

**Wood Pawcatuck Watershed Association**  
**Board Meeting**  
Minutes of May 30, 2015 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting  
3-4:15PM  
WPWA Headquarters

**Attendees:**

**1. Call to Order (3:15 p.m.)**

H. Drew opened the meeting.  
Welcomed WPWA members

**2. Reports**

**a) Annual Report, Program Report, and Nomination of Trustees**

i) Motion to appoint the following slate by Ken Payne,  
2<sup>nd</sup> by Ed Wood, passed unanimously:

*Antonia Bryson and Donna Walsh for 1<sup>st</sup> full 3-year term*

*Alyson McCann for 1<sup>st</sup> partial term (2yr)*

\*No Trustees up for re-appointment, Tom Boving has now termed out.

ii) P. August provided YE 2013 & 14 financial report. (see below and 2014 Annual Report)

iii) A new slate of officers was elected by acclamation:

*Helen Drew, Chair*

*Peter August, Vice Chair*

*Jennifer MacKenzie, Treasurer*

*Antonia Bryson, Secretary*

**3. Volunteer Recognition and Award Presentation**

**Lifetime Achievement Award**

Mitch & Betty Salomon, received by David Salomon (see attached speech)

**Salomon Award**

Representatives Langevin & Courtney

Senator Whitehouse & Reed (absent)

**Water Quality Monitor Awards**

Greg Soder 25 Years Monitoring Deep and Schoolhouse Pond

Al Ball 20 Years Monitoring Falls and Moosup Rivers

Joseph DiBrino 20 Years Monitoring Wyassup Pond and Shunock River

Carol Ann & Mark Baker 10 Years Monitoring Alton Pond

\*Christine McIntyre Hannon honored (outside of the business meeting) as Volunteer of the Year for her Wildlife Mural Donation

**4. Other Business/Motion to Adjourn**

**a) Closing remarks:** C. Fox provided 2014 highlights as part of the Salomon Award presentations

**c) Motion to adjourn passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.**

*Minutes submitted electronically by C. Fox.*

## ***2014 WPWA FINANCIAL REPORT TO MEMBERS***

Dear WPWA Members,

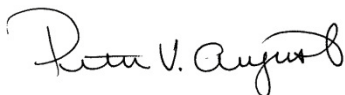
In 2014 we received our independent auditors report from YKSM LTD for 2013 WPWA financials. They found everything to be in excellent order. The accountants had a small number of recommendations on improving our back-office procedures of the organization and these have been implemented.

The 2014 end-of-year financial reconciliation has been completed and is shown below. With a total operating budget over \$200,000 our income and expenses were within \$273. This speaks well of the excellent financial management by Executive Director Fox and his staff.

Budget challenges for 2015 include building the rainy day emergency fund and aggressively seeking donations to support the water quality monitoring costs the WPWA incurs each year (almost \$10,000). The fund development committee is working hard on both initiatives.

The Treasurer extends his sincere thanks to the WPWA accountant Ms. Kristy Armstrong for the care she has taken in tracking our finances and the diligence she has shown in keeping the Treasurer, Executive Director, and Board informed of our financial position at all times. Thanks also go to the staff of the WPWA for their excellent work in keeping program costs down and working within the budgets we establish for the organization.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Peter V. August". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "P" and a stylized "A".

Peter August  
Treasurer

Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed Association  
Mitch and Betty Salomon Lifetime Achievement Award  
May 30, 2015

What a beautiful day to be on the river.

I am David Salomon and I am proud to be here with you to accept WPWA's Lifetime Achievement Award to Betty and Mitch Salomon on behalf of my sisters, Deborah and Judith and the entire Salomon family. Thank you to the Board of Trustees for giving them this honor and thank you to the members and elected representatives who are gathered here today

I'd like to reflect a bit on how we all got here.

You know, history is a two way street. You can go forwards, but you can also go backwards. How we arrived at this spot on this day says a lot about where might go in the future.

70 years ago this month, the war ended in Europe. Mom and Pop were children of the Depression and witnessed a world blown apart. Pop, who had graduated from URI in 1937, served as an infantry captain in France, Belgium and Germany. Mom, who had her pilot's license, but was too short to serve, worked as a secretary for the North Atlantic Air Transport Command. They married and moved to Kingston in 1949, where Mitch taught soil chemistry until the early 70s.

Even in Kingston, there were signs of what was to come. They both had vast gardens; he tended the vegetables and she propagated flowers. They loved sailing and the beach; and they were committed to causes: civil rights, education, conservation and a string of ill-fated, liberal presidential candidates. Bernie Sanders just showed up a little late. But mainly, they loved nature, the land and getting their hands dirty.

Mitch's retirement was just an excuse to broaden their horizons. Mom, who had never gone to college, got her degree and taught art in the Westerly school system, where she heard about a property for sale on the Wood River in Hopkinton. They moved in 1971 and got even more involved in conservation minded activities. Pop worked with the Audubon Society to acquire properties and land conservation easements. He also consulted on a study of the Narrow River estuary. Mom got involved with the Wild Plant Society, Seed Starters and also coauthored two books of historic photos and oral histories about the water powered mills in Hope Valley and the surrounding watershed. They were busy people, but also knew how to relax.

This is the context for the afternoon that they got together with Ed and Linda Wood and for the conversation that led to the founding of WPWA. I imagine that they sat on the dock or maybe the living room overlooking the river. And I also imagine it involved several drinks. The rest, as they say, is history. And here we are.

My parents never looked back. They imagined the future and tried to shape it. There is a saying in the Jewish tradition that says "It is not your responsibility to finish the work of perfecting the world, but you are not free to desist from it either."

Their work is done. But ours is not.

They believed in the environment, education and access for all people to their government and to the natural wonders that surround us.

This organization and this group of people are their legacy. Their monument is this beautiful river and the watershed that nourishes it.

Thank you and carry on.

-David Salomon