

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

November 18, 2015 7:00PM

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, M. Gut, B. Pelegano, L. Lenti, C. Lenti

Absent: D. Martin, B. Lederer

**B. Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM.

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

Marge Nichols, 18 Spafford Road, Lebanon, CT

Some residents are not happy with the current condition of Ryan Terrace. Our committee will meet next spring to discuss ideas to improve the area. Please keep Ryan Terrace in your long range plans.

Comment: Yes, it will be included in the long range plans. The board will meet in small groups to develop a plan and a proposal to bring to the residents for approval at the annual meeting. Then the plan can be included in the budget.

Carl wool: several years ago, the trenches, etc. were put in and helped with the erosion problem. Be careful to remember these problems when making a plan.

Jim Riley, 18 Bass Lake Road, Amston, CT

I am interested in the expansion of the dock areas. I have a pontoon boat and I am in support of more docks for placement of boats.

Kevin Grady, 199 DeepwoodDr, Amston,CT

Is there any headway on the mooring in front of Meadowbrook ROW?

Comment: Yes, we have some ideas where to moor boats. It's still in discussion.

Also, with reference to the sand in front of the resident's property, it will be part of the long term plan. We can coordinate with the town and have time frames, etc. We could remove the sand along the waterline from Oakland all the way to Meadowbrook ROW. There might be several items to address.

**D. Approval of Previous Minutes:**

Addition/changes to last month's minutes include the following:

1. "The accountant raised a concern about the legitimacy of a fund which was established to provide contingency funds for the District. Mark Paul took the action item to review this fund and its structure with the District's attorney and will report back to the board."
2. Under weeds and algae----a letter "will be" sent to the contractor introducing B. Pelegano and requesting the permit by December for spraying weeds/plants and a map of the treatment areas.
3. Under Dam/ Duck Pond----Karl Acimovic is the "Engineering Consultant".  
L. Lenti made a motion to approve the October 21, 2015 minutes and changes.  
B. Pelegano seconded. All approved.

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

There are many individual projects to be considered. The board will meet in small groups to come up with a long term plan (2-3 years) and will address many projects (dredging, sand, storm drains, Meadowbrook row, and other areas). We will look at the interrelationships to see what the board can do and what we can do with help from the towns of Hebron and Lebanon. We will take a thoughtful approach to solutions, do them in sequence and be cost effective. The small meetings will be working meetings over the next 4-6 weeks and the draft will be brought to the residents and then polished up.

There are a variety of things to look at and we can decide what can be done next summer and the following years. We now have several years experience working on the budget. Budgets can be driven by historical precedents. New budgets will depend on this. Then we can bring all results to the annual meeting for a vote.

The Rainy Day Fund's legitimacy was raised by the accountant. It's a contingency fund—like a non-budget savings account. It consists of 50 % of the district's annual operating budget (a buffer). As the budget grows, then the buffer grows, if the budget shrinks, the buffer shrinks: The amount of the buffer is tied to the size of the budget. It provides the board with funding for any significant event. Our attorney, Adam Cohen, stated it was perfectly legal under Chapter 105 and it is good as it stands now. We could change the name if necessary.

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

Approximately \$12,000 has been moved from the general account to the rainy day fund. This will be reflected in next month's report. Each fund is not free cash. They are specifically designed for separate reasons----dam, invasive weeds, etc.  
The financial report for October is on the website.

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

The tax collector's report was read by the president. All information is on the website.

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

An email concerning the final notice on boat removal was sent. The calendar for the 2016 board meeting dates was finalized. Snowplowing the two beach parking lots was discussed and will be continued next month.

**I. Presentation of Correspondence:**

Emails were received concerning a question about the accountant's report at the October meeting, and a thank you for the excellent feedback on the pavilion report. Also, Marge Nichols has been in contact with Gary Petersen (Lake Hayward) about a company they use for sifting the beach sand every year. We need to contact the company for a price. Maybe we can have the beach sand sifted in the spring.

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

Weeds and Algae-no report

Dredging at Cove ROW—much dirt, etc. has been removed from the lake. There were many obstacles such as large rocks and deep areas which made the work difficult. More than 1000 yards of debris has been removed and cleanup should be completed in a couple weeks. After completion, the Ames Road area will be dredged. The lake has been lowered 30 inches and all weir boards have been removed. New cedar weir boards will be added as soon as all the dredging has been completed.

Storm Drains/H-11 –part of long term plan---meet with Town of Hebron.

**K. Consider and Act Upon Standing and Special Committee reports:**

Lebanon Roads

A report from the Lebanon Road Committee included: inventory of the 1700 linear feet of ditches. Maintenance bids are requested. The next steps will include leaf removal, extra work on Wildwood, and berm removal at Bush Road. Snowplowing this winter will be monitored. Work on the roads will be continued in the spring.

Security

Transition to B. Lederer as security head is taking place and winter security should be the same.

Traffic safety---A report was given by Barbra Dawley. Hebron public Works, East Coast Sign and Supply Company and New England Traffic Solutions provided information on some solutions for traffic safety. Ideas include speaking with Town Managers for a variance on painted crosswalks. A professional could walk the area around the lake to suggest what could be done. More discussion is needed.

Comment: We need a general plan and meetings and relationships with both towns Also, Safety Circuit Rider (UConn) is available on line. Discussion followed.

#### Dam/Duck Pond

L.Lenti and C. Lenti have a meeting with John Soderberg tomorrow concerning if anything can be done behind the concrete part of the Main Dam. Also, can ask about pipe found in duck pond and if pond can be lowered.

#### Communications

B. Pelegano has been looking at the website and would like to change a few parts, remove some old items and update others. Discussion followed.

#### Boats, Docks, and Rafts

There are a few boats left at the ROW's, etc. F. Hoisl will contact owners to remove them or they will be removed at a cost to owners.

Mooring committee—discussed the need for more docks and the costs.

#### Beaches and ROW's

Thank you to Janet and Candy for removing the pricker plants around the sign at the Main Beach.

A resident showed interest in donating another bench with a memorial plaque.

M. Gut made a motion to hire Mike Baldie to blow the leaves on the ROW's not to exceed \$300. R. DeCormier seconded. All approved.

Meadowbrook Row will be part of our long term plan. There are many options to be discussed.

Marge Nichols gave a report on information for a pavilion. More will be discussed by the committee,( size, costs, placement, etc.) and will be brought before the board at a later date. A survey can be sent to see if residents have an interest in a pavilion.

#### Finance

M.Paul and M. Gut will meet to set up a finance committee.

#### Calendar and Tasks

We are on task. Leaf blowing and snowplowing discussion of beach parking lots were added to the October tasks.

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

Nothing to add.

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

Move Volunteer Solicitation to next month.

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

Add volunteer solicitation and snowplowing the parking lots discussion.

**O. Adjournment:**

L. Lenti made a motion to adjourn. B. Pelegano seconded. All approved.  
The meeting ended at 9:50 PM.

Respectfully Submitted by  
Claire Lenti, Clerk  
Amston Lake Tax District