

**AMSTON LAKE DISTRICT**  
Board of Directors Regular Meeting  
**MINUTES**

December 13, 2017 7:00 P.M.  
ALA Clubhouse, 16 Wood Acres Road, Amston, CT 06231  
[www.amstonlake.org](http://www.amstonlake.org)

**A. Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 P.M.

**B. Roll Call of Officers and Directors:**

M. Paul, F. Hoisl, A. Connor, L. Bowen, A. Stec, M. Kelly, M. Grydon  
Absent: L. Lenti, B. Pelegano

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

No one asked to be recognized.

**D. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:**

F. Hoisl moved to approve the November 15, 2017 minutes with the following changes: under item K(7) change from E. Bowen to L. Bowen, and under item G (Tax Collector's report) change the word statues to statutes. Motion was seconded by A. Connor. All approved and motion passed.

**E. Receive President's Report:**

1. M. Paul received M. Grydon's resignation from the board effective January 18, 2018 due to his changed work and school schedule. The changes do not allow him time to fulfill his obligations as a director. 2. M. Paul has not been able to get in touch with L. Lenti regarding his desire to remain on the BOD. It is believed that L. Lenti's term is up in 2019, while M. Grydon's term will be up 2020. There could possibly be two openings on the board. Discussion ensued on how to fill these positions on an interim basis until the 2018 annual meeting when new directors can be elected.

**F. Receive Treasurer's Report:**

1. A. Connor distributed and reviewed the November 2017 monthly financial report. It will be posted on the website. 2. A. Connor continues to transfer \$4,000 per month into the Special Projects fund, so that it will be fully-funded at \$50,000 by the end of this fiscal year. 3. November is a quiet month for expenses - Dr. Knocklein's invoice was paid for work completed to date, and a subscription for anti-virus software for the ALD computers was purchased at a cost of \$40 per year.

**G. Receive Tax Collector's Report:**

1. The Tax Collector's report will be posted on the website. 2. E. Curtin received an email from Adam Cohen (attorney for the ALD) stating that we have more collections coming in. She commented on what a tremendous resource Atty Cohen has been for the District. 3. E. Curtin will post notices of the ALD taxes due for the second installment on the District bulletin boards and at the town halls. She also requested that a notice be placed on the website and an email blast be sent out about a week before the due date, which is January 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### **H. Receive Clerk's Report:**

1. L. Bowen sent the dates for the 2018 ALD BOD meetings to C. Boyce at the ALA (to reserve the clubhouse), and they have been posted on the ALD website. 2. An email blast was sent on Nov 21 asking for volunteers to rake leaves from the water's edge at the beaches and ROWs. Thanks to the 6 volunteers that cleaned all 7 ROWs – Janice Grady, Marge Nichols, Maureen Dagon, Candy & Andy Kozlak, and Traci Burdick. 3. Another blast was sent on Dec 6, in advance of our first snow of the season, reminding residents of the local parking regulations for winter. 3. L. Bowen emailed a copy of the Lake Williams document retention plan to all BOD members and got comments with what to incorporate into our own plan. L. Bowen will put it all together with A. Connor and bring to the state library to help finalize when things slow down in Jan. 4. L. Bowen contacted R. Decormier to get the contact info for the person that designed and printed the ALD newsletter for the past several years. 5. L. Bowen compiled a list of all the comments/ideas (pro and con) that BOD members received from residents about the annual and special meetings in 2017. The largest number of negative comments had to do with the size of room, not being able to hear, see, or sit down. Discussion ensued and A. Stec made a motion to hold the 2018 annual meeting at the Hebron library community room, at a cost of \$25 to cover the library opening an hour early, and to give ALD residents plenty of warning that the location will be changed this year. M. Kelly seconded, 6 members approved, M. Grydon abstained, and the motion passed.

#### **I. Presentation of Correspondence:**

1. Several emails in response to the leaf-raking email blast, including one from a lakefront homeowner who always cleans the leaves from his lakefront and was happy that we were encouraging others to do so. 2. Email in response to one of the email blasts from a resident who has been coming here for 80 years (since she was 7!) and thanked the BOD for all we do. 3. Email from a resident saying a barrel from a floating raft washed up on his shoreline. He will keep it on his property until we send out a blast in the spring to find the rightful owner. 4. Email from a resident thanking us for removing the white boat pulled up on Main beach last month – says it's prettier to see the natural beach. 5. Email from a resident asking when the fall clean-up of the culverts on the Lebanon roads would be scheduled. 6. Letter from a resident with a clipping about Coventry lake, which is having some problems with water quality, and saying our lake is looking better and better.

#### **J. Receive Lake Management Reports/Review Goals and Objectives:**

1. Last meeting several board members expressed concern about Dr. Knocklein's responsiveness to us, and our need to get information from him in preparation for next season. He's in the process of collecting info for his final report, and we want to make sure we're moving forward. F. Hoisl will be meeting with Dr. K the week of 12/27 to talk about Dr. K's recommendations regarding: dredging of H11, northeast cove (water quality- what should we do in the future?) and the cove on the east side of Lollipop. M. Kelly said Dr. K reported seeing very few invasives, if any, during his inspection, and was surprised that some of the coves weren't covered in lily pads. She said he seems to be excited to be re-engaged with Amston lake. 2. F. Hoisl said 8 people responded to the email blast seeking Lake Health committee members. The committee will probably have their first meeting in January.

## **K. Consider and Act Upon Standing and Special Committees' Reports:**

1. Lebanon roads: 1. Thanks to our vendor for doing a good job on the roads after our first snowfall. Discussion ensued about how to measure each snowfall, which impacts how much the District pays the vendor. 2. A resident emailed regarding clearing the debris from culverts on the Lebanon roads in the fall, and it was discovered that we are in year 2 of a 2-year contract with Baldi Landscaping to do that work. The work was apparently completed 10 days ago and ALD has been billed for that work, but A. Stec was not informed of its completion. In the future, it will be requested that vendors tell a board member when their work has been completed so that we can inspect and sign off on it.
2. Security, Boats: B. Pelegano was not present but sent a report via email. 1. 20-25 boats were moved off the beaches and ROWs by our vendor to the empty ALD boat lot, but about 10 boats remain. Also, a few boats on Lollipop were too large to be moved without help, so have not been removed yet. 2. The owner of the catamaran on Main beach will be removing it soon with the help of another cat owner. 3. B. Pelegano was contacted by a couple of owners regarding return of their boats – once A. Connor receives a check from the owners for the cost of transport, their boats will be returned. 3. B. Pelegano raised the issue of what to do if catamarans are not moved – either have them removed as the ordinances state (and move them at the owner's expense to the owner's property, to relieve the ALD of liability) or leave them and charge a fee. M. Paul to follow up with B. Pelegano on tracking owner's names via the boat pass log.
3. Communications: See Clerk's report. M. Grydon had nothing further to report.
4. Dam/ Duck pond: 1. F. Hoisl reported that the second weir board was removed about a week ago. The lake level was down about 6" at the time, and should be down a full 12" by about the end of December. He will check on it again over the weekend. 2. He said we should revisit Karl Acimovic's report regarding the three options for the duck pond dam in 2018. 3. A. Connor suggested that the BOD do a walkabout of all ALD-owned land in the spring to familiarize new board members with the properties and to see what work, if any, needs to be done.
5. Beaches and ROWs: M. Dagon sent an email thanking the BOD for the email blast about raking the waterfronts, but stating that she believed that not all of the leaves had been picked up yet. She also noted that there were still 10 boats and some trash (broken chairs, floats, etc) that hadn't been removed from the beaches and ROWs. Vandals have taken down the ALD rules signs at both Oakland and Elsmere ROWs.
6. Finance, docks & rentals:
  1. The next meeting of the Finance committee will be in February.
  2. The docks have been floated out and the ramps removed – perhaps next year we should not bother floating the docks out (saving the expense to do so) because the dock vendor has indicated that it is not necessary in our climate.
  3. D. Arnold will be asked to do an inventory of the docks in the spring to see what parts are missing and need to be replaced or repaired.

7. Calendar & tasks:

All December tasks reviewed and completed.

**L. Old Business - Discussion and Possible Action:**

Nothing to report.

**M. New Business - Discussion and Possible Action:**

L. Bowen questioned whether we want to have a representative attend the Lebanon WPCA (Water Pollution Control Authority) meetings on a monthly basis, or at least review their meeting minutes and agendas, as some of their charge concerns the ALD. For example, at their November meeting it was approved to reduce the User Fee Rates for property owners within the Amston Lake Sewer District from \$657 to \$400 per year. It was agreed that at this time, we will follow their meeting minutes online, rather than attend in person.

**N. Prepare Agenda for Next Meeting:**

Nothing new to add at this time.

**O. Adjournment:**

L. Bowen moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:55. Seconded by M. Kelly. Motion unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted by  
Liz Bowen, Clerk  
Amston Lake District

Please refer to subsequent meeting minutes for approval of these minutes and any corrections hereto.