

AMSTON LAKE DISTRICT
Board of Directors Regular Meeting
MINUTES

August 19,2015 7:00P.M.

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

www.amstonlake.org

A. Roll Call of Officers and Directors:

M. Paul, R. DeCormier, M. Gut, B.Lederer, L. Lenti, C. Lenti, D. Martin.

Absent: F. Hoisl, B. Pelegano

B. Call to Order:

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

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

Richard Sicotte, 14 Woodside Rd, Amston, CT

When did the by- laws change concerning the removal of boats from the beaches and ROW's in the fall? Now, we have to take the boats out in late October and bring them back in April.

Comment: This rule was in the original ordinances but it began to be enforced several years ago. There was a problem with abandoned boats and the time and effort needed to remove them. There were many complaints. Since ALD began to clean and upgrade the ROW's etc., the ordinance has been enforced. Generally, the response has been favorable. People should be responsible for their property. The ROWs,etc. are ALD property and the removal of the boats gives the opportunity to clean out the areas. A petition with signatures could be brought before the board.

John Larew, 125 Deepwood Dr., Hebron,CT

A year ago, I stated my concern to the board about the lilies/weeds in front of Elsmere ROW and that they are being transported in front of my property and my neighbors. They were to be cleaned out. Also, cans, fishing gear, debris are left on the ROW. This year, I put my concern in writing. My daughter, Amy, will help if necessary since I don't have a computer. Also, I looked at the map of what weeds were to be treated. How were these areas selected?

Comment: We usually check all areas that need treating and get a permit early in the year. The vendor did not treat all the areas, though, but this is usually done every two years. We will request a permit in January for the following September.

Discussion followed.

Karen Wax, 25 West Woodland, Lebanon,CT

Why does my ALD tax bill have two different amounts?

Comment: Call Brian Swanson, the tax collector, for an explanation. He will help you.

Joyce Argudo, 50 Ames Road, Amston,CT

I refused the access on my land on Ames road for dredging because I was not accurately informed of the scope of work. I thought it was handled "deviously". I may agree to access if a legal document is written and approved by an attorney and if the access is temporary.

Comment: We need to remove the sediment before it becomes wetlands and will use the land for temporary access only. A legal document will be written to satisfy the owner.
Discussion followed.

Shauna Benedict, 12 Lake Road, Amston, CT
Has anything been done on the two properties on Lake Road?
Comment: Yes, a process is in place. See old business.

Gail Golden, 203 Deepwood Dr., Hebron, CT
What has been done concerning Meadowbrook ROW?
The engineer has looked at Meadowbrook Row and will write his recommendations in the near future.

Al Fichtel, 203 Deepwood Dr., Hebron, CT
Concerning the raft in NE Cove---people using the lake in that area (Ostrager property) are not ALD residents. He may not know that his land is used for access to the lake.
Comment: We can give him a call and ask for permission to act on trespassers.
The raft was moved to the Main Beach/Dam area. A mass email was sent to identify the owner. No answer yet. So BASE will remove the raft. If swim rafts are used by residents, why not put a sticker on them?

Carl Wool, 182 Deepwood Dr., Amston, CT
Thank you for working on the duck pond. It's looking good.
The fishing derby is Saturday. Last time, some boats had no weed inspections. Carl offered to do weed inspections on all boats entering the fishing derby.
Comment by Al Fichtel: Yes, all boats should have weed inspections. Al and Jim are inspectors and will check the boats and all boats should have a sticker.

Marge Nichols, 18 Spafford Rd, Lebanon, CT
When the firehouse land was purchased, it was stated that ALD could use the area possibly for a pavilion. A proposal of up to \$70,000 was accepted. It was to be discussed at the August meeting.
Comment: In May, it was stated by the lawyer that having an August meeting for funding was not necessary. It was already voted on. It's a good idea to have a pavilion. A committee is needed to gather information, costs, preliminary designs, etc. It can reach out to the community for opinions (survey the people?). Contact Drew, get opinions, etc. and bring information to the board. If a line item is over \$2500, then it must be approved by a special meeting.
Discussion followed.

D. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:

L. Lenti made a motion to approve the July 15, 2015 minutes. M. Gut seconded. Dave Martin abstained. All others approved.

E. Receive and Act Upon Clerk's Report:

Corrections in the July minutes:

1. M. Gut made the motion to approve \$1500 for Joe Polulech to recommend solutions to Meadowbrook ROW and B. Lederer seconded.

2. A request was made by Janet Garrett and a motion was made by L. Lenti to change her statement, in the July minutes, to “No residents were seen bringing dogs to the beaches and ROW’s. The question was who to contact in case of a rule infraction or legitimate security concern”. R. DeCormier seconded. D. Martin abstained. All others approved.

Comment: Contact F. Hoisl for reasonable security concerns.

The third tax notices were in the Rivereast and Norwich Bulletin.

Comment: Research is needed concerning why the tax notices need to be in the papers three times.

The RFP’s went out on Snowplowing, SE Cove dredging (second notice). A boat mooring committee report was emailed to residents.

F. Presentation of Correspondence and Communications:

Emails were received concerning replacing an old dock, interest in the scope and specs of the SE cove dredging, a thank you for sightline improvement on Bush Rd and W. Island Beach Rd. and if it can be extended, the Lebanon Historical society working on the origin of Lebanon Rd. names, a resident interested in the acceptable size of a new pontoon boat, a discussion of a pavilion at the August meeting, and a boat chained to a resident’s dock in SE cove

Comment: B. Lederer will follow up on the boat.

G. Receive President’s Report:

More residents are needed to volunteer and become engaged in projects—like the Lebanon Road Committee. Example: We will need an apprentice to learn the tax collector’s job. There is much to learn about the lake. We need people to know about the lake, the dam, lake health, etc. which will make any transition easier.

H. Receive Treasurer’s Report:

This month, the largest expenses were taxes on ALD property. Our expenses so far were approximately \$37,000 and the taxes were about \$20,000. The finances will be posted on the website in a few days.

I. Receive Tax Collector’s Report:

M. Paul read the tax collector’s report. Some refunds have been mailed back to residents.

J. Receive Lake Management Report:

D. Martin presented a report on lake testing. The main testing is in the deepest part of the lake (Deep Station) and the goal is to test once a month between April and October. An explanation of the testing included: 1). Secchi Depth, 2). H2O temperature and oxygen levels, 3). H2O quality (phosphorus and nitrogen) and 4). a plankton tow. Results have been very good. He would like to form a Lake Health Committee to learn about the lake and help test the water.

K. Consider and Act upon Standing and Special Committee Reports:

Lebanon Roads

Project one is completed. A final inspection will be done after a rainfall. The residents are pleased and we have a good committee. A dead tree was removed and brush was removed.

Project 2 will be Cove Road, Park Road, and Wildwood Road. The RFP went out for snowplowing contracts.

Dam

The weir boards need replacing. A motion was made by L. Lenti to allocate up to \$550 for supplies for new weir boards. B.Lederer seconded. All approved.

A quote for \$480.17 was presented so far. Carl wool will do the weir boards.

An email should be sent out to remind residents about the lowering of the water for the dredging project. The water will begin to lower approximately September 14, 2015.

The cleaning of the duck pond dam area looks good.

Storm Drains

No Report

Boats and Rafts:

There is a possible need for another boat rack at Lollipop Beach. An email on mooring went out to residents.

Weeds and Algae:

No report

Communications:

No change—working well

Security

Some residents requested more security in the evening. Right now, we are addressing the major times we need security. A resident survey could be emailed to residents. How much security do they feel is needed?

Beach and ROW update:

Prickers are overgrown in the sand on the Main Beach. They will be sprayed in mid September.

There is over growth on the area near the bend in Deepwood Dr. in Lebanon. The property owner can be consulted. The Town can cut up to 14/15 feet from the road.

Meadowbrook Row: J. Polulech did a study and will write a report. The Town of Hebron will add a swale, etc. to direct water towards the drains and plunge pool. The build up of sand in front of properties can be addressed when water is lowered.

Calendar and Tasks:

We are up to date on tasks---doing well.

L. Act on Remaining Items—Old Business

A motion was made by M. Gut to move forward on the Lake road properties. Seconded by L. Lenti. The board accepts the petition on the Lake road properties. There is a process to be followed which includes an email blast and notices in the newspaper, and a meeting with the owners. A resolution was implemented : “The ALD board resolves to return to the Amston Lake District the properties at 12 and 18 Lake Road, Amston, CT”. A motion to accept the resolution was made by M. Gut. Seconded by B. Lederer. All approved.

M. New Business:

All new business is moved to the next meeting.

N. Prepare Agenda For Next Meeting:

Nothing to add.

O. Adjournment:

D. Martin made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by L. Lenti. All approved.
The meeting adjourned at 10:28 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted by
Claire Lenti, Clerk
Amston Lake District