

Lake Parker Association (LPA) Special Meeting

West Glover, Vermont

Saturday August 21, 2021

Meeting was called to order at 9:17 a.m. by Brenda Plastridge, President with a thank you to all attendees. There were 27 memberships in attendance, as well as 9 proxies. There were 37 attendees, which represents more than the 20% of membership needed for a quorum to hold the meeting. The meeting date notice was distributed on August 11, 2021.

Brenda Plastridge covered background on phragmites. Approximately 4 years ago, the presence of phragmites became an issue. State of Vermont Regional Watershed Basin Planner, Ben Copens and Misha Cetner, Lake and Shoreland Permit Analyst toured the lake and held a meeting for property owners on September 27, 2019 at the home of Tim and Brenda Plastridge. The attendees were reminded at the meeting there is a specific process to remove the phragmites which does require a permit from the State of Vermont and permission to install mats under certain specifications. The cost of permit and mat is the responsibility of the lot owner. This current summer of 2021 additional areas around the lake have been identified with phragmite growth. Mike Pierce, LPA Water Quality Chair, reminded all that the State of Vermont owns the lake. Mike talked about how easily the phragmites spread and talked of his research into control and eradication. Other than the mat application for control, Mike covered 2 spray-on products, Rodeo and Polaris and he introduced Bethany Creaser, Field Agent from the Vermont Department of Agriculture. Bethany Creaser explained the process. Luke Hardt, Forestry Pesticide Applicator and Invasive Plant Specialist would flag all areas and meet with property owners to explain the process to apply the Rodeo and Polaris, 1st apply Rodeo and wait 10 days then apply Polaris, hard to say if the process will work well and may or may not need a second application. Both products are labeled for water usage such as lakes. Rodeo breaks down fast but humans and animals need to stay away from the application area for 72 hours. All toxicity data is published on the label along with the caution, the recommended best time for application of product is late fall, before the first frost. A question was asked, "What is the process for phragmites which are actually in the water?" Luke Hardt suggests to go into the water 5 feet from shoreline to apply products. There might be a required additional permit from the State of VT DEC. There should be little to no impact on frogs, fish and wildlife. If a lot owner is interested in replanting, Luke Hardt recommended wild rice. Mike Pierce covered the cost and the site map provided by Luke Hardt. The map will be sent to the State of Vermont with a request for State of VT specialist to perform a site visit and Luke's estimate is 10 cents per square foot, total of \$1,600.00 plus 200.00 for materials for a grand total 1,800.00. Luke's price is firm and will not change. If for some reason the project is delayed and in time a 2nd application is needed the 2nd application will be less money.

A motion was made by Joe Boutin to proceed with the project and for LPA to cover the cost of \$1,800.00 for permits and application of the products to the phragmites. A motion for an

amendment was made by Gerald Thrull to proceed with project in addition to LPA board having the authority to always treat phragmites or any invasive species. Motion to amend was 2nd by Stefanie Hocken-Smith. Motion to amend failed.

A motion was made by Joe Boutin to amend if a second application of products needed that the board has approval to cover cost over a three-year period also to include small areas of phragmites in an amount not to exceed \$1,500.00.

A motion was made by Joe Boutin to withdraw prior motion and seconded by Stefanie Hocken-Smith. Motion carried.

The final motion on phragmites eradication was made by Joe Boutin to accept recommendation of LPA board to move forward with the project to eradicate phragmites at a cost of \$1,800.00 plus permit \$500.00 plus LPA board discretionary amount if needed, plus 1,500.00 for upcoming amount if second application of product is required, and seconded by John Wooten. Motion carried.

Joe and Dale Boutin mentioned they are willing to donate \$500.00 towards any remaining balance after potential grant money is applied to the cost of the project.

A motion was made by Deb Litt to adjourn and seconded by Steve Cutler. Motion carried.
Meeting adjourned at 10:36am

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Hudson, Secretary

Minutes approved at meeting held on March 10, 2022

After the meeting, Mike Pierce covered the LaRosa project with VT Agency of Natural Resources Dept. of Environmental Conservation, a partnership that helps watershed organizations and monitoring groups across Vermont implement projects for surface waters in need of water quality assessment and requested volunteers to help with this project. John Wooten covered wake boats; a meeting is scheduled in September with group "Responsible Wakes for Vermont Lakes" and the petition is currently being written; signatures for support of wake boat restrictions were collected at the meeting to be followed up by obtaining additional signatures in the coming weeks. Once the petition is filed with the State local support and attendance at future state run hearings will be required.