

AMSTON LAKE DISTRICT
Board of Directors Regular Meeting
MINUTES

April 15,2015

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

www.amstonlake.org

A. Roll Call of Officers and Directors:

Present: D. O'Brien, R. DeCormier, M. Paul, D. Moorcroft, F. Hoisl,
L. Lenti, C. Lenti Absent: D. Martin

B. Call to Order:

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

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

Branden Pelegano, 260 DeepwoodDr, Lebanon,CT

Introduced himself to the board and residents. He had a place at Bashan Lake. He likes the sense of community at Amston Lake, appreciates the website, and would like to be on the board.

Brett Harlow, 403 DeepwoodDr, Lebanon, CT

Residents use too much fertilizer with phosphorus. He spoke with two fertilizer companies that stated they have new programs –organic-no phosphorus. He suggests that more residents use the non-phosphorus fertilizer. It's much better for the lake.

Also, there is a break in the sewer line in the NE Cove in Lebanon. The town needs to take care of it.

Dave Arnold, 34 Ames Road, Hebron, CT

An ordinance should be written to prevent using phosphorus in the fertilizer

Comment: It invalidates an interest group. It can't be put in the by laws. But we can send an email blast reminding people not to use it.

Kevin Grady, 199 DeepwoodDr, Hebron,CT

Has the barley straw been ordered? We need more than last year.

Comment: Yes, it has been delivered and help is needed to put the bales in the lake this Saturday. If more is needed, it can be addressed Saturday and it will be delivered quickly.

Carl Wool,182 DeepwoodDr, Amston,CT

The weir boards have been put in the main dam and he can see a green cast to the lake over by the dam.

Kathy Garvie, 195 DeepwoodDr, Amston,CT

Should the bales be cut in half or thirds? It would give more surface area.

What about the dry fire hydrants?

Comment: We have not heard from the town of Hebron concerning the hydrants. We need to contact them.

Kevin Grady, 199 Deepwood Drive, Hebron,CT

There is a large pile of soil on Deepwood Dr. in Lebanon. It has been there for quite a while and is not protected by a silt fence.

Comment: We will contact the owner.

D. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:

L. Lenti made a motion to approve the March 18, 2015 minutes. F. Hoisl seconded the motion. D. Moorcroft abstained. All others approved.

E. Receive and act upon the Clerk's Report:

Nothing to report.

F. Presentation of Correspondence and Communications:

Emails sent to the board concerned the tax rates, questions and support on fixing the problem at H-11, storm daintesting, and more barley straw, NE cove maintenance, testing of water on the Tuesday before Memorial Day by Chatham Health Dept. Appeal for residents to join the mooring committee, and listing open positions on the board.

Comment: We can now contact Uncas Health Department for testing on the Lebanon side of the lake.

See Attached.

G. Receive President's Report:

D. O'Brien did communicate with Joe Polutechon H-11. The quote to do a study is \$1540. Joe Polutech will do a field study and walk the whole area. All data that we have is still pertinent and will be lined up with Dr. Knoecklein's data. The study can begin immediately. D. O'Brien also had a conversation with Andy Tierney and has his complete cooperation.

R. DeCormier made a motion to approve the initial study of H-11 for \$1540. L. Lenti seconded the motion. All approved. Motion passed.

H. Receive Treasurer's Report:

The financials are all on the website. Reconciliation details show all checks and monies that are paid out each month. Total expenses to date (basic expenses) is \$115,000. The snow plowing expense was \$25,500. Next month a basic history of actual costs, etc. will be presented.

1: General Target Fund

ACT, vendor who works on weed treatment, etc. (worked on Bolton Lake) gave a target cost of \$125,000 to eradicate invasive plants should that ever occur. There could be a loss of 30 per cent of property value due to invasive plants. There is a need for funding and a plan just in case. Compliments to Dave Arnold on boat inspections.

D. O'Brien also discussed H-11. An estimate on a vortech unit would be \$72,000-80,000. The town helped with the last installation in SW Cove. Hopefully we can partner with the town again. This is one alternative.

Comment: Catch basins and basic sumps would help-should be in place of the existing basins. We have approval from the town of Lebanon for dredging the SE cove area. The cost for the dredging is \$45,000. We're still looking at the drawings, etc. The target time frame for dredging is Oct 15th to Jan 15th.

I. Receive Tax Collector's Report:

See attached

J. Receive Lake Management Reports/review goals and objectives.

Barley straw has been delivered. Target date to install is Saturday morning.

We need a schedule for a recurring testing date for storm drains.

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

1. Security

Thank you to Carl Wool for his security work this past winter.

The security company we used last year has been contacted to get a quote for this summer.

Waiting for a call back.

Three handicap signs on the boat racks at Main Beach and Lollipop have been designated---
bottom rack-closest to the water.

Will check on fixing docks,etc.

2. Dam

Water level rose quickly this year. First weir board was put in on March 30.

The beaver is back in the duck pond. After April 1st, it is illegal to trap beavers. A special permit is needed—sent to Hebron. Cost will be about \$50.

We need to decide what to do with the duck pond dam. Where the water exits, the whole wall (5 ft thick) is supported by RR track. The rails have rusted through. The cost of repair is estimated to be \$50,000-100,000.

3. Storm Drains

Send engineering plans to John Soderberg for the storm drains. Need to present plans to Wetland committee.

4. Boats and Rafts

We need a smaller boat rack for Francis ROW. The larger rack can be placed at the Main Beach where it is needed. Also, we need a volunteer to stain the racks.

a). Mooring

So far, seven residents have volunteered to be on the mooring committee and we have had two meetings. The action plan is to find locations, etc, and make a recommendation to the board and residents. It is a work in progress right now.

5. Weeds and Algae

No invasive nuisance weeds now. Weeds were treated last summer and this is done every other year. DEEP commented last year on lake clarity when they did the fish survey. They stated that our lake waters are comparable to an unfished reservoir.

6. Communications

New emails are always added. We have a website with all information. We do not use Facebook. Is it needed?

7. Lebanon Roads:

The Lebanon Road Committee studied the roads, identified several problems, and brought pictures (potholes, pipes, standing water, etc.) to the meeting. Issues were examined after a rain storm. Some issues identified were safety issues. The first task is to determine a budget for next year and bring it to the annual meeting next month. At least \$50,000 would be needed to put roads in good condition. The WPCA had budgeted money for the roads. This needs to be pursued. Phases 1, 2, and 3 will be introduced at the annual meeting.

8. Beach and ROW Updates

Work approved at last month's meeting has been completed.

A motion for \$800 to remove the large tree leaning near the firehouse area was made by R. DeCormier. Seconded by M Paul. All approved. Motion passed.

A motion to approve \$2630 for all Row cleanup, add sand and grade, repairs, etc. was made by F. Hoisl. Seconded by M. Paul. All approved. Motion passed.

A motion to approve \$1400 for repair and upgrade the parking areas at Cove ROW and Ryan ROW was made by D. O'Brien. Seconded by M. Paul. All approved. Motion passed.

9. Calendar and Tasks

We are on task for this month. Porta potties have been ordered. Passes have been ordered. The dock lottery should be complete by May 1st.

L. Act on Remaining Items of Agenda---old Business:

Benches have been ordered and should arrive in a few weeks.

M. New Business—Discussion and Possible Action:

The budget has been approved by the board. The agenda for the May 16th, 2015 annual meeting has been completed. Have a legal specialist from Pullman-Comley present at the meeting and a state trooper.

Motion to spend up to \$2000 for a legal specialist was made by D. Moorcroft. Seconded by M. Paul. All approved. Motion passed.

Motion to spend up to \$548.04 for a trooper was made by D. Moorcroft. Seconded by F. Hoisl. All approved. Motion passed.

N. Prepare agenda for Next Meeting.

Nothing to add.

O. Adjournment

M. Paul made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by L. Lenti. All approved.

The meeting adjourned at 8:57 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by
Claire Lenti, Clerk
Amston Lake District

