

# AMSTON LAKE HEALTH COMMITTEE

Regular meeting December 11, 2019, 7:00 PM

## MINUTES

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

**Call to Order 12/11/19 7:06 PM**

### **Roll Call of members:**

Attendees: Jeff Arpin, Kathy Feldman, Kathy Garvie, Frank Hoisl, Les Parlin

Absent: Dave Bareiss, Geoff Bright, Joyce Clark, Al Fichtel, Steven Reagan

### **Approved November Meeting Minutes**

#### **Manion Road Catch Basin design modification**

Joyce to update on Engineer communications for full plan of stormwater erosion management based on October meeting minutes.

Frank discussed email communication with Phil Chester to get his opinion on what could be done, Action 79. Frank was requested by Phil to provide the detailed design to the Lebanon town engineer Brandon Handfield for review (Action 92. Frank also to set up a meeting with the town of Lebanon to discuss the phased approach (Action 93).

Kathy Feldman noted that the recent modifications to the road was working well and the water was not eroding and was being directed to the open culvert well

The committee agreed that the best approach was to implement Phase 1 (double CB) and understand that Phase 2 (additional CB doing up Manion) may be implemented at a future date. The costs of the complete plan most likely take many years to fund and the committee wanted to minimize soils entering the lake by at least implementing phase 1.

#### **Remaining sewer hookup status**

##### **Lebanon**

- Joyce met with Lebanon WPCA and in the new year they will plan the steps to enforce connections for all Lake residents

##### **Hebron**

- Sent summary of connections to ALHC and they were presented and discussed at the meeting
- Very few Hebron residence are not connected to the sewer. The remaining properties on the list provided by the Hebron WPCA are being investigated to see if they are outside the Amston Lake district. If the properties are outside the district, it is possible that all required Hebron Amston Lake connections are completed. This should be resolved by the next ALHC meeting

### **Plunge Pool Inspection update**

Les Parlin added Al Fichtel Detention Basin (aka. plunge pool) writeup and pictures to the "Amston lake Stormwater/Drains 2019" document along with many other additions. He has sent the document to the Committee for view (Action 94). Jeff had already commented on the document and after the meeting all Jeffs comments were resolved.

### **Lake Lowering for 2019 winter preparation**

Frank reported that all weir boards are removed. Frank also noted that the stainless-steel grating in front of the weir boards was removed to eliminate the issue of leaves clogging the grate. Jeff noted he would store the grate so it is not stolen.

Frank reported the following

2019 - First Board removed 9/30, second board removed 10/20

2018 - First Board removed 10/25, second board removed 11/30 then both boards reinstalled because lake still flowing the dam due to continued heavy rain. Reinstalled boards at a later date because concerned about the ice forming on the lake and the lake still flowing over the dam.

### **AER year end reporting and presentation**

Jeff report AER can present to the ALHC and BOD in 2020. AER noted they would simplify the presentation to make it understandable to an untrained Limnologist.

Jeff noted that the Candlewood report was provided and it was very detailed. Candlewood performs many more tests than Amston does because the condition of that lake is not as good as Amston.

Frank suggested the team think about a year end summary email blast for the teams efforts throughout the year (Action 97)

### **Lake Health Historical activity update**

Jeff noted that Anita Conner had prepared an Amston lake chronological history of Amston lake. Jeff took the relevant information from the document and put it into the ALHC historical table then send to the ALHC for review. Jeff has implemented the comments received to date.

Jeff noted there are a few actions needed to be completed by the team before the document is ready for one final team meeting. This meeting is expected to be in January 2020.

### **Northeast Cove E. coli testing plan**

Kathy Feldman provided a handout on the E. Coli test results that identified test conditions, test locations, test results as compared to state standards. All results were well within the acceptable standards. It was noted we most likely will reperform this test in the spring 2020 for one last datapoint. If the results are still low, we can consider the Northeast cove in a healthy condition.

We also discussed some future possibility of lake bottom core sampling to better understand sediment issues. Possibly after the bathymetry comparison action is completed this might be a good next step to better understand the lake.

AER notes Boron testing is \$8 per sample but this may not be needed if we continue to see low E. Coli results.

### **Water Quality, UCONN communication**

Kathy Feldman will continue communications and report anything she learns that is significant

### **Lake yearly Plant Survey agreement**

Jeff reported that AER mentioned that surveys are performed at different times of year because different plants grow at different times. Amston Lakes past surveys were performed in August /September but AER notes that an earlier survey would show other vegetation. The committee agree to a yearly survey but still need to understand better the timing to best understand our lakes vegetation. Possible perform one in Spring then the following year the fall then repeat. Jeff to ask AER to consider adding some recommendation in the yearly report (Action 95)

### **Budget preparation**

Frank noted he would send out last years budget for the team to review and provide comments as appropriate. Then we will discuss at a future meeting. Action 96

### **Dam Discussion**

Frank mentioned that he received the Google link of the 2006 Dam repair pictures and documents Jeff had sent. He also mentioned he was going to continue to document the Dams condition through pictures. Frank noticed a small flow of water on the dam opposite to the weir boards last year and will document and discuss with the past Dam expert.

### **Review and update action items**

Action Items closed (November/December): 21, 52, 69, 71, 75, 76, 77, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91

Jeff to added action items defined in these minutes.

### **Adjournment:**

12/11/19, 9:12 PM

Submitted by Jeff Arpin

Action item list follows

Action Item No	Action Owner	Action Description	Date Assigned	Action Closure	date completed
6	Jeff Arpin/ 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	12/13/19 set up meeting to review Historical file to be added to the ALHC 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.	
29	All	How best we measure lake health committee progress, score card	6/4/2018	12/11/19 - See Action item 97 7/3/18 - Possibly how many times we inform the district of lake health conditions	
31	All	Implement Action item 22 comments to Amston Lake Guide for lake management procedures and planning	5/12/2018	12/13/19 - Jeff sent reminder AI, Proposed resolutions OK? 12/2/19 - Jeff responded via email to AI's comments with suggested resolutions, need meeting to complete effort 11/1/19 - AI 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, AI also suggested we take this input and update the plan as appropriate. AI does not want to eliminate this information but suggests a smaller document for planning purposes	
45	AI Fichtel	See action item 40, waiting fish survey report	10/11/2018	12/13/19 - Sent note to AI about last survey results and late year additional survey 9/4/19 - AI noted DEEP is planning another fish survey late this year	
67	Jeff Arpin	Continue to meet with Lebanon WPCA to get homes connected	6/5/2019	11/21/19 - Joyce attended WPCA, starting in 2020 WPCA to start notifying unconnected properties of need to connect otherwise legal action will take place. 10/29/19 - Added Lebanon count of connected properties from 2013 to 2018 to Historical file	

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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.	
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
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	
79	Joyce Clark, Frank Hoisl	Catch basin install at Manion and Deepwood drive	6/1/2019	12/11/19 – See Action 92, 93 10/2/19 - Frank, Allison, Jeff to see Lebanon town planner, Frank to coordinate, wait until after elections	
92	Frank Hoisl	Provide the Manion Catch basin detailed design to the Lebanon town engineer Brandon Handfield for review	12/11/2019		
93	Frank Hoisl	set up a meeting with the town of Lebanon to discuss the phased approach of the Manion Catch basin	12/11/2019		
94	ALHC	Review the Amston lake Stormwater/Drains 2019 document	12/11/2019	12/11/19 - Jeff document comments satisfactorily resolved	

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95	Jeff Arpin	Amston Lakes past plant surveys were performed in August /September but AER notes that an earlier survey would show other vegetation. The committee agree to a yearly survey but still need to understand better the timing to best understand our lakes vegetation. Jeff to ask AER to consider adding some recommendation in the yearly report	12/11/2019		
96	Frank Hoisl	send out last year's ALHC budget for the team to review and provide comments as appropriate	12/11/2019		
97	ALHC	think about a year end summary email blast for the teams efforts throughout the year and provide input to Frank	12/11/2019		