

**AMSTON LAKE DISTRICT**  
**Annual Meeting Minutes**  
**May 14, 2016 7:00 P.M.**  
**ALA Clubhouse, 16 Wood Acres Road, Amston, CT 06231**  
[www.amstonlake.org](http://www.amstonlake.org)

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

M. Paul, F. Hoisl, R. DeCormier, B. Pelegano, M. Gut, B. Lederer, L. Lenti, C. Lenti  
Absent: D. Martin

**B. Call to Order:**

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

Mark Paul introduced himself, stated what was on the agenda for this meeting and explained the rules and regulations for an orderly meeting. Some board members would speak, the treasurer and tax collector would give reports and residents would have the opportunity to speak and ask questions. A short explanation on voting was given and a reminder that only Lebanon residents would vote on the Lebanon roads. He also mentioned a sign-up sheet for volunteers for the Pavilion committee.

**C. Introduction of Guests and Board:**

Members of the board were introduced to the residents.

**D. Review of Lake Operations:**

Dredging Operations—Sediment from the roads and surrounding area enter the lake. This influx of material can develop into wetlands which would cause a major problem. We have developed a long term plan to deal with problems such as dredging. These projects need to be planned out and are costly. We will work with the towns in order to plan remediation. If one noticed the area near the curve on Deepwood Drive on the Lebanon side-- it is in need of dredging. The cost will be great.

We are trying to be pro-active and plan ahead. Some projects that have been completed include the dredging of the Ames Road area and Cove row area. The Duck Pond has been cleaned out, the main dam is working properly and has new weir boards, boat racks have been stained and other projects have taken place.

B. Harlow, 403 Deepwood Drive, Lebanon,CT

Before dredging, we need to correctly estimate the depth of debris to be removed.

**E. Resident Questions:**

Bob DiBella, Deepwood Drive, Lebanon, CT

The lily pads near lollipop walkway are in need of attention. It is getting worse and nothing has been done.

Comment: We do treat some areas around the lake for safety concerns and resident enjoyment. The issue near Lollipop is that a well is located close to this area and we cannot use an herbicide. We need to come up with a different plan.

Andrea Hayes, 430 Deepwood Drive, Lebanon, CT

The area near my house was sprayed, but the weeds came back. Is this normal?

Comment: The weeds will come back, so they are treated every other year. We are not trying to rid the lake of all weeds, etc. We are trying to keep a balance. The treatments are in September and the results can be seen the following year.

Marge Arnold, 34 Ames Road, Hebron, CT

Will the trailer parking area be cleared so residents can use it?

Ron Niemczyk stated that a contractor, tree person, etc. have looked at the area's needs and the committee will decide on a course of action.

Johanna Greenfield, 247 Deepwood Drive, Hebron, CT

Have you heard anything about re-pavement of the roads on the Hebron side?

Comment: Yes, we have an agreement with the town concerning the drains, etc. and had an engineering study done. M. Paul met with the town and they will address these areas. The CT Water Co., also, is doing work in this area. Deepwood Drive will be paved at both ends this year and the middle area will be paved (probably next year) after the town and CT Water have completed their work. We have a better relationship with Hebron than with Lebanon. Residents can always call Lebanon Town Hall with issues that need resolution.

Brian Swanson, 40 Hillcrest Rd, Hebron, CT

Concerning the spraying near the well at Lollipop. Explain the situation to the CT Water Co. and maybe they would help with the cost to remedy the problem.

Bob Blackmore, 5 Rondaly Road, Hebron, CT

Does not paying a lake tax keep a resident from receiving lake passes?

Comment: Passes have nothing to do with whether lake taxes are paid.

Are we using Lebanon taxes to pay for Hebron roads?

Comment: the taxes we collect improve the entire ALD area. If we fix the drains on the Hebron side, the entire lake improves for all.

Would you mind if I spoke with the Army Corp of Engineers?

Comment: As a resident, you can speak with them.

Joyce Clark, 6 Deepwood Drive, Lebanon, CT

What is the maintenance plan after dredging an area? A contractor, 6 years ago, suggested putting a net in.

Comment: That is a plan to be discussed this summer.

Dave Arnold, 34 Ames Road, Hebron, CT.

Since many concerns are expressed, keep this in mind when electing officers.

Bob Di Bella, Deepwood Drive, Lebanon, CT

I am pleased with the level of security around the lake. I hope it will be as least as good this coming year.

Comment: Yes, we will be increasing security.

B. Harlow, 403 Deepwood Drive, Lebanon, CT

Concerning the lily pads. Spraying does not always solve the problem. Some need to be ripped out and trucked away. This is the best idea. Hydro-dredging seems to be a waste of money. This problem should be addressed and done properly.

**F. Approval of the May 16, 2015 minutes:**

R. DeCormier made a motion to approve the 5-16-15 annual minutes. Seconded by D. Gibson. All approved except for 3 residents who abstained.

**G. Treasurer's Report:**

A detailed explanation of the ALD assets was presented. It was prudent to have funds placed in different accounts such as the invasive weed account. An explanation of the general fund, revenues and expenses up to April 30, 2016 was given. The district still needs to operate until June 30, 2016. Funds are available to pay all remaining costs for this year.

L. Lenti stated if invasive weeds were discovered and we needed to borrow the money, we might not have time to go through the process. We have funds in place now to address any problem quickly.

M. Paul stated that 12-13 years ago, the board was using spreadsheets. About 7-8 years ago, the board decided it needed a better way to show finances, etc. We have been improving every year and will still improve in the future. The ALD is committed to spending money as wisely as possible.

The treasurer continued with the discussion and all information will be on the website.

B. Swanson stated that we still have two months left in the fiscal year to show relationship between actual tax receipts and budget.

Janet Atkins, 9 Francis Road, Hebron, Ct

Will a "corrected" budget be implemented?

Comment: Yes, a corrected budget will be implemented.

Bob Blackmore, 5 Rondaly Road, Hebron CT

M. Gut has studied the budget and he is comfortable with it.

Candy Kozlak, 11 Woodside Dr, Hebron, CT

Will Francis Row be added to the list of row maintenance?

Comment: Yes, it will be added to the list.

Anita Connor, 135 DeepwoodDr, Hebron,CT

The Rainy Day fund is 50 percent of the operating budget and the amount will change each year.

Comment: Yes, we need to add a budget line item for this.

Dave Arnold stated that the rainy day fund does not fluctuate much each year.

It just reflects 50 percent of the budget.

#### **H. Tax Collector's Report:**

An explanation of tax collection, revenues, fees, etc. was given. Also explained was how the tax is collected, the mill rate is determined, and a mention of the few "uncollectables" in the area.

Going forward, when the budget is voted on then the mill rates will be determined. It's possible that the rate for the Lebanon side might drop and a small rise is possible on the Hebron side.

Overall, our lake tax payments are quite small. We have one of the cleanest lakes in CT.

All information will be on the website.

#### **I. Elect Directors for the ALD Board:**

M. Paul gave an explanation of the rules for voting. There are 6 open positions. Four members are up for re-election and two new members are needed. The voting was done by ballot.

Voting went very well.

Mark Paul, Frank Hoisl, Lou Lenti, Claire Lenti, Anita Connor and Bob Blackmore were elected to the Board of Directors.

#### **J. Elect Officers for the ALD Board:**

From the nine directors on the board, the following were elected as officers. Since there was only one director nominated for each position as officer, ballots were waived and motions were made.

B. Lederer made a motion to elect Mark Paul for president. R. DeCormier seconded, all approved except one who abstained. Motion passed.

B. Lederer made a motion to elect Frank Hoisl for vice president. E. Hoisl seconded. All approved. Motion passed.

R. DeCormier made a motion to elect Anita Connor for treasurer. B. Lederer seconded. All approved. Motion passed.

B. Lederer made a motion to elect Claire Lenti for clerk. D. Gibson seconded. All approved. Motion passed.

#### **K. Consider and Act Upon the Proposed Budget for 2016-2017:**

A discussion of the long term plan and the proposed budget was given. The board will manage the projects that we have keyed up and keep the process smooth.

Ron Niemczyk (Lebanon road committee) would like to thank Erika and Steve Lindeberg for the wonderful job on the Lebanon roads and all the other members who helped on the committee. The CT water Co has taken care of four issues for us, five roads were done this past year, ditches and pipes were added, trees removed and ditches cleared of leaves.

He asks residents not to put their leaves into these ditches as the water needs to run into the storm drains.

Since there is \$17,000 left in last year's Lebanon road fund, the committee is asking for \$23,000 this year in order to continue the roadwork for this coming year.

A motion was made by B. Pelegano to approve \$23,000 for the Lebanon road fund. M. Gut seconded. All approved. Motion passed.

F. Hoisl discussed the proposals for the mooring/docking of large boats. The committee had many discussions and came up with two options: add to the existing docks at Lollipop and/or use roll-out docks on either side of the Lollipop walkway. The committee will discuss this further. The request will be for up to \$9100 for either option.

C. Wool stated that putting docks where residents have been putting their boats for many years should be investigated. Check the by-laws first.

Bob DiBella added that where the smaller boats are now, there are some large boulders which might have to be removed.

Jerry Horan stated that we have existing docks and if we have the room then add to them.

Anita Connor said that the amount of up to \$9100 should be placed in the budget.

F. Hoisl said that this is a special project for this year. A resident suggested that we would need some security around the docks. This needs discussion, also.

Bob DiBella made a motion to approve the budget for the 2016-2017 fiscal year. Elisabeth Hoisl seconded. The vote was taken by ballot. The results were: Yes—48, No—2. The motion passed.

#### **L. Establish Date for the 2017 Annual Meeting:**

B. Pelegano suggested that we have the meeting at 8:00 A.M. instead of 7:00 P.M.

Comment: We should utilize a survey monkey in order to see what residents would prefer.

M. Gut made a motion to for the 2017 annual meeting to be held on May 20, 2017. Seconded by Karen Wax. All approved. Motion passed.

#### **M. Consider and Act Upon any Business that may come before the District:**

Anita Connor would like to thank the residents for supporting her. Also, thank you to Dave Martin for serving on the board for many years. And thank you to Barbara Lederer for her service this year.

Bob Blackmore asked if there was any help for the ALA clubhouse this year.

Comment: We are going to discuss this at Wednesday's meeting.

#### **N. Adjournment:**

R. DeCormier made a motion to adjourn. D. Gibson seconded. All approved.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted by  
Claire Lenti, clerk  
Amston Lake District

