

AMSTON LAKE DISTRICT

Board of Directors Regular Meeting

November 20, 2019 7:00 P.M.

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

www.amstonlake.org

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 P.M.

B. Roll Call of Officers and Directors

Present: F. Hoisl, B. Pelegano, A. Connor, L. Bowen, A. Stec, T. LaMontagne, J. Greenfield. Absent: A. Fichtel.

C. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

A. Connor moved to approve the October 16, 2019 meeting minutes, with the correction of the spelling of her name from Conner to Connor in item J4. The motion was seconded by B. Pelegano and two directors abstained. The minutes were approved as amended by the four remaining directors.

D. Presentation of Correspondence

1. A. Stec was contacted by a resident who said that after the private road she lives on was resurfaced, water ran down her driveway, which slopes toward the house. F. Hoisl will follow up with the resident and suggest that she install a small berm at top of their driveway. 2. J. Greenfield shared the sad news that state representative Linda Orange passed away today. 3. F. Hoisl was informed by ALA secretary Karen Sword that Colebrook Village in Hebron is featuring Amston Lake in their marketing, apparently unaware that this is a private lake. He sent them a letter asking them to remove any reference to Amston Lake and will continue to monitor the website. 4. Dockmaster Dave Arnold emailed and said that the Main Beach boat launch is uneven and difficult to use. B. Pelegano said he's reluctant to put any more stone in the lake. It doesn't need anything right now so we will continue to monitor the area in the spring. 5. Creative Landscaping, the contractor that did the Ryan Terrace ROW work, put down additional seed since grass was slow to germinate. 6. A resident said that a damaged tree needed to be removed in the Catherine Rd, Lebanon area. A. Stec contacted Eversource, who took the tree down at no cost to the ALD, and then residents removed the wood. 7. Several emails were received from people wanting to purchase boats if people don't claim them. 8. T. LaMontagne received several lake pass requests. 9. The District received a legal notice from the owners of 209 Deepwood Drive in Hebron regarding a house and garage to be built. E. Bowen will check the minutes of the November 12 P&Z meeting to see if it was approved.

E. Old Business – Discussion and Possible Action

A. Connor would like to get more information surrounding the circumstances of the accident in October where three Wesleyan students fell into the lake and had to be rescued. A. Stec said that Wesleyan was on a break at the time and students aren't allowed to be on campus when school is on a break. She also said that the Hebron Fire Department Facebook page reported that everyone was ok. F. Hoisl will follow up with Hebron FD to get more information.

F. Task List and Action Items

F. Hoisl reviewed the outstanding items for November and December.

G. Recognition of Guests, Residents, and Property Owners

Carla Pomprowicz, Hebron Town Clerk:

Carla described the process of archiving the ALD BOD meeting minutes and brought an example of the new volumes the Town is using. The minutes and agendas were kept in books, but the ink fades and the paper is subject to damage. Since our minutes are historical records and must be preserved, she copied them all onto archival paper, which is very expensive, but is the proper way to store them. Volume 1 goes back to 1998. She asked the CT State Library if she should also microfilm the minutes but since the town of Lebanon also gets copies of them, it's probably unnecessary. She suggested we check with the Lebanon clerk's office to verify what records they have.

Joyce Clark, 6 Deepwood Drive, Lebanon: She reported that there has been a leather couch out in front of 242 Deepwood Drive, Hebron for about a month and wonders if the BOD would consider doing something about blight in the District. She suggested sending an email blast telling residents that if they put things out at the curb and no one picks it up after a short period of time, that they be responsible and get rid of it.

John Arnestad, 13 Woodland Road, Lebanon: He said that at a previous BOD meeting, the idea of adding silt fencing to the beaches and ROWs in the winter was raised. This would help with sand erosion over the winter. He reported that the cost of the silt fence was minimal (under \$100 to install at Lollipop), and that volunteers from the Beaches and ROWs committee could install it.

H. Receive President's Report

F. Hoisl stated that the BOD is still looking for a new director to fill the empty seat until June 2020. If the person wanted to continue on the BOD, they would have to be elected by the residents at the annual meeting in May. Patty Arnestad, 13 Woodland Road, Lebanon, and William Ryan, 30 Deepwood Drive, Lebanon, presented themselves as candidates. The board opted to go into executive session at the end of the meeting to vote on the position.

I. Receive Treasurer's and Tax Collector's Reports

1. The Tax Collector's report has been posted to the website. 2. A. Connor had trouble posting her report to the website and in the meantime, she found a mistake that she will now fix before it gets posted. 3. For the October report, a few Phoenix Lab invoices (for water testing) were overlooked, as they were sent by email, so they will be posted in November. 4. A. Connor will be unavailable from December 28 until the first week in February. 5. F. Hoisl asked the directors to start thinking about budgets for next year – what might we want to do differently? 6. The Finance Committee welcomed two new members, with the possibility of adding one other member. F. Hoisl said that community involvement is good and that anyone who wants to join a committee should be able to join one. A. Connor said that at the last Finance Committee meeting they discussed the idea of posting full bank statements to the website each month, which had been suggested by a resident at last month's BOD meeting. Discussion ensued among the BOD about the necessity of doing this. The resident who asked for it will be

joining the Finance Committee and it will be discussed at their next meeting.

J. Consider and Act Upon Standing and Special Committees' Reports

1. Lake Health: F. Hoisl did not attend the last committee meeting and therefore didn't have a report, although the minutes of that meeting have been posted to the website.
2. Beaches and ROWs: 1. B. Pelegano reported that the last meeting was November 14. This is a big committee, with two stewards per area for the nine total beaches and ROWs. Each steward has been asked for a list of what needs to be done in the spring at each area. 2. There are only 7-10 boats left and the committee will be reaching out to the individual boat owners. The orange boat is still at Lollipop and the catamaran is still at Main beach. 3. There will be a cleanup party for the beaches and ROWs this Saturday, November 23. 4. The lake is in the process of being lowered and a beaver continues to build dams. In order to get a permit from the DEEP to remove the beaver, we'd need to prove that damage is being done. In the meantime, a contractor is removing the sticks daily and waiting for the trapping season that begins December 1. A wildlife removal company will try to catch and release at a cost of \$500 to set up the trap and \$150 per catch. 5. To date, the lake is down 5.5 inches, and trying to get down 12". It is still 3" over the weir board, but another board might be able to be pulled this Saturday. 6. The committee will spend up to \$200 to purchase and install silt fencing at the two beaches. An email blast will be sent to notify residents as to why it is there.
3. Security, Boats: 1.B. Pelegano stated that he has reached out to two new security companies for next year but received no response yet. 2. He'd like signs that warn people they will be towed if they park on District property without a pass.
4. Communications: 1. L. Bowen reported that she had confirmed the BOD meeting dates for 2020 and posted them to the website. 2. The minutes for the last two Lake Health Committee meetings (October and November) have been posted to the website. 3. An eblast will be going out tomorrow, November 21, with information about the fall beaches and ROWs cleanup on Saturday, November 23. 4. L. Bowen reminded the BOD that A. Connor had emailed a lake history document to the other directors late last month. She would like the other directors to review it before it is posted to the website.

K. New Business - Discussion and Possible Action

1. A. Connor would like to start talking about potential changes to the bylaws, and perhaps work on amending a small section at a time. 2. B. Pelegano has been working on redrafting the ordinances in order to pare them down and make them less cumbersome. A. Stec will convert the ordinances into a word document to help in that effort.

A. Connor made a motion to go into executive session at 8:45 p.m., for the purpose of voting on the new BOD member. B. Pelegano seconded. Executive session ended at

8:53, with Patty Arnestad being elected to the BOD.

L. Prepare Agenda for Next Meeting

Nothing to add at this time.

M. Adjournment

J. Greenfield moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:54 p.m., seconded by B. Pelegano, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted by,
Liz Bowen, Clerk
Amston Lake District

Please refer to subsequent meeting minutes for approval of these minutes and any corrections hereto.