

Water Access Management Committee Minutes

September 25, 2024

Members present: Ros Arienti, Bob Ater, Clarke Cooper, Norma Dreyfus, Nick Stoneman

Meeting called to order at 5:35.

Minutes of 8/28 meeting approved.

The Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund grant has been received and deposited.

The float, ramp and pier will be removed at the next flood tide. [Peak will be Friday, Oct. 18] Kennebec Marine Services is unreliable, so we will talk to Brian Elwell about pulling it. Constructions to be stored in the parking lot, allowing access to the privy.

The current installation (posts embedded in mud) is not suitable as a permanent site but is all that Kennebec Marine could be persuaded to do. A proper installation might require a variance but BA has been advised that the Planning Board will almost certainly deny it despite greater environmental damage, for fear of establishing a precedent. As an alternative, mud over the suitable anchoring ledge can be washed away and the posts correctly anchored.

The Land for Maine's Future grant (approx. \$52,000) is still pending, requiring a title search for the property.

Having received the MOHF grant the Water Access budget stands at \$84,835. The Committee will retain \$10,000 as an operating fund and apply the balance to the loan. The LMF grant will also go to the loan, for a total of \$127,335.55 repaid against the principal.

NS showed a fully developed version of the WAMC web page. RA suggested the addition of some paddling safety video links.

The site should be mowed once more this season. CC will see if Mike MacMahon is able to do it.

Usage of the site has already been very gratifying. Swimmers, painters and paddlers have been sighted. One couple has been seen canoeing three times; they spoke to BA about the possibility of installing a stability bar to assist paddlers with stiffer knees. The Committee will look into that.

A waterside boat storage rack will be developed over the winter.

In recognition of his excellent leadership the Committee presented Bob with a painting produced at the site, by Livy Glaubitz.

Meeting adjourned at 6:25.