

AMSTON LAKE HEALTH COMMITTEE

Regular Meeting

MINUTES

February 28, 2018 7:00 P.M.

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

A. Call to Order:

- a. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M.
- b. Meeting Minutes of 1/15/18 were approved as written
- c. Jeff Arpin would prepare the meeting minutes for the 2/28/18 meeting
- d. Introduction of new committee member Bob Blackmore
- e. Bob noted he was extensively involved in the Amston lake management in previous year up to 2016
- f. Roll Call of Members:
In Attendance: Frank Hoisl, Joyce Clark, Jeff Arpin, Kathleen (Kathy) Garvie, Maureen Dagon, Dave Bareiss, Bob Blackmore

Absent: Miriah Kelly (Chairperson), Amy Larew, Nick Salerno

B. Review activities of January meeting:

- a. Mission statement was reviewed and approved. It was noted that it is a living document and may need modification in the future as the committee learns more from taking data from the lake and from its watershed.
- b. Water Sampling Process
 1. Bob explained a little about deep water sampling at different levels in the deepest part of the lake
 2. Bob is trained on sampling and has performed water sampling in the past. Bob noted that there may be issues with the sampling sensors and they may need to be replaced. **Action 1: Frank will investigate sensor condition and modify the budget as appropriate.**
 3. We need to schedule water testing training for the committee members so we can start taking samples before the April wet season starts. **Action 2: Contact Dr. Knoecklein at Northeast Aquatic research for member training hopefully at our next meeting.**
 4. It was noted by Frank that the vortechnic unit was maintained and cleaned each May by the town of Hebron.
 5. Frank noted the town of Hebron is developing a watershed management plan that we should be aware of and review when available.

6. A discussion on beach bacteria testing was lead by Frank where it was noted that the testing results could vary tremendously around the lake and even at different sections of main beach. Normally samples are taken by main beach by Hebron using Chatham Health District. In the past it has been difficult to get Lebanon to perform bacteria testing at lollipop in a similar manner.
7. It was agreed that the results of any testing would be available to public of Amston lake.

C. Reviewed of historic water quality data

- a. Water Depth - Frank has been recording lake water levels by Main Dam monthly since September 2016 to collect data on varying levels. These levels were presented in the meeting presentation.
- b. Phosphorus levels - Frank also presented a water quality reading for Phosphorus concentration, Water Quality and Anoxic Boundary maximum accent depth between the years 2001 and 2012. Please see the meeting presentation for additional detail. Many of the readings were outside the recommended limits so it will be very important to see where the lake is now once we receive the 2016 report from Northeast Aquatic research in March 2018. This report may provide some guidance for testing this year.
- c. Reviewed the Amston lake drainage basin map to understand the areas we could take water samples. **Action 3: Committee members need to review the Amston lake drainage basin map in the 2012 report to select areas they can monitor at the start of rains and at specific times as defined by the committee.**
- d. Bob noted that bullhead were added into the lake in 2016 and that the fish count will need to see if the species is still in the lake
- e. Various lake fisherman noticed a decline in bass population. We will need to understand this issue and validate it if possible.
- f. Bob contacted Al F. by email on 3/1/18 about Al's knowledge of the fish count. Al F. said the last fish count was done in 2016. Al will get all his information together and email what he has. **Action 4: Bob to obtain fish count data and provide to the committee.**

D. Budget planning

- a. Reviewed the draft budget and it was agreed that the items seem reasonable. Frank will remove the Clean the Vortechnic unit line item because it is covered by the town of Hebron
- b. Additional information is needed for the line items and Frank will investigate
 1. Fish survey
 2. Dredging,
 3. 2 additional plunge pools
 4. Lake awareness class
 5. New (or replacement) testing equipment
 6. Water sample training

E. Next Steps:

- a. Provide Budget inputs (Frank lead)
- b. Set up Water sample training session (Bob/Al)
- c. Evaluate testing equipment (Frank)
- d. Assign water sampling leads (Each member defines lake area (about 3-4 locations per individual)
- e. Schedule and location to collect samples (at the start of rain storms and at times specified by committee)

F. Prepare Agenda for Next Meeting:

- a. Action item summary
 1. Action 1: Frank will investigate sensor condition and possibly add to the budget, Update budget per these minutes.
 2. Action 2: Bob to contact Dr. Knoecklein at Northeast Aquatic research for member training hopefully at our next meeting.
 3. Action 3: Committee members need to review the Amston lake drainage basin map in the 2012 report to select areas they can monitor at the start of rains and at specific times as defined by the committee.
 4. Action 4: Bob to obtain fish count data and provide to the committee. (email sent to Al)
 5. Action 5: Bob set up water sample training
 6. Action 6: Miriah to provide the health committee access to the lake management plan information that is not on the Amston Lake web site.

G. Adjournment:

- a. next meeting date is tentatively scheduled for 3/14, Frank to reserve the clubhouse.
- b. The meeting adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by
Jeff Arpin