

Amston Lake District
Board of Directors Regular Meeting Minutes
January 19th, 2010 7:00 p.m.
ALA Clubhouse, 16 Wood Acres Road, Amston, 06231
www.AmstonLake.org

A. Roll Call of Officers and Directors

Present: D. O'Brien, D. Moorcroft, S. Martin, D. Martin, J. Connor, R. Decormier, S. Fogue
Absent: L. Hennebury, L. Lenti

B. Call to Order
7:00 pm

C. Recognition of Guests, Residents and Property Owners' Petitions
Nothing presented

Ray Decormier made a motion to move Sonics LLC – Kirk Whatley, up to this point in the agenda; D. Moorcroft seconded; unanimous approval.

Sonic Solutions: Kirk Whatley

Lake Pocatapaug had installed sonic units years ago and he will get us a contact name; algae can make water toxic if too much of it rendering it unusable for recreation; sonic technology pops the oxygen vestibules inside the algae cells and it sinks to the bottom of the water and cannot photosynthesize anymore; power supply goes on land – monthly maintenance of wiping light wand so ultrasonics work better; hang off of shepherd's hooks used to hang plants; sonic solution does not stop the source points of where the phosphorous is entering the lake; simply kills the algae; look at "floating islands international.com" which claims they soak up 4X the nutrients of shore based plantings to try to eliminate phosphorous; need 3 to 4 weeks of contact time to kill algae and will not work if algae breaks off and leaves the treated area; showed a chart using three units to cover the whole lake and protect against breaks in the high winds; \$900 for 90 days, \$3995 purchase price for model 500; \$1200 for 90 days, \$4495 for model 600 or for twice the area coverage of model 500; can install after algae bloom to show that it works or install before so there is no algae bloom; 6 to 8 acre coverage for model 600, 3 acres for model 500; Ken Wagoner is limnologist in Wilbraham, Massachusetts who backs the sonic technology; failures occur where they do not test the water and verify the algae that is to be killed is an algae that can be killed – need genus and species of algae to be eradicated; use sonics in place of copper sulfate; need 2 ft. depth for sonics to work – install in deeper area and point toward shore where shallow; vandalism seems to be an issue with solar power installations but not the others; install after ice melts; additional bloom occurs after bloom is killed; may take many iterations to kill it; 100% of rental can be applied to purchase price; will follow up with names and references for us to contact

D. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

D. Moorcroft motioned to approve, second by S. Fogue
Abstain: S. Martin, D. Martin, J. Connor
Approve: R. Decormier, S. Fogue, D. Moorcroft

E. Receive and Act Upon Clerk's Report – S. Martin is in the process of contacting CL&P for street light info to be installed in Lollipop, as requested by resident

F. Presentation of Correspondence and Communication – see attached

G. Receive President's Report – D. O'Brien: Northeast Cove Dredging Project: budgeted \$15,000 and finished at \$17,000 - estimates were based on Hebron costs which did not charge us for removing sediments; additional cost was due to the cost of trucking out the sediments – removed 140 cubic yards; can do 5,000 cubic yards under the existing permit; thinks project was done very well; we should consider installing rain gardens to keep nutrients out of lake

H. Receive Treasurer's Report – see attached; tax collections seem to be down this year; could be part of economic situation

I. Receive Tax Collector's Report – submitted by E. Curtin and read by D. O'Brien – see attached; follow up via email with her to see how E. Curtin would like to send more delinquent notices; need to get data and cost estimates

J. Consider and Act Upon Standing and Special Committees' Reports

1. Dam – D. Moorcroft – has not checked the water level due to snow accumulations; meeting next Tuesday with K. Acimovic and DEP representatives to discuss exit spillway and old shut off valve mechanism and how we should address repairing them; was down 15" last known check
2. Storm Drains – D. O'Brien: needs to complete legal paperwork and schedule installation; waiting on response from Town of Hebron
3. Lebanon Sewer Project – D. Martin: Fuss & O'Neill working on design on schedule; surveying since October – all Lebanon dwellings will be connected to sewers; installation points will be installed at every dwelling; WPCA to meet in clubhouse for Public Meeting; must get easement from every property owner; 60% easy – and will need easements from us, the Amston Lake Tax Board, for the private roads. Also, need to prove we own the roads through title searches which must be performed as part of the project. Not getting paved roads, but will be returned to current condition. 2 to 3" of blue stone aggregate on all private roads and in good shape now; need staging area – empty lot to rent to store stuff and enclose in a chain link fence; R. Decormier – will any storm drainage be included? Unknown at this time but not part of the consent order from the DEP
4. Drinking Water - nothing to report
5. Boats & Rafts - nothing to report
6. Weeds and Algae – nothing to report
7. Communications – D. Moorcroft: looked at website and there is a lot of misinformation and obsolete information; need to update; S. Martin will work with Mike Smith to update; update Goals and Objectives document too
8. Ordinances – nothing to report
9. Security – J. Connor – snowmobile in Duck Pond area last Saturday and left when asked
10. Lebanon Roads – D. Martin – BSA doing great job cleaning up private roads
11. Calendar and Tasks – R. Decormier – what do we want to do to Handbook so ready before we hand out passes; bring them to whomever is handing out passes; S. Martin - check amount on hand and share with Board members so we have enough to pass out - send changes to Lynn Mika as approved at 2010 Annual Meeting; cost about .60 each so can order 100 more; RFP document and legal wording to be used as last time; newsletter articles to be started next month

K. Receive Lake Management Reports – need to do water testing; R. Decormier – we should develop training video for water testing so we can do it without needing to contact Dr. Knocklein – not Dr. K's expertise; D. and S. Martin are willing to do testing; B. Amato is willing to do testing

D. Martin – passed out new Goals and Objectives Update dated December 2010; Sonic LLC will need to be added to the document after our discussion this evening; reviewed document; state likes to come back

every 5 years to look for invasive plants so we will see if they will return in 2011 since last done in 2006; add to calendar for ongoing review by the Board; place on January, April, July and October calendars; D. O'Brien wants to look at rain garden for the Northeast Cove property working with G. Knocklein and find out what the final results are from the dredging project

2011 Budget Planning: D. O'Brien - our draft budget shows a shift of expenditures to the Lake Health category which is of benefit to the residents; at \$196,900 for proposed 2011-2012 budget

L. Act on Remaining Items of Agenda....Old Business

1. ALD Self Help Document – save for next month
2. Boat, Beach and Car Passes: Discuss Distribution Process – R. Decormier is writing up process and ordering passes; will be ready for review in February meeting; cost was about \$2500 for each mailing of passes in the past; consider going to multiyear passes
3. Discuss selling District owned lawn tractor – S. Forgue – wants to wait until March after the snow has melted to list the tractor on eBay for sale; trailer goes with the tractor too; tractor is fully depreciated from an accounting standpoint; C. Wool dropped off a battery for the tractor
4. Discuss Lollipop Beach area trimming process – S. Forgue – talked with Brett about clearing the brush from Lollipop when can cut from ice but too much snow and too cold now; may need to hire out – will need to wait until snow is lesser than it is (24+ inches on majority of lake); put brush cutting on RFP as a separate line item from grass cutting; should be done in April/May; trees on causeway at Lollipop are getting too old and will need to be removed and replaced – 1/3 per year over three years; will plan and wait to put into budget for 2012-2013. We should do a big trim this year to review what we have for trees and plan to replace where it makes sense.
5. Andrews Street replacement street sign: R. Decormier ordered from Town of Hebron source for \$200 at the Town of Hebron's price

M. New Business.....Discussion and Possible Action

1. Visitor from Sonic Solutions, LLC to discuss sonic solution to algae problems - Kirk Whatley (moved to after C. above by Board vote)

N. Prepare Agenda for Next Meeting

- Carry over under Old Business:
 1. ALD Self Help Document
 2. Boat, Beach and Car Passes
- Sonic Solution LLC to be added under Committees: Weeds and Algae

Nothing to list under New Business yet.

O. Adjournment

Scott Forgue motioned to adjourn at 9:37 pm, second by Dave Moorcroft. Unanimous approval.

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