \$896; Office Expenses = \$753; IRS = \$161. TOTAL: \$1810.

Tom Mullen made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report and Dan Simpson seconded. All voted in favor.

Item 4A was brought up as to whether or not to combine the legal fund with the general fund for one set of books. As explained by Treasurer Beardsley it is a paper administrative matter and the money will still be earmarked legal vs. general, just running one set of books. J. MacBride briefly reviewed the history of the fund from 2002-03 and that any major legal action would require membership approval. The By-Laws limits the Board to a maximum of \$500 without membership action. Tom Mullen moved to approve the change and Dan Simpson seconded. All voted in favor.

Item 4B was discussed regarding changing the GIA summer meeting from a Saturday to a Monday, early evening. As we only get about 20 people in attendance at the summer meeting, this was an attempt to increase turnout. Try Monday for one year to see if a different time might draw more people. A discussion ensued over the change and Sally Davis, legislative reporter, said that if this does happen she could not make a Monday evening meeting in July & August. In the end, Dave Pangburn made a motion to move the meeting to a Monday evening with the caveat that the question be included in the new survey (4C) and later it could be changed based on feedback from the survey. Tom Mullen seconded and all were in favor.

Item 4C: Next on the agenda was whether or not to conduct a survey of Islander opinions using a web based format on-line, to be coordinated by Ripley Forbes. Tom Mullen moved to do so, Dave Pangborn seconded and all were in favor.

Item 5: Legislative Report, Sally Davis. Summary and High-Lights of Bills concerning boating and property owner issues.

Bills passed and signed: 1) HB 90 relative to enforcing the safe boater education certificate. 2) HB 441 relative to muffling devices on boat exhaust. 3) SB 99 relative to adequate trailer brake requirements, but exempts trailers under 3,000 lbs, which covers most boat trailers. 4) HB 541 relative to property in trusts and tax exemptions.

Bills Vetoed: Gov. Lynch vetoed SB 154 which seeks to weaken the Shoreland Protection Act and as amended in the House to include repeal of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI). The Senate may have the votes to support the veto and uphold the Governor. This bill is anti-environmental protection.

Retained Bills (no action, but could come up in next session) 1) HB 470 to repeal the entire Shoreland Protection Act, is politically linked to SB 154. 2) HB 256, HB 321, and SB 19 all deal with either wetlands or appeals. 3) HB 352 relative to the merger of lots. 4) HB 342 relative to boat operation rules.

Bills Killed: 1) HB 83 relative to vessel registration. 2) HB 548 relative to boater safety education and minimum age. 3) HB 38 relative to emergency use of public docks. 4) HB 249 relative to procedure for property evaluations.

NOTE from Jim MacBride: If you want Sally's full report, send me a requesting email and I will forward it. Is 3 pages. You can also go to **nhgencourt**.

Dave Beardsley moved to accept the report, seconded by John Goodhue and all voted in favor.

Item 6: Jim MacBride gave a quick review of the **Water Testing Program** and that the GIA sponsored the 180' deep site in the Broads. There is a need for more volunteers and if any of us can get involved please let him know. John Goodhue and Connie Grant are co-sponsoring a site in Saunders Bay. All you need is a boat and you will be provided with training. This is not very time consuming and could be a good opportunity to help and get a little involved.

Item 7 - Contributions: Jim MacBride talked about the importance to provide support to WinnFABS (speed limit advocates) as they incurred lobbying expenses to help defeat the 55 MPH Broads zone. Hopefully this is the end of it and 45/30 can continue without challenge. He also emphasized the effort by Peter Morrisette from the Smith Cove Association and the milfoil eradication. After brief discussion, Tom Mullen moved that we repeat the contribution outline from last year, John Goodhue seconded and all voted in favor. The amounts are: Smith Cove Assoc. - \$350; NH Audubon - \$100; Lake Winnepesaukee Watershed Assoc. - \$150; Loon Preservation - \$200; WinnFABS - \$250; NH Lakes Assoc. - \$125; Lakes Region Conservation Trust - \$150. TOTAL = \$1,325.

Item 8 - New Business: 1) There was a detailed presentation from the President of the Lake Winnepesaukee Sailing Assoc. (LWSA) Tom Mullen (resident of Welch Island). LWSA is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt charitable organization. Tom is seeking a letter of endorsement and asking for any support that the GIA or even others would like to offer for his endeavor in moving the Sailing Association's summer camp to Ellacoya State Park. This would include building a 4,000 plus square foot building and offering sailing classes to over 500 children each year (they can only teach about 250 at the current facility at Fay's Boat Yard). Also, they would change the program to include an adaptive (for people with disabilities) and adults programs. The State of NH Parks and Recreation Division "appears supportive" of the proposed endeavor, but several conditions must be met before any permits are issued. Many questions were asked and Tom was quite open and candid about some opposition to the project. He displayed architectural sketches and other information. Dick Davis and the group at large suggested that we table the item until more information could be obtained and we as the GIA become more informed. Tom Mullen suggested that we could visit the **winnepesaukee.com/Forum** site and go to the boating link and see winni sailing. There have been articles in the Sun and Citizen. Also, we can go to the Association's web site at **lwsa.org** for detailed information. The consensus was

we may bring this up at the Winter 2012 meeting.

2) Richard Holdaway brought up the issue of light pollution from bright dock and deck lights. This can be both a navigation hazard and an intrusion for good night time sky and star viewing. One person mentioned Marine Patrol coming out to Lockes and asking people to shut off their lights. There was a consensus within the group to look further into this and to investigate any Town ordinance that regulates lighting. Also, we can call Marine Patrol.

Item 9 - Old Business: Jim MacBride urged more Islanders to sign on to the GIA Email List and that this list is only for GIA issues and info.

The meeting ended at 12 noon by motion from Dick Davis and all approved! (Minutes prepared by Connie Grant, with support from J. MacBride.)

NEWS NOTES: 1) The **Public Info** Meeting in Meredith on Aug. 9th, regarding the algae bloom that occurred between Bear Is. and Meredith Neck the week before July 4, was well attended and Michael Kitch, the Sun, wrote a good article covering it on August 10th. If you can't find this, send me a requesting email and I will forward a link for access. The concern here is the threat from failing septic systems or other types of seepage.

2) **Gilford Town Forum** - Aug. 10th: It was not well attended and more of us should partake. The Clerk expressed that the on-line purchase of Guest Passes and other registrations is working well and gaining in popularity. DPW Director reported that mosquitoes infected with "west nile virus" were discovered in Nashua and NH Health & Human Services suggests using protection when outside. The Planning Office cited the funding for improvements and forthcoming fieldwork along the banks of Gunstock Creek which flows into the Lake at Silver Sands and into Saunders Bay. The Creek has been targeted by the Watershed Assoc. as a run-off for phosphorus. The Fire Chief talked about the threat of fire hazards from brush piles and storm debris on the islands. He recently walked Lockes with a forester and Roger Trof of the Lockes Island Assoc. making an assessment. They didn't see an immediate threat, but we should all be aware. There is a web site, **fire wise community**. The issue of State budget cuts and the potential impact for both the School District and the Town were brought up. At this time there are no specific details as to what may be affected. There is also no news on tax evaluations beyond the standard practice of doing 25% of properties each year.