

**MINUTES**  
**WHPWA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, APRIL 24, 2025, 7:00 PM**

Present: Mike, Valerie, Will, Sue and Al, Merritt, and Nate

***A. Board Member general discussion (Will)***

Jill will step down from the board as of the annual meeting.

Will proposed to discuss the roles of the board members and the possibility of new members joining. Merritt suggested Becky Amos as a potential new board member. The board also discussed the need for a secretary for their organization, with the AI summary prepared by Zoom being suggested as an alternative.

The board decided to have someone take responsibility for editing the minutes and sending them to the entire membership. Will also agreed to send out meeting announcements to the membership. The board also discussed the issue of "zoom bombers" and the need for members to request the meeting link.

Merritt promised to send Will the list of the current board membership (with terms) for posting on the website.

***B. Annual Membership Meeting (August) planning (Nate)***

The board discussed the date for their upcoming annual meeting, deciding on August 3rd. They discussed potential conflicts with other events, such as the Lobster Festival and a Mayflower descendants meeting, but found no significant issues. Nate will arrange for tables and chairs from the Rotary Club, and they agreed to hold the board meeting immediately preceeding the annual meeting on July 17th. The logistics for the event are now in place, and the board will start promoting it to the membership.

The board discussed potential speakers for their upcoming event, mentioning Rachel Sipler and Peter Countway, freshwater specialists from Bigelow Labs, and Jason Bartlett, who is leading the eel study on West Harbor Pond for the Maine Department of Marine Resources.

The board decided to hold the annual meeting at Merritt's house again, with the possibility of changing the location in the future.

The board agreed that Nate would send out announcements to the membership, including information about the speakers and a reminder to pay dues. The board also emphasized the importance of using the BCC line when sending emails to the membership list to protect the recipients' privacy.

***C. Member Engagement / New Members (All)***

***D. Progress on Mountain View Road Remediation (Maggie/Merritt)***

The board also discussed the Mountain View Road remediation project, with Merritt acknowledging that no progress had been made yet.

***E. Fecal Coliform program (Sue and Al)***

Al suggested deciding on the locations and frequency of testing for the fecal coliform program, and Merritt agreed to send Al and Sue the order information for the reagent kits.

The board discussed changes to their water testing locations. They agreed to move the Heron Cove sampling point towards the houses and to test closer to the east bank. They also decided to continue testing at Goose Meadow and the seagull congregation site. The Yacht Club and hotel locations were considered for testing, but the rationale shifted from potential septic field leaks to protecting human health. The board agreed to test at the seagull congregation site instead of the hotel.

Al and Merritt discussed the frequency of ordering reagents and the need to check with the sewer district about their ability to continue their work due to a fire. They also planned to meet with Dave Pratt to discuss the sewer district's situation.

***F. Initial 2025 water testing results; loons (Merritt)***

Merritt discussed the initial water testing results, which showed unsalinated and well-oxygenated water at the mid-pond. However, the lower end of the pond had salinity all the way up to the surface, likely due to the effect of king tides.

Merritt also mentioned that the two loons are back this year and hopes they will remember the real estate axiom of location, location, location and not place their nest where it is vulnerable to raptors.

Will agreed to send the ice in and out data to the Lake Stewards of Maine.

The next board meeting is scheduled for June 19th.