**LOON LAKE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT SPECIAL MEETING**

**AT CAMP TEKAKWITHA**

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 29 AT 9:00 a.m.**

**AGENDA**

* Meeting call to order
* Proposal and discussion to move $35,000 out of the Reserve for Full Lake Treatments to cover the purchase of the wetlands (and associated costs) on the west side of the lake. Please note that all or some of these costs ***could be*** recovered if we are approved later this year for a DNR land acquisition grant.

Current Fund Balances:

Reserve for Full Lake Treatments ……………………………….$140,000

Reserve for Purchase of Additional Land on the Lake … $40,000

* Adjournment

What has taken place so far:

* **Late Summer:** The board had general conversations with landowner on the possibility of purchasing land on the west side of the lake to preserve the wetlands around the lake. (see map on back for details on location of land)
* **Annual Meeting in early September (August 30th):** The board notified the membership of the discussions with the landowner on the possible land purchase. There was a short discussion on the benefit to the association of purchasing the land. Benefits include guarantee of no future development on that land, preservation of the wetlands (providing good watershed and assist in reducing flooding) and a gift for future generations (preserving the health and natural beauty of the lake).
* **Late September:** The landowner confirmed to the board her intent to sell the property.
* **Special Loon Lake Management District Membership Meeting (October 19th):** A special meeting was requested by the board to gain approval to proceed with purchasing the land on the west side of the lake. At that meeting a motion was made and approved for the board to move forward with the purchase of the land on the west side of the lake.
* **Late Fall/Winter:**

The following actions were taken by the board:

* Engaged the DNR to assist in preparations to apply for a land acquisition grant
* Completed land appraisal, resulting in land value of $45,000
* Completed timber appraisal, resulting in value of $20,423
* Engaged Onterra to complete a property management plan – required to apply for a DNR land acquisition grant

The following actions were taken by the landowner:

* Completed land appraisal, resulting in land value of $85,000
* **Early January:** Negotiations with landowner stalled as final offer from the board of $65,000 was declined by the landowner. Work to apply for a land acquisition grant by the February 1st deadline was stopped.
* **January 22:** The Trump administration finalized a rule to strip away environmental protections for streams, wetlands and groundwater.  This ruling may impact what future landowners could develop in wetland areas like the property we want to purchase.  Purchasing this land would allow the association to control the protection of another portion of the wetlands that are vital to the health of our lake, regardless of government regulation changes.
* **January 31st:** Landowner contacted the board indicating she had reconsidered and wants to accept the board’s offer of $65,000 to purchase the land.
* **February:** Confirmed with the DNR that we cannot be considered for a land acquisition grant at this time because we missed the February 1st application deadline. We may have another opportunity to apply for the same type of grant later this year (November) if a letter of retroactivity is accepted, allowing us to purchase the land before the grant is applied for. Please understand that even if the letter of retroactivity is accepted that does NOT guarantee grant funding.

**Costs incurred to-date $4,360:**

* Land Appraisal - $2,550
* Timber Appraisal - $270
* Grant prep and property management plan - $1,540