

Basin David Tilton Pond Association Annual Meeting
Minutes of the Annual Meeting
Starling Grange Hall, Fayette
August 6, 2022

BDTPA Members total=42

Required quorum=25% of members in good standing, having paid dues

26 household voting units present

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Vote to approve 2021minutes- voted and passed.**
- 3. President's Comments by Joe Fitzpatrick-**

Loon nesting- Joe reported on working with the Maine Audubon Society to encourage loons nesting. A floating nest was built and placed on the “loon island” on the southern part of David Pond to rise and lower with the water level; a sign to keep people off was also placed on the island. There was an egg but no chicks hatched. It can take three to five years for the loons to adjust.

Other members reported a chick on its parents on the northern part of David Pond, off Rocky Lane, and another member reported two chicks on Tilton Pond. Another member reported there were eight loons gathered on David Pond last night.

No wake zone- Joe also reported on boaters going too fast and too close to the water’s edge. He talked about the importance of educating boaters on the no wake zone, which is 200 feet from shore.

There was discussion on how to educate boaters including having flyers and signage where boaters enter and leave, to include the negative effects of boat wakes as well as impact on soil erosion.

Water levels-Joe reported on the high water levels including from the previous release of Tilton Pond and the beaver activity. He recommended the board to monitor with measurements, look upstream and downstream and stay in contact with the town of Fayette to prepare for the next release of Tilton Pond and its impact on Tilton and David Ponds.

John Andrews reported on the replacement of the culvert on Jackman Mill Road and questioning impact on the ponds.

Joe encouraged a positive culture among membership of BDTPA and for people to take time to talk to each other and work together.

This is the last meeting as board members for Joe Fitzpatrick, Tom Jenkins and Monique Longtin. Thank you for your many hours and efforts to protect our beloved ponds, for laying the foundation for our community working together. In gratitude to you all!

4. Reports of Officers and Liaisons:

- Treasurer's Report by Monique Longtin. Please see details on BDTPA website,

Starting balance	5,937.73
Dues/donations	+ 850.00
Expenses	- 970.00
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New balance	5,817.73

Treasurer's report was voted on and approved.

You can still mail in your \$30 dues!

Please forward your annual membership dues of \$30 to Gail Rioux @ 244 Shore Road, Fayette, ME 04359. Checks payable to BDTPA.

- Water Quality Report by Deb Cayer. Deb is on the 30 Mile River Watershed Association (30 MRWA) and reported on their newsletter and website, a lot of information is available. She thanked members for help with invasive plant identification and reported Basin Pond as the 8th clearest lake in Maine. She reminded members that even small amounts of runoff can cause significant algae growth. She reported on the problems with milfoil on Androscoggin Lake and 30 MRWA helping out.
- Deb is also the LakeSmart coordinator for both David and Parker Ponds and reminded members of availability of evaluations that are free, educational and nonregulatory. The LakeSmart team will meet with owners, assess property for protecting lake quality, provide education and help problem solve. FMI on LakeSmart evaluations, go to <https://www.lakes.me/lakesmart> and/or contact Deb Cayer at debbiecayer@gmail.com or (207) 320-0379.
- Fayette representative to 30 MRWA- Kirstie Ludwig. Kirstie reminded members of the importance of keeping phosphorous out of the lakes. She reported on the average cost of monitoring lakes at \$4500 and that projects are lining up for next year; 30 MRWA has utilized work of the Youth Conservation Corps. She reported on the newest edition of The Lake Book – A Handbook for Lake Protection, 4th edition. Order through <http://30mileriver.org/> or borrow through the Fayette Library.
- Invasive Plant Patrol- Steve Smith-Erb. Steve is looking for help to monitor invasive species on the lakes. There is a training in Belgrade through Lake Stewards of Maine on August 16th. Please contact Steve at scse@maine.rr.com if you are interested in helping to identify invasive plants or want more information.

4. Ongoing Business

- a. Election of Officers of the Board (nominations from the floor welcomed). Voted and passed.**

Slate of Candidates for 2022-2023

President:	Steve Smith-Erb
Vice President:	Steve Melchiskey
Treasurer:	Gail Rioux
Secretary:	Ellen Smith-Erb
Trustees:	John Andrews
	Sue French Smith
	Chris Riley

Liaisons to the Board, not voted, volunteers:

Fayette representative to 30 MRWA :	Kirstie Ludwig
30 MRWA rep and LakeSmart Rep:	Deb Cayer
Plant Patrol:	Steve Smith-Erb
Webmaster:	Richard Hicks

- b. Donations to affiliate organizations**

- 30 MRWA. There was discussion on keeping donation at \$600 or increasing. It's an average \$4500 per lake to monitor and Basin and David Ponds are tested twice a month from May to October. Fayette's contribution to 30 MRWA was reported as well as it having the most lakes in the watershed. There was also discussion on authorizing the board to donate more later in the year pending stable finances. It was pointed out that Tilton Pond is not tested and Kirstie Ludwig to inquire.

Donation at \$600 was voted on and passed.

FMI on the 30 Mile River Watershed Association, go to <http://30mileriver.org/>

- Lake Stewards of Maine - trains for monitoring of invasive plants

Donation at \$100 was voted on and passed.

FMI on Lake Stewards of Maine, go to www.lakestewardsofmaine.org

- Maine Lakes - funds LakeSmart.

Donation at \$100 was voted on and passed.

FMI on Maine Lakes, go to <https://www.lakes.me>

5. New business

- Beavers, water level and costs for beaver deceivers.

John Andrews gave a great slide show presentation on the beaver activity at the dam and around David Pond that has resulted in high water levels. He gave a history of the problem and the easements that BDTPA were given to take care of the dam. He reported on the numerous agencies and individuals he has worked with to mitigate the impact of the beavers, he talked about the controversy of live and lethal trapping that ultimately is a temporary solution due to offspring. He created a "beaver deceiver" that allows the beavers to build their dam while draining as necessary. The cost of the beaver deceiver was \$506 and the board voted prior to the meeting to reimburse John.

- Buoys.

John Andrews reported on the need for new buoys, permits are needed for buoys and permission was granted in 2011. Cost of buoys was waived.

- Bylaws

Tom Jenkins reported the Lake View Estate Association's bylaws were updated and he proposed updating BDTPA's bylaws. He is willing to initiate this effort. Contact Tom at (617) 697-8597 or tdenbyjenkins@outlook.com if you are interested in joining a work group to update the bylaws.

- Updated member information

Please update your contact information at <http://bdtpa.org>.

- Donation to the Starling Grange Hall

The board voted to donate \$50 to the Starling Grange Hall for the use of their building today. Fayette Central School was not available as the gym's floor was not ready.

Motion approved for adjournment. Next annual meeting will be August 5, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Smith-Erb, BDTPA secretary.