

**Amston Lake District**  
**Board of Directors Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**March 21st, 2012 7:00 p.m.**  
**ALA Clubhouse, 16 Wood Acres Road, Amston, 06231**  
[www.AmstonLake.org](http://www.AmstonLake.org)

- A. Roll Call of Officers and Directors  
Present: D. O'Brien, L. Hennebury, R. DeCormier, S. Martin, D. Moorcroft, L. Lenti  
Absent: S. Forgue, J. Connor, D. Martin (7:10 pm)

- B. Call to Order 7:01 pm

The following statement was provided by Sherri-Ann Martin as approved by Tom Hennick, State of CT FOI Attorney:

Tonight's agenda was submitted at 4:34 pm on March 20, 2012 which meets the 24 hour time submission requirement for 7:00 pm on the 21st but that the Hebron Town Hall closes at 4:00 pm so the agenda for the meeting has not been properly posted as per FOI guidelines since it was opened on the 21s of 2012.

All votes taken at this meeting will be reratified at the beginning of the next regularly scheduled monthly meeting on April 18th, 2012 to make sure FOI guidelines are met.

- C. Recognition of Guests, Residents and Property Owners' Petitions  
None

- D. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes  
D.Moorcroft made a motion to accept the February Minutes as submitted; the motion was seconded by L Lenti; all approved unanimously

- E. Receive and Act Upon Clerk's Report  
S. Martin reported the following:

1. ON March 21, The cut chain and stolen padlock from the Lollipop Beach causeway to the resident state policeman in Lebanon; he came out and also saw our posts left from the stolen sign and the town of Lebanon sign destroyed on Rt 207 about one week earlier, off Spafford Drive. He said that they will be sure to drive around the lake more frequently in the evenings to make their presence known. He thought we were hit by a "scrapper" – someone who makes money selling scrap metal
2. Requested \$500 is allowed in budget for purging and creating archive files as per the State of CT Municipality Guidelines. Per R. DeCormier, this will be covered under administrative expenses.
3. The following Board terms are expiring and will require new elections at the Annual Meeting:  
D. O'Brien – end of three year term  
J. Connor – end of three year term  
L. Hennebury – resigned as of July 1, 2012 – this year ends three year term  
S. Forgue – resigned as of March 21, 2012 – one year remains of term

- F. Presentation of Correspondence and Communication  
Email received:

- 3/21/12 Late agenda FOI info per Tom Hennick – S. Martin  
3/21/12 Lollipop Beach Chain Cut and Lock stolen – S. Martin  
3/21/12 ALA Request for Expense Assistance for 2012/13 Season – D. Gibson

3/19/12 Budget Info for Review for Annual Meeting – D. O'Brien  
3/19/12 Security Report - J. Laferriere  
3/16/12 Amston Lake – Hebron Assessment Appeal – D. O'Brien  
3/6/12 DEEP Permit Received for Dam Repairs – D. Moorcroft  
3/5/12 Raising Lake Level for Summer Season – D. Moorcroft  
2/29/12 Permit Discussion for Northeast Cove Rain Garden – D. Martin and D. O'Brien  
2/26/12 Old Firehouse Cost Estimate for Demolition – D. O'Brien

Letter to D. Moorcroft:

2/24/12 DEEP Permit Received for Main Dam Repairs in 2012 at season end

(D. Martin arrived with G. Knoecklein at 7:10 pm)

D. Moorcroft made a motion to move "Receive Lake Management Reports/Review Goals & Objectives – George Knoecklein, our limnologist to this point in the agenda; R. DeCormier seconded; all approved unanimously

G. Knoecklein provided a handout showing all collected data in graphs; he then reviewed and explained each one; overall, the quality of the lake water is "quite good." Phosphorous seems to be stabilizing at lower levels than seen in past years. Water clarity has improved and turbidity at the bottom in at a minimum. Robins Pond Weed is proliferating on the bottom and the water lilies and long leaf pond weed have not reappeared yet this year. Algae will continue to be an issue with the inflow of storm water and barley straw should continue to be used. Sources of phosphorous need to continue to be eliminated and minimized to maintain good water quality.

Dr. Knoecklein will look for correlations for us to measure as we progress with phosphorous cleanup; the decrease in runoff provided by the minimal snow fall this winter will cause less phosphorous to enter the lake than usual; we should make a timeline list of the activities taken in the watershed and overlay them with the yearly phosphorous data to see if there is any correlation/reduction; Dr. Knoecklein will also identify other general factors we may want to begin to monitor.

Moving forward, water testing samples will be taken before and after phosphorous reduction projects by D. Martin; Barley straw will be ordered this week and installed in April; D. Dederer's installation info from last year will be used for reference moving forward

S. Martin mentioned that she had met up with a good Samaritan resident who cleaned the exposed sides of Lollipop Beach. He mentioned to me that he had picked up a good dozen of dirty diapers which were thrown under the bushes along the causeway. Per G. Knoecklein, in 1996, Lake Hayward had a rash breakout at their beaches which were attributed to children swimming in dirty diapers. We have to watch this – high bacteria counts could come from dirty diapers and can close our swimming areas. (Same effect as dog waste!)

- H. Receive President's Report – D. O'Brien distributed a proposed budget for review; now shows current year versus prior, per request of Amston resident, B. McKay, at last year's Annual Meeting; we will put the budget data online and tell people to go get it in the Annual Meeting notice; we will have a few printouts for others there to review
- I. Receive Treasurer's Report – R. DeCormier – our cash position is strong and we are debt free
- J. Receive Tax Collector's Report – D. O'Brien read E. Curtin's Report for the record – see attached
- K. Consider and Act Upon Standing and Special Committees' Reports
  - 1. Security – see attached; J. Laferriere to replace broken chain and lock at Lollipop Beach and to paint the interiors of the porta-potty enclosures where there is graffiti
  - 2. Dam – D. Moorcroft – DEEP has approved the dam repair permit; will contact previous

- winning bidder to see if bid is still valid; water is currently 7" below the dam spillway
3. Storm Drains – D. O'Brien – issues with residents around installation area for vortechnix unit on Hebron side; he will continue to try to work with residents or we may have to move installation point
  4. Lebanon Sewer Project – D. Martin – installation is going very quickly; dirt and side roads will be completed first, then Deepwood Drive
  5. Drinking Water – S. Martin – CT Water is installing water meters at each home as they replace the old water piping; D. O'Brien to address "key" situation for residents
  6. Boats & Rafts – L. Lenti is working with Brett/BSA to come up with estimates; we need to establish a mooring policy so people know where they can moor their cruise boats
  7. Weeds and Algae – D. Martin – Rain Garden to be installed in the Northeast Cove on Connor's property to minimize runoff into lake; D. O'Brien is completing the permit application and K. Connor will need to approve – want to submit for April 2 meeting, with approval to come at May 7<sup>th</sup> meeting, if not approved at April meeting
  8. Communications – R. DeCormier - there are now (485) contacts on our website and we distributed about (500) passes so we have our active resident base identified
  9. Ordinances – nothing to report
  10. Lebanon Roads – D. Martin – roads are OK; just trying to maintain minimum quality while construction of water and sewer pipes are completed
  11. Calendar and Tasks – R. DeCormier – C. Lenti is working on defining grass cutting for RFP; L. Zimmerman has submitted a list of tasks to make sure we have not lost services by not replacing the lake manager; L. Mika will post the dock lottery for next year and will create our newsletter; he will contact D. Arnold to contact and renew contracts with the boat inspectors
- L. Act on Remaining Items of Agenda....Old Business
1. Town of Hebron – Review of Amston Lake portion of "Plan of Conservation and Development" – move to next month's agenda
  2. Establish a boiler plate contract for vendors – remove from agenda; D. O'Brien has a template that is being used
- D. O'Brien made a motion to add the following items to New Business:
- Discuss and act on the following:
1. Jennifer Trombley/Lollipop Beach Wedding Request
  2. 72 Deepwood Dr/Mannion ROW Property Survey
  3. Southwest Cove dredging
- D. Moorcroft seconded the motion; approval was unanimous.
- M. New Business.....Discussion and Possible Action
1. Amston Firehouse and Town of Hebron – D. O'Brien - Hebron Selectmen are to decide on destiny of firehouse in May; they expect to offer it to the Amston Lake District; we will hold a Special District Meeting on April 27<sup>th</sup> to vote on accepting the firehouse property and parking lot after the building is demolished; in 2006, the residents voted not to purchase the firehouse due to the poor condition of the building and possible legal ramifications if there are any contaminants in the soils, etc. The State of CT will be responsible for inspecting the site to verify that all have been removed before Hebron can offer it to us. Newspaper legal ads for the meeting will be in the Reminder and the Norwich Bulletin the week ending, Friday, April 6<sup>th</sup>. D. O'Brien supplied details regarding taxes we will need to pay to Hebron if we accept the firehouse property. See attached. The Board discussed the motion to be made at the Special Meeting to cover all necessities. See attached with corrections agreed upon in meeting.
  2. Jennifer Trombley/Lollipop Beach Wedding Request – after discussion, it is ok to have their wedding vows on the beach but we cannot tell our residents that they are unable to use the beach; we have never closed a beach to the residents unless the eColi counts are too high
  3. 72 Deepwood Dr/Mannion ROW Property Survey – D. O'Brien presented the Hellstrom Survey; after discussion, it was decided that the Board wants the property owner on the opposite side of the Mannion ROW from the Baileys to remove the patio, barbecue and seating areas which encroach on Amston Lake District Property and to verify that the current owner understands

where the property line is for the beach too since the cottage is for sale and we do not want the existing scrub trees to be removed as they filter phosphorous out of the storm water. Cost for survey was \$2420 which was less than the possible \$3500 we expected.

4. Southwest Cove dredging – D. O'Brien – he will complete Wetlands permits for both Hebron and Lebanon and will have conversations with three resident home owners regarding the dewatering points selected for removed materials. The goal is to get this done at the same time the dam is being repaired since the level of the lake will be so low. Cost is estimated at \$45,000.

N. Prepare Agenda for Next Meeting

Add " on/off key" distribution process with CT Water under New Business

O. Adjournment – L. Lenti made a motion to adjourn, the motion was seconded by D. Moorcroft and all approved unanimously at 10:14 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Sherrri-Ann Martin, Clerk  
Amston Lake Tax District