

AMSTON LAKE DISTRICT

Special Meeting

MINUTES

Aug 12, 2017 10:00 A.M.

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

www.amstonlake.org

A. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 10:15 AM.

B. Roll Call of Officers and Directors:

M. Paul, F. Hoisl, A. Connor, L. Bowen, B. Pelegano, A. Stec, M. Grydon

Absent: L. Lenti, M. Kelly

C. President's Discussion of Rules and Procedures

Mark Paul explained the reason for the re-vote and the procedure for the day's meeting: the Board of Directors received a petition signed by 43 residents asking that the motion from the annual meeting "to approve the pavilion as presented" be voted on again. As per the ALD by-laws, the sole purpose of today's special meeting was for that re-vote.

Mark Paul made a motion to approve the pavilion project as presented. Frank Hoisl seconded. Discussion ensued:

John Larew, 125 Deepwood, Hebron, CT

Lots of questions to be answered: Have permits been granted? How will this be financed? What will property taxes be? Who is going to manage the property during its construction and use? What about ongoing maintenance, garbage, and porta-potties? Will it be rented out?

Adrian Atkins, 9 Francis, Hebron, CT

Has some experience in construction and says it could be built cheaper. Feels like this project would be starting a disease – first the pavilion, next we need a cooking area, then security, then indoor flush toilets, then a sound system. Next we might end up with an amusement park across the street.

Peter Gandelman, 14 Cove, Lebanon, CT

The question of whether or not we build this pavilion is a separate issue from how it will be used.

Kathy Garvie, 195 Deepwood, Hebron, CT

Thinks a pavilion would be very useful – for the kids, arts & crafts. Says we already have the money.

Marge Nichols, 18 Spafford, Lebanon, CT

Let's have a can-do attitude. A pavilion would enhance the lake, and the community could use it for meetings. Lake Terramuggus has had a pavilion for 45 years, and

Coventry Lake has had theirs for a very long time.

Kevin Rockoff, 29 Lake Rd, Hebron, CT

As a real estate broker, says that “we have the money” is not a good enough reason to build a pavilion. It has already been voted down twice.

Julia Paul, 162 Deepwood, Lebanon, CT

The lake itself should be our #1 priority and money should be spent on lake health vs. a pavilion. Other communities that have pavilions have Parks & Rec departments to oversee their use.

Al Fichtel, 203 Deepwood, Hebron, CT

There is a lot of mis-information out there. Our taxes just increased as a result of the \$50K for special projects that was approved at the annual meeting – we don't have the money to pay for this without increasing taxes even more. Also the new Lake Hayward pavilion was built as a result of the old one burning down.

Joyce Clark, 6 Deepwood, Lebanon, CT

Opposes the pavilion – thinks any money spent should be used for the long-term health of the lake.

Sue Wilson, 27 Ames, Hebron, CT

Worried about the cleanliness of a pavilion. With a roof, rain wouldn't fall and clean the picnic tables and such, and it could attract vermin from food left behind.

Heidi DeLisle, 32 Ames, Hebron, CT

Not against the idea of a pavilion, but believes it would increase taxes in the long run. Also thinks that the location of the proposed pavilion is short-sighted and that there would be other, better places to put it.

Ken LaVoie, 501 Deepwood, Lebanon, CT

Likes the idea of a pavilion, but it would need bathrooms. Also thinks that the Berglund property would be a better location. Thinks it would attract bums after hours.

Jeff Greenfield, 247 Deepwood, Hebron, CT

Used to be on the board of his condo association – says we would be better served by keeping the money as reserves - we don't need to spend our money on a pavilion.

Krista Keron, 182 Deepwood, Lebanon, CT

Likes our small, quiet lake and doesn't want to change that. Thinks a pavilion would add noise.

Don Strom, 42 Ames, Hebron, CT

Agrees with Krista. The noise level at events can be very intrusive – so much so, that they sometimes can't have a conversation on their deck.

Mark Paul, 162 Deepwood, Lebanon, CT

As a resident says he sees the pros and cons of a pavilion. He is concerned about security, saying the pavilion would be an “attractive nuisance” - attracting teens and

“bums”, and the costs of upkeep and security will be ongoing.

Frank Hoisl, 404 Deepwood, Lebanon, CT

The proposed budget doesn't take into account any inflation costs, as the prices would likely go up over the next few years. Also the Lake Hayward pavilion ultimately cost \$180K.

Michael Kelly, 47 Lake, Hebron, CT

Thought it was a tough issue to vote pro or con – and that a real issue we need to come together on is communications. Feels that lake health should be our top priority.

John Connor, 145 Deepwood, Hebron, CT

Confused about the size of the pavilion – in some places in the presentation, it was 20X36, and in others it shows 30x30. Also the cost quote is from September and no longer valid. Says our taxes will go up if the group's funding plan is approved. Thinks it's a lot of money to spend on having a sandwich in the shade.

Anita Connor, 145 Deepwood, Hebron, CT

Have you been dreaming of a pavilion for the last two years? Well, snap out of it! In 2015 a committee was formed to explore the idea of a pavilion – so of course they were going to come up with exactly that, and not explore other alternatives. There are still unanswered questions about location, cost, size and design.

Mary McMullen, 76 Lakeview Heights, Lebanon, CT

They decided to move here because this area is in the “last green valley”. Feels we don't need more development. The beach should be free of man-made development and kept a natural environment.

Rosemary Roy, 25 Bass Lake, Hebron, CT

The beach is nice as it is. With a pavilion we would be adding picnic tables, and kids running around – feels like it could be a lawsuit waiting to happen.

Laurel Hennebury called the question. Barbara Lederer seconded. Voting was done by paper ballot. Results: 174 No votes, 38 Yes votes. The motion to approve the pavilion was defeated.

D. Adjournment:

Laurel Hennebury made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Elaine Williams. All approved. The meeting adjourned at 11:15 A.M.

Respectfully submitted by
Liz Bowen, Clerk
Amston Lake District