

Amston Lake District
Board of Directors Regular Meeting
MINUTES
November 19th, 2014 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, F. Hoisl, R. DeCormier, C. Lenti, L. Lenti, D. Moorcroft, S. Martin, M. Paul
Absent: D. Martin

B. Call to Order

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

C. Recognition of Guests, Residents and Property Owners' Petitions

Dave Bareiss, 151 Deepwood Drive, Lebanon

Balance in the General Fund is phenomenal but he questions the justification of purchasing the property at 51 Ames Rd., Hebron based on maintaining water quality; there are plenty of wetlands and the position of the house would make it no worse than other properties on the lake; owning the land would bring increased liability and need for additional security; would like to know main reasons for buying; D. O'Brien stated that all will be covered at the November 22, 2014 meeting.

Gerry Horan, Rondaly Rd., Hebron

Does not understand why all boats have to be removed from ROWs every season; if maintenance is done, it is the owner's issue if a boat is stolen; M. Paul – ordinance was put in place to make sure we do not end up with abandoned and unsafe boats on our ROWs and beaches – in the past, Board had to pay to remove; G. Horan requested that provisions be made for the handicapped who cannot remove their boats; F. Hoisl agreed to follow up with Mr. Horan to discuss an acceptable policy

Carl Wool, Deepwood Drive, Hebron

1. There is a beaver building a dam in the Duck Pond – he should be removed soon.
2. Since there are excess funds in the General Fund, C. Wool thinks it would make sense to spend additional funds on security to make sure ice fishermen are residents and that others are not stealing our bass and to patrol ROWS during the summer – F. Hoisl to have a follow up conversation with C. Wool. D. O'Brien: taxes have been reduced over the past five years and tax collection was high last year based on new back tax collection procedures
3. If runoff issues are anticipated from the 51 Ames Rd. property, can't a rain garden be installed to assist?

Peter Gandelman, 14 Cove Rd., Lebanon

He stated that it sounds like Board does not want to discuss the Ames Rd. property and he has many questions and concerns; not sure this is best use of our funds; feels there is lack of access to people on the Board; he requested an online forum where discussions can occur between the Board and the residents; would be transparent and would go long way to making community operate more smoothly

Sylvain Miron, Kelly's Corner, Lebanon

Concerned that we would vote on 51 Ames Rd. property without the seasonal residents; the house would be over 300 ft. away from the lake; the money would be better spent to drop our mil rates or to upgrade the Lebanon roads

Bob Blackmore, Rondaly Rd., Hebron

How many people are registered to receive emails from the website? R. DeCormier: about 600. He thinks that since the seasonal residents cannot vote, that the by-laws should be changed to that large dollar purchases can only be made June to October unless there is emergency in

regards to the dam or the roads. He felt that the Board's responses to emails online were shocking and appalling

- D. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
Mark Paul made a motion to approve the minutes of last month as submitted. Frank Hoisl seconded the motion. Dave Moorcroft abstained and all others approved.
- E. Receive and Act Upon Clerk's Report
All dates and agendas and postings for the 51 Ames Rd. meetings were done legally. The Special Board Meeting required only 24 hours notice and the District Meeting required 10 days notice and to be printed in the newspaper available to each side of the lake. These requirements were met.
- F. Presentation of Correspondence and Communication
All emails were based on 51 Ames Rd. Property Possible Purchase
- G. Receive President's Report
Thank you to Sherri-Ann Martin for her years of service to the Board; he would like the Board to approve Claire Lenti to take over as Clerk until the Annual Meeting when a vote can be taken. R. DeCormier made a motion to replace S. Martin with C. Lenti as Clerk. M. Paul seconded the motion and all approved unanimously.
- H. Receive Treasurer's Report
See attached
- I. Receive Tax Collector's Report
\$1814 was collected in the month of October; formal report from Brian Swanson to come
- J. Receive Lake Management Reports/Review Goals & Objectives
Nothing to report
- K. Consider and Act Upon Standing and Special Committees' Reports
 - 1. Security – F. Hoisl – (19) boats still on beaches and ROWs; (16) boat owners have been contacted and (3) have been sent registered letters; if boats not moved by November 30, will remove boats to behind the CT Water Pump House on Main Beach.

\$30 fee for boat removed from Oakland ROW without boat pass has not yet been received; D. O'Brien will send letter and if not paid, can collect via taxes
 - 2. Dam – D. Moorcroft – water is 12" below the dam and KEEP OFF DAM sign was installed on Ames Rd. side of dam; He will look at trying to break up the beaver dam himself – may need to consider relocating the beaver.
 - 3. Storm Drains – D. O'Brien – up to \$1500 was approved at the Annual Meeting to have an ex-DEEP engineer look at filled in areas of the lake and his bid came in \$500 more; will have the engineer focus on larger area for most info and keep at \$1500; R. DeCormier thinks it would be beneficial to hire a Leaf vacuum truck to remove leaves from the exposed bottom of the lake in the off season.
 - 4. Boats & Rafts – L. Lenti – cement footings have been set under all of the boat racks to maintain the wood and stop erosion; need a couple more racks next season
 - 5. Weeds and Algae – nothing to report
 - 6. Communications – nothing to report

7. Lebanon Roads – R. DeCormier – new snowplowing contract has floor of \$12,000 and ceiling of \$24,000; snow gets plowed every 3 inches
8. ROW Updates and Maintenance – C. Lenti – Docks have not yet been moved but will be soon by BSA; \$800 estimate to clean up large tree and vines which fell on Main Beach area; D. Moorcroft will check to see if hazardous or in gully

Claire Lenti provided a sheet of information on the benches the resident committee would like to see installed on beaches and ROWs; would sink legs 18" into ground so cannot be stolen; D. O'Brien feels this should be addressed at the Annual Meeting

Proposed locations will be brought to the December meeting; same bench as one in town of Hebron; will contact Andy Tierney/Hebron Town Manager for information on what they purchased

9. Calendar and Tasks – 2015 Meeting Dates will be submitted to the Town; Barley straw was removed by D. Martin and contractor; brush cutting is complete; D. O'Brien will have rough cut of budget for December meeting

Look at Lebanon taxes – Manion ROW should be reduced since used for Biox Station for sewers.

- L. Act on Remaining Items of Agenda....Old Business
Noting to discuss

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

Ray DeCormier wants to discuss how the current tax collection process works. Wants to require that checks are submitted and electronic files not be accepted from banks; wants to send returned tax bills to the attorney without researching possible correct address because it is too much work; Mark Paul and Dave Moorcroft both stated that processes and policies are not the same. If changes are proposed, what are the possible impacts and effects? Electronics is the future, we can't deny electronic files because we feel they are inconvenient; to be discussed again in December meeting.

Dave Bareiss introduced himself to the Board. He is interested in taking the open Director's position vacated by Sherri-Ann Martin. He will attend the next meeting.

Dave Moorcroft made a motion to go into Executive Session regarding a legal discussion. Mark Paul seconded the motion and all approved unanimously. The public left the meeting and the Executive Session began at 8:45 pm.

At 9:41 pm, Dave Moorcroft made a motion to leave Executive Session and Mark Paul seconded. All approved unanimously.

- N. Prepare Agenda for Next Meeting
Nothing to prepare.

- O. Adjournment

Dave Moorcroft made a motion to adjourn. Mark Paul seconded the motion and all approved unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:42 pm.

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