

## Gilford Islands Association

### 23rd Annual Meeting

#### Minutes of

July 29, 2013

The meeting was held in the Gilford Town Hall at 6:00 PM. Torrential downpours hit the area before and during the beginning part of the meeting. Despite the weather about forty islanders came to listen to Merrill Fay speak about the history of the islands and to attend the annual meeting.

Officers and board members present were: Jim MacBride, President, John Goodhue, Vice President, Sue Colbert, Secretary, and At-Large Board members Connie Grant, Lisa Harris, Richard Holdaway and Dave Pangburn. Islands represented were Camp, Diamond, Fish, Lockes, Mark, Mink, Rock, Timber, and Welch.

President Jim MacBride opened the meeting and turned it over to Vice President John Goodhue to introduce the guest speaker, Merrill Fay. Merrill entertained the audience with a history of the islands and interesting stories about life on the islands, the hurricane of 1938, and what it was like growing up on the islands. Merrill brought many interesting pictures with him that illustrated island life of long ago.

Following the guest speaker, President Jim MacBride brought the meeting to order.

#### Part II

Minutes from both the July 23, 2012 and March 16, 2013 meeting were emailed and mailed to all members previously. Dot Pangburn moved to accept the minutes as written and Alan Sherwood seconded the motion. The motion carried without discussion.

Election of Two Officers and Three At-Large Board Members was required this year. The Board met previously to recommend a slate for consideration by members. Those nominated were Vice President, John Goodhue, Secretary, Sue Colbert, and At-Large Board Members, Connie Grant, Lisa Harris, and George Hilton (nominated in absentia). Charlie Fairman moved to accept the slate, and Mike Milburn seconded the motion. There were no nominations from the floor and the motion carried.

(1) A By-Law Change is required to allow the organization to become a 501(c)(3) or tax exempt group. A tax exempt status would save the organization from paying Federal taxes and it would allow members to deduct their contributions on their income taxes.

The IRS application requires a change to the wording of our By-laws to define what would happen to the assets of the group if it were to be dissolved in the future. The new language is as follows:

“In the event of the dissolution of this Association, all assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes to organizations that are committed to the objectives of this Association and,

further, within the meaning of Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government , or to state or local government, for a public purpose.”

Charlie Fairman moved to approve the By-Law change and Mike Millburn seconded the motion. The change was approved.

(2) By-Law change was proposed to Article IV, Section 1 by inserting the sentence,” Regular business may also be conducted at the Winter meeting”. This follows the existing text that reads, “An annual meeting for the election of officers and the transaction of business shall be held between July 1st and August 31<sup>st</sup> in the town of Gilford, New Hampshire.”

Richard Holdaway moved to approve this By-law change and Joanne Hardin seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Treasurer’s Report Diana Goodhue, Treasurer was absent from the meeting so there was no report. Jim MacBride reported that in 2011, 2012 and in this year the organization will spend more than has taken in in dues. So far this year 165 people have paid dues and some people have also made donations. By the end of 2013 there will be around \$8,000 dollars in the account. There are sufficient funds on hand to cover expenses. Jim will provide the Treasurer’s Report with the written minutes of this meeting.

Charlie Fairman moved to accept the oral report as stated and Mike Milburn seconded. The motion carried.

Annual Contributions Rick Holdaway moved to fund the six agencies GIA supported last year in the same amount as last year. Susan MacBride seconded. The motion carried so that \$1325 will be donated to these groups again this year.

The contributions are as follows: Glendale Cove Association (milfoil eradication) \$475, Lake Winnepesaukee Watershed Association (LWWA) \$275, Loon Preservation Committee \$200, Lakes Region Conservation Trust \$150, New Hampshire Lakes Association \$125, NH Audubon Society \$100

In addition LWWA water testing expenses for two sites costing a total of \$500 was approved at the Winter meeting. Our members volunteer their time and boat expenses to collect samples each week for testing. The \$500 covers the actual lab testing during the year.

During the discussion, Carole Jones asked if the Milfoil eradication program has made a difference. Rick Holdaway replied that since the program has started, the strands of Milfoil washing up on his beach have significantly declined over the past few years.

Web Site Update Sue Colbert reported that the members approved the creation of an association web site last year. We use a MyLakeTown framework and customize it to our organization. The software has a rich functionality that we only use a subset of as yet. There are 145 people currently registered for the online site. We get a statistical usage report each month. To date between 85 to 110 people

log in to the site each month and generally remain on for about 14 minutes and visit about 12 pages each visit.

We would like to add a page for each of the Gilford Islands and would like input from the people on those islands as to what they would like to see. We would like to get people to use some of the functionality like the classified ads where members can list rentals, property for sale, items for sale or free items, etc. To start, each member should go to their profile page and update their information.

Please let Sue Colbert or Ripley Forbes know if there are features you would like to see or if you are having any problems.

Old Business The legal fund has \$6,564.24 in a CD. The board proposed to freeze the fund as it is for one year and not make the annual contribution. This issue will be reviewed again at the 2014 meeting. Alan Sherwood moved to accept the board proposal and Carole Jones seconded. The motion carried.

### New Business

Glendale Docks Jim MacBride reported that island cleanup day was a big success. He asked members how they felt the Glendale Docks were working this year.

Concerns expressed by members were:

1. Car parking and boat parking are insufficient during peak usage times like weekends and holidays during July and August. Any Gilford property owner, even those with exempt or multiple lots can purchase two guest parking passes for each lot. There were 287 guest passes and 77 park and launch guest passes issued last year. That is in addition to the taxpayer stickers for cars.
2. There is no more parking land available to the town for purchase to increase space.
3. Winter Harbor Yacht Club has an agreement with the town for four boat stickers that can be transferred between different boats.
4. The regulations are unclear as to whether or not all boats or only commercial boats are limited to 30 feet or less in length to park at the docks. Bob Jones asked the board to clarify this rule with the town and publicize it.
5. Very large boats are put in and taken out on the ramps and that is not good in the summer time.
6. Members should tie up as close as possible to surrounding boats to make room for others
7. Susan MacBride suggested that the GIA representatives to the Town Administration's Glendale Committee (Steve Grant was appointed by the BOS and Jim MacBride and John Goodhue also attend) address the footage issue with the Committee and ask for signage at the docks.

Legislative Report Sally Davis, legislative liaison was not present at the meeting but Jim MacBride submitted a written report of current happenings. See Attachment 1.

Annual Island Picnic The association has not held a picnic in two years. Several members proposed having the picnic at the town beach next year. Boat parking would not be as much of an issue as it is for a private residence on an island. The beach is beautiful and we could use the beach for volley ball and other games. The snack bar is open if people don't want to cook. Susan MacBride felt that

association members who founded the organization were getting a little older and if we could provide some fun activities for younger folks we may get younger people more involved in the association. Carole Jones, Sue Colbert, Susan MacBride and Debbie Kelly Milburn were assigned to a committee to plan this for next year.

Irwin Muscat volunteered his home for a picnic this year. Connie Grant and Heidi Kephart will determine if a picnic at Muscat's is feasible for this August. Thank you Irwin for your generous offer.

Jim MacBride reminded members of the Lake Winnepesaukee Watershed dinner dance on the Mount Washington on August 11, 2013, and of the Town Forum, Wednesday August 14 at 6:00 PM at the town hall.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Additional Information November 28th: 1) At the Town Forum, 8/14/13, both the Town and the School District stated that gross expenditures are lower than what they were a few years ago and finances overall are healthy. 2) The Winter tax bills are in the mail and the rate per thousand is \$.14 lower than last year.

GIA finances are healthy and about 172 island members have paid dues for 2013 so far and this added to donations of \$411.50 = \$2,991.50. We appreciate your continued support. You can still pay your dues, if you haven't yet. As of 11/30 there will be a little over \$8,000 in the check book.

Four key legislative bills were passed in 2013:

- 1) SB 89: Prohibits the sale and use of lead sinkers and jigs under 1 oz. Effective 6/1/16. Is Loon safety.
- 2) HB 513: Improvements to the Shoreland Water Quality Protection Act.
- 3) HB 393: Sets limits on the levels of nitrogen and phosphorus in fertilizers.
- 4) HB 411: Cancels scheduled decreases in boat registration fees for 7/1/15, i.e., they stay as is.