



CRC General Meeting

April 9, 2024

7 pm General Meeting @ The Brass Rail, 90 Point Grove Road, Southwick

IN ATTENDANCE: Board Members: Michelle Pratt –President, Scott Snyder-Perusse-Vice President, Mike Orszulak -Treasurer, Corinne Pooler-Secretary, Deb Herath- Emeritus, Jerry Crane-Emeritus
Associate Board Members: Sharon Jones, Mary Ann Philo

Moment of Silence for past President Steve Schmid.

Steve was raised in Bloomfield, Ct. And a long-standing Southwick resident. He was an avid boater on the CT River and Congamond Lakes. He was very active with the lake community. He helped keep the lakes clean. You might have seen his memorable hot dog boat on the lake. He helped organized the first float-in movie night on the lake. Also The 4th of July boat parade. He contributed greatly to CRC. We appreciate all he did. He will be sadly missed. His family will have a memorial. Info will be posted on congamond.org (our website)

Treasurers Report – Mike Orszulak

22,307.88- Checking

5,794.96 - Savings

28.91 - PayPal

76,664.52 - Investment

104,796.27 - Total combined

Dues raised this year so far- 3102.95 (already reflected in bal above) 66 pd memberships for 24'

Membership Drive -Fee remains \$30/\$100/\$250 per household. Thank you, Mary Ann, for your hard work with our membership drive. Your membership allows us to help advocate & care for our lakes. Become a member and have your voice heard. Sign up any time of the year. Free Babbs entry continues to be offered for our members – Thank you Suffield Park and Rec!

Proposed Operating Budget Presented. Motion made & seconded to approve Operating Budget. All in favor.

We are still in need of a volunteer to organize and file our taxes with a CPA. We are also seeking an attorney licensed in Mass to finalize our updated by-laws. Contact us if you are interested.

Doug Moglin -Southwick Select Board member- Also here are Jason Peron and Diane Gale fellow select board members. Working in partnership with the towns of Suffield, and CRC. We recognize that the lake & ecosystem are a critical part of Southwick. The town has proposed to increase funding for weed treatment to address the new invasive hydrilla weed. There are several businesses around the lake reopening soon. We are excited to see them open again.

Colin Moll- Suffield First Selectmen- Update on Babbs. A structural engineer visited the site today. The environmental study will be done next. The town of Suffield moved \$30,000 to cover costs for the studies. It would cost about \$10 million to rebuild as it was. The new proposed Construction should cost under 1.5 mil.

Working on bonding through Suffield for the project later this year. We're excited. We have 6-8 months to go. The government moves slowly. We aim to keep our historical buildings. But also understand that financially there are certain limitations. We hope the plan for Babbs Rink preserves what it is but allows everyone to use the space. The LPP negotiations (a 5-year agreement) for Suffield Residents will be discussed with Southwick & Suffield officials in July.

Hydrilla Found in the lakes. The lakes will need 2nd treatment to address this invasive (non-native)

Lake Management Committee is in desperate need of boat ramp attendants. Contact the Lake Management Committee if interested visit <https://www.southwickma.org/lake-management-committee>

LPP Reminder – Southwick & Suffield residents. Get your yearly dock and boat stickers- **Violators will be ticketed/fined daily.**

Dredging muck will be done near the south ramp. LMC is looking for federal funding close to \$100,000 for the dredging. If unsuccessful they will apply for CPC funding. Research and funding for other dredging projects are continuing.

Lake buoy update- CRC voted to approve additional funding to light more buoys in the lake. The buoy lights appear to be dim. Checking with Mark to see if they can be brighter.

Scott, Mike, Brian, the Pratt Family, and LMC (and many others) put the north ramp docks every year. CRC approved to purchase of a couple of pairs of waders and neoprene gloves for our volunteers. David Hanson Act- proposed act to require vessel operators to pass boat cert test. Still in process with the state of Massachusetts. No further info at this time.

Boat Parade – 7/6 Theme “Jimmy Buffett Margarita Ville”

Golf Tournament – September Date TBD

2024 Meeting schedule: 5/14 Guest: DR Mueller, 6/11 Guest Chief Landis, 7/9, 8/13, 9/10, 10/8 Needed: Ideas for topics/ speakers /Fundraising/Fundraising ideas – photo contest, fishing derbies, kayak race, Thunderbirds game