

Leonard Mill Pond Association

<http://msuweb.montclair.edu/~lebelp/LeonardMillPondAssociation.html>

Minutes of the Meeting of November 5, 2014

Seventeen members of the Leonard Mill Pond Association attended the meeting at the Wicomico County Tourist Center. Following some introductory remarks, Chuck Poole gave a summary report on the pond chemical treatment program for 2014. He indicated that the two treatments have kept both hydrilla and surface weeds well under control, and that a continuation of the program each year would help keep costs in check.

LEONARD MILL POND ASSOCIATION

Treasurer's Report

November 5, 2014

Balance on hand, October 29, 2013	\$6,694.43
Deposits	
Contributions from 55 neighbors	\$4,120.00
Expenses	
Wicomico County, Rodeo	\$237.18
Wicomico County, Sonar	\$3,616.80
Total Expenses	\$3,853.98
Balance on hand November 5, 2104	\$6,960.45

Following Chuck Poole's presentation, Marilyn Booth presented the treasurer's report, indicating a net balance as of the meeting of \$6,960.45, up from the balance from 2013 at \$6,694.43. With expenses keeping roughly at revenues, the slow increase in reserves was debated, with a general consensus indicating that the slow build-up is in the interest of the Association against possible contingencies involving weather, product price increases and related considerations. After discussion, members in attendance voted unanimously to keep the self-assessment fee at \$75.00 per waterfront household for 2015. Members should send in their

payments made out to “LMPC” to Marilyn Booth, at 8402 Hilda Drive, Salisbury, Maryland 21804, starting on January 1, 2015.

The next agenda item taken up was whether we should request a pond lowering for early 2015, consistent with a previous vote to undertake lowering every other year. An extensive discussion included at least one request for pond lowering in 2015 to undertake dock repairs, as well as a discussion on the adverse effect of pond lowering on coastal habitat biodiversity.

No decision was reached on a request for 2015 and to help arrive at one, LMPC Volunteer Coordinator Phillip LeBel offered to ask Gary Mackes, Director of the Wicomico County Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Department, as to whether we could consider a smaller pond lowering window of just two weeks instead of the six week window in the last drawdown.

(Follow-Up Item) In a reply received on Thursday morning, November 6th, Gary Mackes, Director of Wicomico County Parks, Recreation, and Tourism, indicated that we could exercise a two-week drawdown, based on a request from the Association if received in time for scheduling. A reply to LMPC homeowners was then sent out via email on Thursday morning, November 6th to Association representatives, asking for input as to requests for pond lowering for purposes of waterfront maintenance and dock repairs, with replies to be returned within a week so that an electronic vote could be undertaken for purposes of confirming or postponing a request for pond lowering to Gary’s office.

Next was consideration of whether the Association should take up the question of whether a boat speed limit of 6 mph should be adopted for the pond. It was noted that the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) already has posted a sign to this effect at the boat launch, but it was not clear as to whether this applied only to the boat launch area or to the pond as a whole. Following

discussion of the merits of recreational boating on the pond and on the adverse effect of waves on shoreline vegetation, no decision was taken regarding the issue at this time.



The next item for discussion was the designation of a Treasurer and Volunteer Coordinator for 2015. Broad support was expressed that both Marilyn Booth continue as Treasurer and Phillip LeBel as Volunteer Coordinator, and so they will remain to serve the Association for 2015.

We concluded our meeting with a reminder to waterfront property owners to be mindful not to blow leaves or debris from their yards into the pond. We wish to preserve the life of the pond for as long as possible and as stewards, we have an obligation for generations to come that we have done our best to do so.

The meeting was concluded at 8:10 p.m.