

AMSTON LAKE DISTRICT
Board of Directors Regular Meeting

MINUTES

October 19, 2016

ALA Clubhouse, 16 Wood Acres Road, Amston, CT 06231

www.amstonlake.org

A. Roll Call of Officers and Directors:

M. Paul, F. Hoisl, R. DeCormier, A. Connor, B. Pelegano, M. Gut, L. Lenti, C. Lenti

B. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M.

C. Recognition of Guests, Residents, and Property Owners:

Doug Bowen, 156 Deepwood Dr, Lebanon, CT

Concerning the rights of way. If work is to be done on a row, then the residents who abut the row should be notified. Most towns and municipalities do this. My recommendation is to detail what is being contemplated and state the budget for the project. A period of review is necessary and the plan needs to be well thought out because it is an investment.

As for Ryan Terrace, which was worked on several years ago, the cleared area is 14 feet and the grade change is 6 feet. Several sizable trees have root systems that could extend 80-160 feet. These trees are key to erosion control and lake health. If any excavation is to be done on the cleared area, there will be a dramatic impact on tree health.

Comment: The brush was cleared from the boat rack to the water for easier access to the lake by boat owners. The plan was to clear the "bump" left by the brush removal and add some grass. Some board members will look at the area in question and then a decision will be made as to how to continue.

Carl Wool, 182 Deepwood Dr, Hebron, CT

The lake needs to be lowered another inch, or two, to reach 12 inches. The steel grates have been lifted to let the weeds drain out. Other than 5-6 non-residents asked to leave the Main Beach this year, security went very well.

Ron Bourque. 14 Andrews Road, Lebanon, CT

All but three roads have been completed in Lebanon. When will these three roads be worked on? Is there money in the budget?

Comment: There is funding for the three roads. M. Paul will contact Erika (Lebanon Road Committee) to see what has been identified for these roads. They should be done this year. If not, then they will be done next spring.

B. Pelegano stated that 3 residents would like to have the lake lowered a few more inches in order to work on their walls, etc.

Comment: Residents need to come before the board and state the work to be done, etc.

D. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:

A motion was made by R. DeCormier to approve the September 21, 2016 minutes. Seconded by M. Gut. All approved. Motion passed.

E. Receive Presidents Report:

The small claims court date has been changed. The residents who ignited the fireworks have paid the fine in accordance with the by-laws.

A motion was made by R. DeCormier to move the discussion of ALA Electricity on the Main Beach before Lake Management. Seconded by M. Gut. All approved.

F. Receive Tax Collector's and Treasurer's Reports:

The tax collector's report was handed out for the Board's review and information. There was nothing unusual or unexpected to report. Of the six properties turned over to Attorney Adam Cohen for collection, three owners have made significant payments and in two cases have made arrangements to make payments going forward. The treasurer has a copy of the properties on which taxes are owed to both the town and the district. A. Cohan will conduct a joint enforcement for the District and the Town.

The financial report was handed out by A. Connor. Discussion followed. She noted that we also have now received the bound version of the 2014 Grand List Final Posted Ratebook. This means that the accounting records for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2016 can be completed and closed.

A motion was made by B. Pelegano to pay \$150 to the bank to open the safe deposit box and remove the contents. Seconded by F. Hoisl. All approved. Motion passed.

A. Connor reported that she contacted our insurance agent who determined that additional liability coverage is not needed to add an electrical connection at the Main Beach.

Also, she provided a summary of ALD's annual accounting to both the Hebron and Lebanon Town clerks.

G. Receive Clerk's Report:

The second notice for boat removal was sent to residents. An email was sent on the lowering of the lake. DEEP electro fishing took place on October 5th and a report will be forthcoming.

Our December meeting will be on the second Wednesday of the month this year.

H. Presentation of Correspondence:

A boat with an Amston lake tag was found at Columbia Lake. Research proved that it had been sold to a resident at Columbia Lake. A new volunteer treasurer at Candlewood Lake asked questions about our tax district. A Connor answered with much information. Some residents are happy with the brush removal at Ryan Terrace. A resident suggested using Ecosystem Consulting Service, Inc. for regular testing of the lake.

Electricity at the Main Beach--Drew Gibson

Most information was discussed at the last meeting. The electricity will be used mainly for movie nights, bands, and the usual events sponsored by the ALA. It is not the intent of the ALA to increase the number of events. The ALA will pay the electric bill. 200 amps will be more than enough.

A motion was made by F. Hoisl to spend up to \$2375 to install 200 amp electricity on the Main Beach which includes trench work. Seconded by L. Lenti. Six approved, one abstained. This is an unbudgeted expense. Communication with residents will be necessary. Concerning the damage to the clubhouse, the ALA insurance company will fund the repairs in total.

I. Receive Lake Management Reports/Review Goals and Objectives:

A lake management plan is needed which includes weeds and alga, testing, etc. F. Hoisl will write up an outline of all items concerning the lake and what needs to be done. We need people to be involved. Discussion followed.

Weeds and Algae---Domenic Meringolo can potentially treat the weeds in the area near Lollipop with a different herbicide which the Water Company should find acceptable.

We are still waiting for the Water Company to complete the work on Deepwood Dr. before the final surface is added to the road. The storm drain work has been completed.

J. Consider and Act Upon Standing and Special Committee Reports:

Lebanon Roads

The report stated that \$6500 is needed to complete the three roads. The ditches need to be cleaned out every fall and spring. Potholes need to be repaired in the spring.

M. Paul will speak with Erica (Lebanon Road committee) to see if the work on the three roads are defined. Volunteers are needed for the Road committee.

Pavilion

Max Grydon gave a report from the pavilion committee. The committee has arrived at a consensus regarding a proposed location, style, features, and materials. Details for lighting, security, electricity, labor, permits and maintenance still need to be resolved.

Discussion followed.

Security

Security is over for this year. C. Wool stated that his year has gone very well. No major problems.

Communications

Nothing to report.

Dam/ Duck Pond

Not much is new since last month. K. Acimovic is over-extended at the moment, but he will have a follow up with the 2008 duck pond report when time allows.

Beaches and Rows

The Main beach and Lollipop have been cleared of all weeds, etc. They will be checked in the spring before new sand is added. Ryan Terrace has been cleared of brush.

A motion was made by F. Hoisl to take no more action on Ryan Terrace right now. Seconded by R. DeCormier. All approved.

Boats, Docks, and Rafts
Nothing to report.

Finance
Discussion on the budget will begin next month. The three-year plan concerns the capital plan, (projects and estimated costs).

Calendar and Tasks
Nothing to report

K. Old business---Discussion and Possible Action
Nothing to add.

L. New business---Discussion and Possible Action
Pass process moved to next month.
The by-laws state that we cannot have employees. Discussion is needed.
A suggestion was made to hold a "job fair" to show residents what the ALD an ALA does and why volunteers are needed.

M. Prepare Agenda for Next Meeting:
Nothing to add.

N. Adjournment:
A motion was made by M. Gut to adjourn. Seconded by L. Lenti. All approved.
The meeting ended at 9:01 P. M.

Respectfully Submitted by
Claire Lenti, Clerk
Amston Lake Tax District