

AMSTON LAKE HEALTH COMMITTEE

Regular meeting September 4, 2019

MINUTES

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

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 7:06 PM. by Frank Hoisl.

Minutes of July 3rd meeting were approved.

Roll Call of members:

In attendance: Jeff Arpin, Dave Bareiss, Joyce Clark, Al Fichtel, Frank Hoisl, Les Parlin

Absent, Geoff Bright, Kathy Feldman, Kathy Garvie, Steve Reagan

Discussion I/A/W agenda established

- Bathymetry comparison
 - Jeff discussed comparing the 2 bathymetry maps we have to see if we can learn if the lake has had significant changes in the past 10 years. It was agreed to be performed but not a critical task. Will leave on the action item list until assigned and then completed.
- Stormwater report completion
 - This report was referenced a few times during the meeting noting its importance. Les noted he would be able to complete by the end of the year. We do see this as a living document but want to get it issued and available to the community to show the progress the ALHC has made.
- Northeast cove health- Expand to include, AER recommendations, history, next steps
 - Discussed AER Phragmite and Test recommendations,
 - (Action) Jeff to ask AER what proper tests can be performed to see if any sewer from the non-connected home is getting to the lake. Also see sewer connection agenda item
 - Discussed obtaining core samples for all dredged areas, Les noted a report he has information about on a similar effort at Andover Lake, After the meeting 9/5/19, Les sent an email with the study attached. Members of the committee feel Core samples are more informative than the recommendation of aerial shots by AER.
- Sewer connections, Jeff to attend Lebanon WPCA meetings
 - Joyce also noted she plans to attend the Lebanon WPCA meetings.
 - ALHC (Jeff, Joyce) to discuss getting the final homes connected using the list updated by Les and Joyce of the unconnected homes

- Failed septic determinations, Jeff to bring up at Lebanon WPCA meeting
 - See Northeast cove item above
 - (Action) Jeff to contact AER for the best means test the lake for failed septic contaminants.
- Lake boundary changes over the past decades (possibly from Bathymetry)(AER has proposed a recommendation we could consider)
 - After discussion it is very doubtful the lake boundary has changed.
 - What may have changed is the amount of homes and construction over the years but the group did not think it was significant.
 - The committee thought it might be helpful to review various pictures of the lake over the years,
 - (Action) Jeff took the action to send a link out that has this information. This is the site for reference <http://www.cteco.uconn.edu/>
- Fish study analysis (good progress by Geoff) Need most recent survey from DEEP, AI action
 - Jeff described the effort Geoff had done to get the information into a spreadsheet so various graphs and statistics could be performed
 - AI noted it would be months before we see the DEEP report for the survey performed 5/23/19
 - AI noted he expects DEEP to perform another survey early this winter
- Inlet sample analysis (need to sample more in spring) (because we need more inlet data) (Jeff added new data to spreadsheets and added some calculations of max, min, avg, mean, std dev., var calculated based on filtered data or all data)
 - Discussion of the use of Phoenix possibly causing sampling timing issues. Jeff noted we give them a day or two notice of a possible sample. This is at the same time the collectors are notified. Then based on weather, Joyce will decide when (what time) to collect and provides as much notice as mother nature allows. It was noted that the collectors should keep an eye on the weather so they are prepared.
 - Phoenix Labs is not open weekends and our Nitrite and Nitrate only have a 48-hour hold time before they need to be tested, this makes us unable to collect samples for rain storms from very early Friday (After 9 AM) to mid Sunday (Before 12 PM)
 - We need to do more sampling next year in the spring and if there is a lot of rain in the summer we can hold back.
- Deep water analysis (Jeff added new data to spreadsheets and added some calculations of max, min, avg, mean, std dev.)
 - Jeff sent the updated spreadsheet to the ALHC before the meeting
 - Jeff needs to start earlier next year collecting samples
 - Jeff noted we now need to collect two 1000mL samples for Chlorophyll at each depth in addition to the 5 other samples. This requires at least three samples from the horizontal Van Dorn Sampler at each depth
- Detention basins, (clean out results from 2019 spring)
 - Frank will ask, on action item list
- Flow estimation for all inflows (Jeff started to investigate instrumentation and calculations to estimate inlet flows)
 - Jeff noted this came from the NEAR report [1994-2012](#) as a required action and there is a relatively simple effort but will take some time. If we do this effort, we will need the complete committee to help.
 - It was noted that the stormwater analysis performed some time ago has maximum flow information and we could see how our values compare and

decide if it is necessary. Al mentioned as an example a high inflow of phosphate should be seen in the deepwater test.

- Understanding our historical records and efforts on the lake (updated spreadsheet from 2012 NEAR report Jeff issued) (need team to review and add data from 2012 and confirm previous information is correct and complete)
 - This is very good information but is not critical.
 - Should be completed so it could be input to AER lake management report
- Getting lake historical files on the web per the list Jeff created.
 - Dave noted he would host such a meeting.
 - Dave to send out recommended days and times for people's availability, Dave sent recommendations after the meeting 9/6/19 for members to respond
- Lake management plan completion, team to finalize 3 to 4 people suggest Al, Joyce, Jeff as a minimum, set up 1st meeting. It would take approximately 4 mtgs and believes approx. 25-30 pages could be removed.
 - Al noted has reviewed multiple times and is willing to modify the document with his suggestions. It was agreed to continue to use the track change feature so the committee knows what was modified. Jeff used this feature while creating the document so the committee would know what changed from the original document that Frank handed out at the 1st meeting of this committee.
 - The group will then meet to close on all the modifications
 - Al expects to have the document updated by October ALHC meeting
- Dam requirement needs
 - Frank noted he will follow up. A photo Library is required. Possible transfer to Beaches and Rows for a single contractor to manage activity.
- Catch basin proposal and drawing review, next steps to implement
 - We reviewed the drawing at the meeting
 - Joyce noted a copy was sent to Allison, Lebanon roads lead
 - (Action) It was agreed for Joyce to contact Joe PE to be our lead for any town interface. It was noted by Joyce that Joe is out of state for the month of Sept. He will be contacted early October.
 - (Action) Joyce will also ask about what are the minimum requirements to move forward WRT Permits, Town agreement, etc.
 - (Action) The committee also discussed slowing down the flow down Manion road by using silt fencing. Just should be investigated by the Lebanon Roads committee. Frank to invite Allison to a committee meeting
- AER letter review and action decision
 - It was agreed to follow AER recommendation on the phragmite excerpt below

Based on my visit and our internal discussions, our opinion is that you should continue to monitor that large stand of phragmites and any new satellite patches. Any additional spreading should be managed by cutting it. Findings from your continued monitoring of phragmites may warrant more aggressive management at a later date.

Reasons for that recommendation include the fact that the large stand does provide ecological values including prevention of soil erosion and habitat. If you were to treat that stand, you would probably need to revegetate that area to prevent erosion. The large stand of phragmites will not impact water quality. As noted above, it does stabilize that area and prevents soil erosion as would native vegetative cover.

You had mentioned that All Habitat provided a quote and/or a plan for the treatment of the large stand of phragmites. One of the services AER can provide is a review of the plan. We estimate the cost of the review to be \$200.00 dollars.

- (Action) Frank to issue an (update) email blast about the decision as an update to the email blast Sept 2018 notifying the community that DEEP confirmed the invasive weed was established in the NE Cove because there was a similar blast about the issue last year. Frank to use the information from AER in the email blast
- Joyce suggested the homeowner at #20 Deepwood be provided a follow up pertaining to the Phragmite from the Health Committee
- Action item review and update
 - Action items were not reviewed but were provided to all committee members before the meeting
- Additional Items not on Agenda that was discussed
 - Stormwater sample collector backups.
 - (Action) Jeff to ask Kathy Garvey if she will still collect and be a backup for AI
 - Lake Levels
 - Frank noted he still monitors and records on a spreadsheet, Jeff requested a copy to add to the information he is collecting about all our efforts
 - Frank to send lake level spreadsheet to Jeff
 - AI Noted that Carl has done this for many years but not sure it its recorded, Frank noted he would check with Carl
 - (Action) Frank to check to see if Carl records Lake levels and if so to get them to Jeff
 - Lollypop sand
 - A lot of sand over the years has eroded from the beach into the lake and in 2014 adding more sand was eliminated.
 - Some people have complained about limited sand on the beach and weeds growing
 - AI noted that his shoreline filling has stopped after the adding sand to the beach was halted.
 - The Beaches and ROWs should follow this but the ALHC strongly advises not to add any sand to any shoreline because it ends up in the lake.
 - One could consider additional protection right at the shore to stop sand from entering the lake

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 10:12 PM.

Submitted by Jeff Arpin

Open Action Item list on following pages

Action Item No	Action Owner	Action Description	Date Assigned	Action Closure	date completed	reviewed with Committee	Print for minutes
6	Frank Hoisl	Miriah to provide the health committee access to the lake management plan information that is not on the Amston Lake web site.	2/28/2018	Add Historical file to web site 1/9/2019 - See availability of Allison to meet with the health committee on Web info and access, also see actions 30, 31, 35 11/29/2018 - Structure of web site, Invite Allison to a meeting to review Miriah Kelly has resigned from the Board of Directors and as chairperson of the committee, so access to lake management plan that is not on the website will be postponed.		Yes	y
21	Frank Hoisl, Maureen Dagon	Plunge Pool cleaning schedule	5/2/2018	6/5/19 - Frank to get information from ROW 4/17/19 - Maureen noted this was completed, need to get results 4/1/19 - Discuss moving this task to another person 7/3/18 - Maureen to obtain from Brett details on the pool cleaning, how bad, disturbed areas, repair necessary...		Yes	y
29	All	How best we measure lake health committee progress, score card	6/4/2018	7/3/18 - Possibly how many times we inform the district of lake health conditions		Yes	y
31	All	Implement Action item 22 comments to Amston Lake Guide for lake management procedures and planning	5/12/2018	9/4/19 - Al noted he would modify the plan with his suggestions using track changes and complete by the October 2019 ALHC meeting. Then a group of 3 to 4 people would review and finalize. 5/1/19 - Al wanted to review Management plan and info on the web to see what the plan should hold 2/28/19 - Jeff completed Draft 2 of the document and send a google link to the ALHC for review, need to set up a review		Yes	y

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				<p>and comment meeting(s) 2/13/19 - Jeff to complete document revisions then present to committee for comment resolution 1/28/2019 Allison had document converted to a OCR PDF. Jeff converted to a Microsoft Word document and is in the process of updating, possibly should have team review sections. 1/9/2019 - Jeff to obtain price to get book scanned. Need to see how to convert to editable form (microsoft word)</p>			
45	Al Fichtel	See action item 40, waiting fish survey report	10/11/2018	<p>9/4/19 - Al noted DEEP is planning another fish survey late this year 5/23/19 - DEEP Did another fish survey, waiting results, Al noted it may be many months for report 3/13/19 - DEEP provided report, Jeff noticed on 3/27 the date on the report is 2018 and asked for a revision to correct, Fish report not on website 1/27/19 - Al contacted DEEP, they are shorthanded but report coming soon 1/9/19 - Frank will send Al a reminder to see if DEEP has the report ready DEEP Fish survey commenced Oct 7th</p>		Yes	y

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52	Frank Hoisl	Add ALHC meeting agendas and minutes to website so the community can see our progress	3/3/2019	9/4/19 - Jeff noted he has captured many but not all meeting minutes in the historical file so it can be used to add to the ALHC website 7/30/19 - Meeting minutes to include action item list (open actions) 6/1/19 June meeting minutes added to web site, need to add remaining		Yes	y
65	Hebron	CB and Vortecnic unit cleaning	5/1/2019	7/3/19 - Joyce to check with homes close to units 6/29/19 - Hebron cleaned CB and ALHC measured all CB's, Do not know about Vortecnic units		Yes	y
66	Frank Hoisl	Ask Anita how have we spent money on the lake and has it provided expected benefit	6/5/2019	Frank to ask Anita to send most detailed beaches and ROWS data to ALHC		Yes	y
67	Jeff Arpin	Continue to meet with Lebanon WPCA to get homes connected	6/5/2019	9/3/19 - 9/26 is next meeting, August meeting cancelled, show disconnected home living status 7/2/19- missed meeting, Town noted that most New Sewer Applications Received – 5 Scanlon Terrace, meeting minutes are available on Lebanon WPCA web site, 7/22 meeting cancelled, 8/22/19 next meeting 6/27/10 - WPCA meeting cancelled, Jeff to attend next meeting to discuss septic and homes to be connected Frank to discuss at June district meeting		Yes	y

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68	AER and ALHC	Meet to discuss Phragmite, Dredging, Lake filling in, Sewer issues	6/5/2019	8/23/19 - AER followup letter dated 8/22/19 issued, water quality acceptance criteria, Phragmite management, North cove, Historical land use, ALHC needs to followup with a response. See action 77 7/23/19 - Email from AER shown in attachment 6	8/22/2019	Yes	y
69	Frank Hoisl	Is Barley straw really Barley straw, Follow up on straw placements	6/5/2019	7/3/19 - Mike Smith, Sample of bale material to send to UCONN.		Yes	y
70	Jeff Arpin, AER	Define limits with AER of each of the sample data we are taking	7/3/2019	8/23/19 - AER followup letter dated 8/22/19 issued, water quality acceptance criteria, Phragmite management, North cove, Historical land use, ALHC needs to followup with a response. See action 77 7/24/19 - AER responded noting they would be providing limits in the report of initial 2019 data	8/22/2019	Yes	y

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71	Jeff Arpin, AER	North East cove health determination, how best to determine.	7/3/2019	9/4/19 - Jeff to ask AER what proper tests can be performed to see if any sewer from the non-connected home is getting to the lake 8/23/19 - AER followup letter dated 8/22/19 issued, water quality acceptance criteria, Phragmite management, North cove, Historical land use, ALHC needs to followup with a response. See action 77 7/28/19 - Jeff took sample measurements at various low water depth (1- 3 feet) NE cove points and noted between 0 to 8 inches to hit hard soils. Can get GPS locations if important. 7/23/19 - Email from AER shown in attachment 6, Still needs AER input		Yes	y
72	Jeff Arpin AER	Phragmite area modification on northeast cove, get GPS data to AER, it is not as large as defined in AER letter	7/3/2019	Prepared GPS map of Phragmite near 6 Deepwood drive and sent to team and AER 7/13/19. Coordinates are shown in attachment 5	7/13/2019	Yes	y
73	TBD	Compare Bathymetry for each period to see what can be learned	7/3/2019	9/4/19 - Discussed at 9/4/19 ALHC meeting as an important item to do but not critical to do immediately.		Yes	y
74	Geoffrey Bright	Compare Fish counts for each period to see what can be learned	7/3/2019	7/22/19 - Geoffrey provided results from known fish counts in a spreadsheet and graph. Need to consider adding new data when received and post on lake health web site.		Yes	y
75	Geoffrey Bright	Septic inspection criteria	7/3/2019			Yes	y
76	Frank Hoisl	Dam visual inspections with photos	7/3/2019			Yes	y

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77	Frank Hoisl	Respond to AER letter dated 8/22/19 and add letter to website	8/22/2019	9/4/19 - Discussed at ALHC meeting, Follow Phragmite recommendations and Frank issue email blast noting decision. Jeff sent link for historical pictures (Action 81) http://www.cteco.uconn.edu/		Yes	y
78	ALHC	Review Candlewood lake home owners guide to see if we want to issue similar information about Amston Lake	8/30/2019			No	y
79	Joyce Clark, Frank Hoisl	Catch basin install at Marion and Deepwood drive	6/1/2019	9/4/19 - Joyce provided an update of the communications and send an email on 9/8 identifying the discussions, Frank to invite Allison to discuss erosion slowdown, silt fencing, cost sharing. Previously Joyce provided detailed drawings to Allison Stec (Lebanon Roads) and Frank Hoistel (AL President)		No	y
80	Al Fichtel	Main Beach Ecoli test results	9/11/2019	9/11/19 - Al noted in a 9/11/19 email he had spoken to Steve Knauf at Chatham Health a bunch of times over the years, and he tells me that he actually grabs water from a few different spots at the Main Beach. Jeff asked if we could get data to review?		No	y
81	Jeff Arpin	Send link for Arial maps in Connecticut	9/4/2019	9/5/19 - Sent email noting high level directions for use and link for maps. . This is the site for reference http://www.cteco.uconn.edu/	9/5/2019	No	y

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82	Jeff Arpin	See if Kathy Garvey will be backup inlet sampler for AI, Locations H4,6,11,13	9/4/2019	9/7/19 - Kathy agreed to be backup, AI to text Kathy when he needs backup.	9/7/2019	No	y
83	Frank Hoisl	Provide Jeff with all lake level recorded to date, also get older data from Carl.	9/4/2019			No	y