

AMSTON LAKE HEALTH COMMITTEE
Regular meeting November 6, 2019, 7:00 PM

Minutes

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

Call to Order 6:58 PM

Roll Call of members:

Present

Jeff Arpin, Dave Bareiss, Kathy Feldman, Kathy Garvie, Les Parlin

Absent

Geoff Bright, Joyce Clark, Al Fichtel, Frank Hoisl, Steven Reagan

Approve October Meeting Minutes

Minutes approved

Manion Road Catch Basin design modification

Joyce was not able to attend but provided the following input via email.

Joyce discussed modified plan for Manion with Joseph E. Polulech P.E.

Joe thought of another critical issue regards the stormwater from Manion. That is the size and condition of the outlet conduit at the lake shore. As he recalled, the outlet conduit size is 12" diameter. Somewhere between Deepwood Drive and the 12" conduit, the pipe size has been reduced from 15" to 12". Since we will be adding more runoff to the system, the 12" outlet conduit will not be sufficient and will need to be replaced. Replacement of that 12" conduit with a 15" conduit should be done prior to installation of additional stormwater collection work along Manion. The recent design Joe completed at the intersection of Deepwood and Manion can go ahead with the construction phase however without replacing the 12" conduit.

Before Joe could give a price, he needs some additional information

1. Joe needs to know the total length of Manion Road requested for storm sewers. An onsite walk would be helpful with your representatives.
2. Secondly, Joe would like copies of the landowners' AS BUILT plot plans completed during the installation of the sanitary sewer lines (see discussion with Jay below) The location and depth of the sanitary sewer lines are going to be critical factors in locating any proposed stormwater system.

ALHC needs to let Joe know when we could arrange an on site walk and hopefully have the AS BUILT drawings of the sanitary sewers available at the same time.

Joyce visited Town Hall on 11/1 and discussed the project with Jay Tuttle.

Jay doesn't think the 'As built's' of each property are accurate. An abundance of documentation is required and would have to be requested thru the Freedom of Information process.

Jay indicated our current drainage is not maintained. He stated so many homes in the district have diverted drainage into the lake. He believes we are putting the cart before the horse. He suggests Upon new administration after the elections the lake representatives make an appointment with planning and zoning, Phil Chester. Explain our intent and a LONG TERM Plan of our roads. Let the town advise how they can partner with us. Jay also advised the current chipseal on Deepwood will not last forever and Deepwood will require work and the town must lower the current elevation.

The following items still need to be considered as discussions occur with the town.

1. Can the district install a storm drain at the end of Manion road or do we need to involve the town in the construction?
2. Should we create a full plan which includes adding drains going up Manion road?
3. Can we share the costs with the town?
4. Before we go to further can we get a complete cost?
5. Possible combination of road budgets with ALHC budget for design work going forward
6. Frank, Allison and Jeff to talk to Phil Chester to get his opinion on what could be done, Action 79

The ALHC agreed to approach the BOD for approval of the 1st phase with the Manion catch basin design as defined by Joseph E. Polulech P.E.

Remaining sewer hookup status on Lebanon side

Jeff reviewed the combined Lebanon and Hebron Sewer connection list. Both these lists came from the towns WPCA and were modified to enable ALHC to see when the properties were connected and which homes remained unconnected. (15 homes unconnected)

Joyce and Jeff attend the Lebanon WPCA town meetings and are working to get all homes connected.

The Hebron list was last updated in 2015 by the WPCA. ALHC needs to get this list updated to the current day then follow a similar approach as with Lebanon to get all homes connected. Kathy Garvie noted she could talk with the Hebron WPCA Chairmen to see how best to get the list current, (Action 86). (29 homes unconnected)

Plunge Pool Inspection update

Al Fichtel provided a detailed description of his review of the detention basins (AKA Plunge Pool) and his recommendations.

The ALHC reviewed the description and agreed with its content and the initial recommendations. Should start work on the Lollypop Catch Basin because it is eroding the most.

Les will investigate how to best use this important information in the Catch basin and ROW document he is preparing (Action 87)

Jeff to see if he can obtain the pictures Al took during his investigation (Action 88)

Lake Lowering for 2019 winter preparation

Frank Hoisl noted last meeting one Spillway board had been removed. The lake level started going down but recent rain has brought it back up. Need to see when the next Spillway board can be removed.

Water sample update

Storm water – last sample take 10/27/19

Deep water – AER noted the October sample was not required; no samples taken

AER year end reporting and presentation

ALHC discussed what the report could contain, Jeff to get a sample we can comment on. Action 89

ALHC believes the presentation should be before the BOD and ALHC

Lake Health Historical activity update

The team completed their initial run through of the document and various members have action items to complete. Once the actions are completed the team will meet again to update the document and decide the items we will continue to monitor and update.

[Dave reported about information in the 2009 Amston Laker \(Available on the Amston Lake website\) on item such as beach testing for bacteria, Northeast cove concerns, Algae in Amston lake, and the effectiveness of barley straw. This is a great article and should be updated and presented in a future Amston laker.](#)

Action 90 – Jeff to add Hebron Sewer information to the historical list

Northeast Cove E. coli testing plan

Kathy Feldman provided her detailed plan “Proposal for Fecal Contamination Testing in the north Cove” and walked through it with the ALHC.

1. Overviewed the phased approach
2. Reviewed the possible sample locations and the ALHC noted when they are collected, we need to get the GPS coordinates so if future testing is needed, we can sample the same locations.
3. Obtained pricing from Phoenix labs

There were comments about additional locations near lollypop, or near homes unconnected to the sewer that we need to agree on. Additionally, Kathy is to review AER and Steve Reagans input to see if it affects her plan. Jeff noted we should have enough funds to pay for the sampling because we sampled less than planned this season

Water Quality, UCONN communication

Kathy Feldman to discussed her email of 10/23/19 and will continue her discussions to learn more about Lake Health. Kathy provided a summary of the UCONN Graduate Student communications as follows

- 1) Unfortunately, the Graduate Student is too busy to be of much help to us right now (he is finishing up his Ph.D.) and there is no one else he knows at UCONN that would have the knowledge/expertise we need. He suggests we hire a limnologist that we can develop a long-term association with so that they get to know our lake. (we have already done that!)
- 2) He suggests we establish priorities. He recommends we specifically monitor HAB's (harmful algae blooms) and invasive aquatic plants. Once a year we should survey the lake for aquatic plants. He was very happy to hear that we lock up our boat ramp and inspect the boats since that is the single most common source of invasive aquatic plants. He says once these plants take over, he knows of no successful program to eradicate them so we need to be vigilant. (note: how can we control boats that don't go through the boat ramp?)
- 3) Water quality monitoring should take place monthly (using volunteers is OK for this) or on a schedule outlined by the limnologist (we already do this!).

Lake yearly Plant Survey discussion

ALHC, AER and the UCONN Graduate Student agree this needs to be performed every year and we need to make sure we are budgeted for it

Need to ask AER the best time to perform this survey, (Action 91)

Review and update action items

Items reviewed and updated, added to meeting minutes

Adjournment: 9:20 PM

Submitted by Jeff Arpin

Action item list follows

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	<p>Add Historical file to web site</p> <p>1/9/2019 - See availability of Allison to meet with the health committee on Web info and access, also see actions 30, 31, 35</p> <p>11/29/2018 - Structure of web site, Invite Allison to a meeting to review</p> <p>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.</p>		Yes	y
21	AI	Plunge Pool cleaning schedule	5/2/2018	<p>10/24/19 - AI researched Plunge Pool functionality and reported in an email. This will be agreed on and added to the attachments and summerized here and possibly in the storm water summary, see Aattachment 6 and action 87</p> <p>10/2/19 - No info this year, Add as effort for ALHC, take pictures of how plunge pool works</p> <p>6/5/19 - Frank to get information from ROW</p> <p>4/17/19 - Maureen noted this was completed, need to get results</p> <p>4/1/19 - Discuss moving this task to another person</p> <p>7/3/18 - Maureen to obtain from Brett details on the pool cleaning, how bad, disturbed areas, repair necessary...</p>	10/24/2019	Yes	n
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

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31	All	Implement Action item 22 comments to Amston Lake Guide for lake management procedures and planning	5/12/2018	<p>11/1/19 - Al suggested pages to be removed from document via email. Remove the following pages: 10,14thru16,34,35,39,42thru66,70thru72,96thru122,129,130,131thru141,152thru158,163thru End of document, Al also suggested we take this input and update the plan as appropriate. Al does not want to eliminate this information but suggests a smaller document for planning purposes</p> <p>10/2/19 - Al completed review will set time for group meeting, Jeff, Al</p> <p>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.</p>		Yes	y
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</p> <p>5/23/19 - DEEP Did another fish survey, waiting results, Al noted it may be many months for report</p>		Yes	y
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		Yes	y

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67	Jeff Arpin	Continue to meet with Lebanon WPCA to get homes connected	6/5/2019	<p>10/29/19 - Added Lebanon count of connected properties from 2013 to 2018 to Historical file</p> <p>9/26/19 - Attended meeting -Town to call a meeting of unconnected homes to plan connections, must connect</p> <p>9/3/19 - 9/26 is next meeting, August meeting cancelled, show disconnected home living status</p>		Yes	y
68	AER and ALHC	Meet to discuss Phragmite, Dredging, Lake filling in, Sewer issues	6/5/2019	<p>8/23/19 - AER follow-up letter dated 8/22/19 issued, water quality acceptance criteria, Phragmite management, North cove, Historical land use, ALHC needs to follow-up with a response. See action 77</p> <p>7/23/19 - Email from AER shown in attachment 6</p>	8/22/2019	Yes	n
69	Kathy Gravie, Frank Hoisl	Is Barley straw really Barley straw, Follow up on straw placements	6/5/2019	<p>11/6/19 - <u>Per Frank, -We have continued to use the same supplier and assume they are reputable.</u> Action item not completed but will be removed from list</p> <p>7/3/19 - Mike Smith, Sample of bale material to send to UCONN.</p>	Not Completed	Yes	n
71	Jeff Arpin, AER	North East cove health determination, how best to determine.	7/3/2019	<p>11/6/19 Kathy Feldman provide plan at 11/6 meeting. Will implement meeting minutes discussions and move forward with phased approach.</p> <p>10/2019 Kathy F and Steve R provided input on E. Coli testing, Kathy F to develop plan and present to ALHC and AER.</p>		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

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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.	Waiting on DEEP	Yes	y
75	Geoffrey Bright	Septic inspection criteria	7/3/2019	9/26/19 - At Lebanon WPCA it was noted that failed systems show external signs of sewage, if seen in the future to notify the town to deem the system failed	11/6/2019	Yes	n
76	Frank Hoisl, Jeff	Dam visual inspections with photos	7/3/2019	10/2/19 Jeff has pictures of dam construction from historical file, send to Frank		Yes	y
77	Frank Hoisl	Respond to AER letter dated 8/22/19 and add letter to website	8/22/2019	10/2/19 - Frank email blast reminder, Phragmite will continued to be monitored, AER notes keeping erosion in check 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	Need to have lead person assigned		Yes	y

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79	Joyce Clark, Frank Hoisl	Catch basin install at Manion and Deepwood drive	6/1/2019	10/2/19 - Frank, Allison, Jeff to see Lebanon town planner, Frank to coordinate 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 Hoisl (AL President)		Yes	y
84	Jeff Arpin	Jeff to document changes from 2018 Phragmite stake marking	10/2/2019			Yes	y
85	Jeff Arpin	Confirm all Hebron homes connected to Sewer, ask Hebron WPCA	10/2/2019	Hebron provided latest update of connected homes 2015, 315 of 344 homes connected, Jeff added to Lebanon sewer information and sent to ALHC 10/31/19	10/31/2019	Yes	n
86	Kathy Garvie	Talk with the Hebron WPCA Chairmen to see how best to get the sewer connection list current, from 2015					
87	Les Parlin	Les will investigate how to best use AI's Detention Basin inspection results in the Catch basin and ROW document he is preparing					

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88	Jeff Arpin	Obtain the pictures AI took during his ROW and Detention Basin investigation and reported on 10/24/19 email		11/08/19 - Sent email to AI for pictures			
89	Jeff Arpin	AER year end report sample contents					
90	Jeff Arpin	Add Hebron sewer connection information to the Amston lake Historical spreadsheet					
91	Jeff Arpin	Ask AER best time to perform plant survey and compare answer to past survey dates					
92							