

Amston Lake District
Board of Directors Regular Meeting Minutes
February 16th, 2011 7:00 p.m.
ALA Clubhouse, 16 Wood Acres Road, Amston, 06231
www.AmstonLake.org

- A. Roll Call of Officers and Directors
Absent: R. Decormier, L. Hennebury
Present: D. O'Brien, S. Martin, D. Martin, D. Moorcroft, S. Forgue, L. Lenti, J. Connor (7:03 pm)
- B. Call to Order 7:00 pm
- C. Recognition of Guests, Residents and Property Owners' Petitions – no petitions
- D. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes – Special Meeting and Regular – D. Martin made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted; S. Forgue seconded the motion – approval was unanimous
- E. Receive and Act Upon Clerk's Report – nothing to report
- F. Presentation of Correspondence and Communication – see email correspondence list and USPS letter from Hebron Planning and Zoning Commission

(J. Connor entered at 7:03 pm)
- G. Receive President's Report – Town of Hebron contacted D. O'Brien - have wetlands properties that owners/inheritors would rather turn over to someone else; map 130/131 .44 acres, and 328a, .43 acres are wetland soils that enter Amston Lake –believed to be important filtration system in this area; owner wants to donate land to settle the estate and recipient to pay costs for closing, filings, etc. (\$6160 value and \$6020 value, current mill rate \$178.20 and 174.21 annual tax bills and Amston taxes about \$40 each) – seems like perfect opportunity to buy open space – we all agree we should do research into back taxes and costs to determine if it might be land we would want to purchase and use to build rain gardens, etc. – a Special Meeting should be held to determine how we should move forward
- H. Receive Treasurer's Report – R. Decormier on vacation – wanted us to understand the costs of the Lebanon Road snow removal due to the very heavy snowfall in the past few weeks; see attached explanation of additional costs
- I. Receive Tax Collector's Report – read by D. O'Brien – see attached
- J. Consider and Act Upon Standing and Special Committees' Reports
 - 1. Dam – D. Moorcroft: Option 1: need to find out how thick the concrete is in spillway and if it is reinforced; needs to be removed so we can see the voids below and solve once and for all; Option 2 to dig out to ledge and build another concrete wall in front of the dam wall which will require a coffer dam; dam made from bags of sand may be less expensive than actual dam itself; sand can be placed on beaches; Option 3 – concrete wall built on pile of rubble and spillway is just a shell in some places; spillway should be 6 to 8" thick and not sure it is; Option 4 has biggest risks and unknowns – we don't know what is behind the walls. D. Moorcroft would like to consider: 1. Option 2 : 12 to 16 foot concrete poured in front of dam and 2. Option 4: work on spillway deck; if Option 2 is performed first, risk with Option 4 becomes monetary but not a flood; K. Acimovic agreed on approach; put aside \$40-50,000 for planning purposes; \$6500 cost for K. A's time; this is preventive maintenance – concerns are that the bypass pipe under the dam with the rusty front valve is a risk – if it gets knocked off, could have a leak that drained the lake very quickly; needs to be addressed sometime – worried with ice build up that it has deteriorated and we don't want to wait until it is an

- emergency; work into planning processes; \$45,000 set aside and additional \$20,000 could be redirected; would like to spend the \$6,500 this fiscal year since the funds are available – target would be Sept/Oct for dam repairs; water down about 10” – was down 16” a month ago; we are 1” above the targeted winter level; when we put weir boards back in to the dam? S. Forgue – some residents will be very displeased if dredging is not going to occur to redirect funds to dam repairs – should let lake fill up a lot so Southeast Cove can access lake; as ice melts, add weir boards to retain melting snow and ice as ice melts around the edges so waterfront damage is not done; will get permit process going and start collecting names to quote on project
2. Storm Drains – D. O'Brien: spoke with Fran and Joan Savage and Dave Sirois – property owners; also, Town of Hebron. Property owners did not understand enough to approve to be done in spring; checking on Hebron funding and need to all meet and agree on plan; trees cannot be removed as per Town of Hebron which property owners hoped would be removed; status update due next month
 3. Lebanon Sewer Project – D. Martin – preliminary design is done; 7/31 is next deadline with the state of CT; 2/26 meeting with Lebanon Residents at Clubhouse; RFQ for grinder pumps in Hartford Courant last week and 5-6 companies responded; intermunicipal agreement with Hebron is in process; researching sewer regulations and creation of them
 4. Drinking Water – nothing to report
 5. Boats & Rafts - nothing to report
 6. Weeds and Algae- include ultrasonic units – R. Decormier trying to get these installed for free for a test; D. Martin – no references in CT – references were golf courses and sewage treatment plants; nothing in scientific literature that sonics work on filamentateous algae, which is what we have; worried about invertebrates and water life; references are not sure that units work, he thinks they work but the wind blows and algae moves so hard to prove; S. Forgue - Barley straw is \$37.50 per bale and \$1 – 1.50 per bag; will be shipped wrapped in plastic; will buy from Stillpond Farm in Maryland again; wants to get them by 3/15 and install by 4/1; want to order 40 to 50 bales; will contact Kevin Grady to coordinate so we have enough; should we place bales in Northeast Cove post dredging? Seems to make sense to put a few bales down there just to be sure – expect to spend \$2500 maximum – S. Forgue has map of bale placement; let's plan to buy 50 and plan the distribution; need references to support that sonics will work on our algae before we pursue it
 7. Communications – D. O'Brien: Webmaster Roles, Responsibilities and Duties – want Mike Smith to send an email to the announce group and advertise to our residents – need to figure out if we should hire someone before we budget for next year since Mike Smith was doing this as a volunteer; D. O'Brien will collect responses and present at next meeting
 8. Ordinances – nothing to report
 9. Security – nothing to report
 10. Lebanon Roads – additional funds were spent beyond monthly agreement due to significant amount of snow that had to be moved to allow access to all properties
 11. Calendar and Tasks – general RFP statement needs to be posted in Legal Notices; resident submitted his name to perform work and be considered; S. Martin to pull last notice and email to D. O'Brien to have him approve for legal posting for next season's bids; be sure that license and insurance are required; post before 3/15/11; plan for newsletter and write articles/submit to Board members for review

(S. Forgue and J. Connor – left the meeting at 8:30 pm)

- K. Receive Lake Management Reports – D. O'Brien: needs to sit down with Dr. Knocklein and discuss what we are planning and how he can help us; working to set up a date
- L. Act on Remaining Items of Agenda....Old Business
 - 1. ALD Self Help Document – hold until next meeting; D. Martin saw UCONN presentation regarding Riparian Corridors; would like to have the same presentation given here in respect to our lake; will try to plan for a Saturday in the spring – will find out if there is a cost or not to invite the individual; brush and shrubs are valuable to water sources and we need to not simply remove vegetation because it is not appealing to the eye; anything is better than nothing, even 5 ft. of grasses; should be integrated into Self Help Document; put into website and newsletter
 - 2. Boat, Beach and Car Passes: Discuss Distribution Process – R. Decormier is handling this and will share where he is in the process next month; need to communicate to the residents so they know what we are doing
- M. New Business.....Discussion and Possible Action – nothing to discuss
- N. Prepare Agenda for Next Meeting - Dominic from ACT regarding emergency action plan to deal with invasive weeds
- O. Adjournment
Lou Lenti motioned to adjourn at 8:37, Dave Moorcroft seconded. All approved.

Respectfully submitted by,
Sherrri-Ann Martin, Clerk
Amston Lake Tax District