

AMSTON LAKE DISTRICT
Board of Directors Regular Meeting
MINUTES
May 17, 2017
ALA Clubhouse, 16 Wood Acres Road, Amston, CT 06231
www.amstonlake.org

- A. **Roll call:** President M. Paul conducted a roll call. The following persons were present: M. Paul, F. Hoisl, R. DeCormier, M. Pelegano, A. Connor and M. Grydon
- B. **Call to order:** M. Paul called to order the regular meeting of the Amston Lake District at 7:03 P.M.
- M. Paul requested all Board members take notes of meeting minutes in light of continuing vacancy in Clerk's position.
- C. **Recognition of Other Guests, Residents and Property Owners:**
- Margery Nichols, 18 Spafford Dr. Lebanon - spoke on behalf of the pavilion committee to thank the ALD Board for their time and their courtesies.
 - Dave Arnold – 34 Ames Rd. Hebron – asked the Board to clarify whether or not handicapped persons had first chance for dock slip rentals. Currently his understanding is that someone evoking the handicap option can bump someone who rented dock space from the previous year and he questioned if that was how we intended the lottery to work. M. Paul responded that the Board would clarify the policy under committee reports – Boats/Docks/Rafts..
 - Bob Blackmore, 5 Rondaly Rd. Hebron –
 - Commented that the Town of Hebron has a Rainy Day Fund that is substantially less than ALD's and asked if this topic could be added to the annual meeting agenda
 - Asked about the status of the FOI requests; M. Paul's response - the first FOI request has been answered, and the second one led to his search of the records on hand and in storage but has not resulted in any documents related to the FOI request. Paul added he will continue the search.
 - With regard to dredging of lake areas
 - Asked who was advising the Board on dredging projects. Paul's response – experience, past history and a physical inspection
 - Asked why the Lollipop area had leapfrogged other areas. Paul's response – it hasn't

- Asked if we could post the 2015 H-11 engineering report on our website - Paul's response – yes we can as soon as we can get a copy to our webmaster
- Joyce Clark, 6 Deepwood Dr. Lebanon –
 - Asked if the long term plan for the lake was ever completed to include follow up care to the Northeast Cove which she believes is in worse shape now than before the remedial action taken in 2011. Paul's response – he action plan was partially done but not completed. The Board's intent is to complete it in the near future.
 - Agreed to meet with F. Hoisl who is in the process of developing the an updated plan
 - Asked who decides where barley straw goes because NE Cove used to get some and now does not. F. Hoisl response - this year's placement was based on last year's and on where the algae blooms are.
- Sylvain Morin 14 Kelly's Corner, Lebanon – asked when the Ryan Terrace bench will be moved as the current location is very inconvenient. Paul's response – we will be looking into that this month.
- Jerry Horan, 7 Rondaly Rd. Hebron – Commented that he hears rumors that sand will not be added to the ROW's and asked if true because he wants Meadowbrook to remain a swimming area. He does not want ALD to use its money to remove sand. Paul response – ROW's are not primarily for swimming and no sand will be added. Plans are to mitigate existing sand build up.
- Al Fichtel, 203 Deepwood Dr. Hebron -
 - Asked if a lake scientist will be hired this year to test/evaluate water quality. F. Hoisl response - the last water quality report was in 2012, 2013 but he is working on hiring someone to prepare an updated one at what could be substantial cost.
 - Asked if we had considered local volunteers to do the testing. He agreed to do some. Hoisl response - he is in touch with biology teacher at RHAM about that possibility.
- Maureen Dagon, 144 Deepwood Dr. Hebron – spoke in favor of keeping sand on ROW's for enjoyment of swimmers.

- Rich Machowski, 6 Deepwood Dr. asked if the security people are insured. B. Pelegano response - contacted many agencies recently. ALD is considering plan to use only Agency because they offer licensed, bonded and insured people.
- Bob Blackmore 5 Rondaly Rd. Hebron – requested we hire the lake scientist since the funds were allocated in the budget for one.
- Jerry Horan, 7 Rondaly Rd. Hebron – asked if someone could explain what happened to the \$18,000 in the Dam Fund.

D. **Approval of minutes from April 19, 2017** – R. DeCormier moved to approve; B. Pelegano seconded. Motion passed.

E. **President’s Report:** None

F. **Tax Collector’s Report :**

- a. Report was distributed and discussed.
- b. Discussion of ramifications of Town of Hebron’s foreclosure of Hebron Service Station and our forgiveness of back taxes on the property.
- c. A. Connor reported on email correspondence from resident asking for tax refund like Town of Hebron provides. She recommended a \$25 thank you in lieu of that. R. Decormier moved that ALD pay a \$25 thank you for your service to each resident volunteer fireman. B. Pelegano seconded. Motion passed.

G. **Treasurer’s Report:**

- a. Financial statements as of and for the month and year to date period through April 30, 2017 were distributed and discussed. No action taken.
- b. Discussion about dock rentals and Dave Arnold’s assistance with coordination.
- c. A. Connor reported on resident’s concern over missing report filings with Town of Lebanon. Connor will be sure that the Town has all years reports by delivering duplicate copies.

H. **Clerk’s Report and Presentation of Correspondence:**

- a. No report.
- b. Correspondence included FOI requests from residents and copy of notice of Town of Hebron v. Hebron Service Station foreclosure, letter asking who placed buoys in the lake. Response – D. Arnold

I. Lake Management Reports: F. Hoisl updated the Board as follows:

- a. Barley straw – 28 bales placed in lake by BASE Construction. Asked for input from district on additional locations for placing barley straw in the future. Couple asked if they contact a local farmer to take the “old” barley straw from behind the clubhouse. Frank said yes, good idea.
- b. Dredging - no dredging discussion at this time.
- c. Storm drains/H-11 - Once Ct Water has completed the work related to storm drains, Town of Hebron will repave the road.
- d. Lake management plan - F. Hoisl updated the Board on progress to date. The intent of the plan is to address key issues and attach timetable to ongoing tasks.

J. Standing and Special Committees

- a. Lebanon Roads – no report, M. Gut absent. M. Paul notified the Board that M. Gut submitted his resignation to the Board. His term will need to be filled at the Annual meeting. He also mentioned that they are looking for volunteers to join committee and that you didn’t have to be a Lebanon resident to participate
- b. Pavilion – Reviewed the pavilion presentation prepared by Margery Nichols. Margery answered a number of questions from the Board.
- c. Security – B. Pelegano contacted 7 companies. Three responded and only one sent a proposal. They plan to bill us at 20/hour and 30/hour on weekends. They were in process of sending him information to show they have a license and insurance. They also cover other beach communities. Their name is Bennett Security. Once we hear more, we would reach back out to group. Based on resident comments over the past few meetings, we were considering possibility of hiring the private company for full hours. Pelegano offered 3 suggestions: (1) Keep as is (2) Hire company to cover full hours as we have them now and (3) Hire company for Main and Lollipop 11-5 seven days a week and see if they can also cover roaming patrol to check right of ways every hour. B. Pelegano will negotiate the final terms up to the existing budget limits.
- d. Communications – R. DeCormier reminded directors to submit articles for the newsletter. F. Hoisl agreed to contact Solitude for possible use of their published articles on Bathymetry and Dredging.
- e. Duck pond and main dam – F. Hoisl reported that he is waiting for a proposal from Karl Acimovic on his recommendations for repairs. Would more than likely be very expensive and need to be considered as a future project.

- f. Boats/Docks/Rafts – The Board clarified it’s position with regard to the dock lottery. It is a lottery. No group has priority over any other regardless of previous rentals. Each season stands on its own.
- g. Beaches/ROW’s – A. Connor made a motion to approve the installation of sand on both beaches by BASE Construction at a cost of \$2,750. R. DeCormier seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- h. Signs and bulletin boards – M. Grydon presented various layouts of new signage for beaches and ROW’s and asked for feedback. Motion to accept the blue/white style of signage. Pelegano moved and Frank seconded. Motion passed. M. Grydon to order new signage up to budget of \$500.
- i. Finance
 - i. Paul distributed newest version of FY 18 annual budget. Discussion ensued. Directors will review and email all comments to M. Paul by Monday.
 - ii. Accounting and auditing: A. Connor discussed arrangements made with the CPA firm, Mahoney & Sabol in Glastonbury, CT. As was anticipated in the budget and previous discussions, they are an independent CPA firm who will be conducting an “Agreed Upon Procedures” engagement covering both the FY 16 and FY 17 fiscal years to be concluded this summer.
 - iii. Paul issued a reminder about elections at the annual meeting. In light of M. Gut’s resignation there will be four seats to fill as follows: 2 full terms, one is to replace R. Decormier and one is the seat currently held by M. Grydon who is running for reelection to the Board. A third seat is to finish C. Lenti’s final two years. The final seat is to serve the final year of M. Gut’s term.
- j. Calendar of tasks Reviewed tasks for next month

K. **Old Business** – None

L. **New business** – None

M. **Prepare next meeting agenda** - no additions/deletions at this time.

N. **Adjournment** - Motion to adjourn at 11:15 by B. Pelegano, M. Grydon second. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted by: Anita Connor, Treasurer, with assistance from B. Pelegano and F. Hoisl