

AMSTON LAKE HEALTH COMMITTEE

Regular meeting July 7, 2020, 7:00 PM

Minutes

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

Call to Order: 7:07 PM

Roll Call of members:

Attending: Jeff Arpin, Joyce Clark, Kathy Feldman, Kathy Garvie, Frank Hoisl

Absent: Al Fichtel, Teri Nixon, Les Parlin

Attending Guest: none

Frank noted that since the BOD elections that Teri Nixon will lead the Beaches and ROWs committee and will now attend as a guest on the Lake Health Committee.

Some Members chose not to attend due to the COVID 19 virus. Need to consider using some sort of internet connection at clubhouse meetings so all members can attend if they are not able to attend due to health or location (winter in locations not on or near the lake).

Approve May Meeting Minutes

1st Joyce Clark, 2nd Kathy Garvie, Minutes unanimously approved

Meeting minutes are put on ALH website after comment resolution of member present at meeting

Beaches and ROWs

- Updates to ongoing or future efforts
 - Frank noted he will update the new Beaches and ROWs chair (Teri Nixon) about Erosion control issues on Cove ROW and interface with lake health for similar items
- Pet waste
 - Received permission from the CT River Costal Conservation District to distribute the Brochure.
 - Discuss how to distribute, give out copies next year with boat tags; hand deliver to houses; email blast
 - Committee agreed the following were good ideas for distribution, Email Blast, Put in Display Cases around the lake, add to the Amston Laker, Put in the summary list on the new website layout for Lake health.

Erosion Control

- **Manion Road Catch Basin design modification**
 - June meeting between engineers occurred
 - Planning July Meeting with Town between JEP, ALHC and Lebanon Town for design comment closure
 - Town of Lebanon Phil Chester was asked to meet prior to 7/17 so JEP Engineering could attend (unavailable from 7/17 to November)
 - Phil requested to meet 7/21 or 7/28
 - It was agreed to attend a 7/21 meeting scheduled after 12 noon without JEP and Jeff Arpin would assemble a communication summary for us to use at the meeting.

- **Plunge Pool Design progress**
 - Civil Engineering A2 Survey progress for Lollipop
 - Frank noted that the pins were located and that the Surveyor needs to complete by visiting the town. Frank will get an update of progress (Action 101)
 - Elsmere, Complex and on hold
 - Future ROW design effort (hold until Lollipop show results)
- **Lebanon land conservation interface**
 - Les Update Action 114
 - Les was not in attendance but provided an email update captured in the action item noting the town expected to issue in August / September for public comment.
- **Barley Straw**
 - Inspections H11, H16
 - The committee all agreed there was little to no Algae this year anywhere in the lake.
 - Jeff was planning to replace the straw with new tubes but due to the lake condition will not add any new Barley.
 - Jeff has a little over one bale we need to store for next year and Frank noted we could store in the shed. Jeff noted he would also include the netting so we can use in following years if needed.
 - Kathy Garvie noted that the tubes at H11 were losing their straw and she had raked some up. Jeff will look at their condition when he removes to see the difference between the installation and when removed to see if we need to change how we contain the barley straw.
- **Dam**
 - Maintenance of emergency gate valve plan
 - Frank will look at possibly doing next week with Jeff. We will try to grease and move and if we have issues call in Carl.

2020 Water Test Program

- **Algae discussion**
 - Very little if any anywhere in the lake, Joyce noted a small patch (back pack size) near her dock in north cove
 - Al Fichtel noted this in an email; Filamentous algae growth this year is bordering on non-existent, Lakewide. Al waited to see if its growth is late for some reason, and guess that could still be, but the fact is there's almost none, anywhere that he has been recently. Nature is an amazing thing, when you consider the mess of algae we had here last year.
- **Barley Straw update**
 - Unable to see this year if it helped due to limited growth everywhere
 - Barley straw tube design may need revision based on condition when removed from the lake
- **Cove road area Aquatic plant update, (Al Fichtel)**
 - Al Fichtel provided an update by email; the plant has all but disappeared, there are a few small remnants of what was once a substantial area, but if you didn't know it was there earlier, I doubt anyone would ever notice it being there now. Al is still hoping to grab a sample with seeds that could help with a positive ID, but that's really not looking too likely
 - Kathy Feldman reviewed the area recently and it looks like the plant is being eaten because the leaves are gone but there are some (not many) stems around.
- **AER to Perform Plant Survey 7/18/2020**
 - Jeff noted he sent an Email to Liz Bowen about them coming and that a web blast to the community was needed, Frank noted he will follow up to see that it gets issued

- Jeff noted he has been working with AER on the requirements for a boat to be put in our lake and they have noted that the boat will be cleaned before the head to Amston lake. Al Fichtel has aged to inspect the boat on arrival (expected 8:00 AM)
- Approval of AER offer with delay in Bathymetry comparison
 - Frank noted he took a picture and sent to AER after he signed.
 - Frank will get the document to Jeff Arpin so it can be scanned for our records (Action 132)
- Fran Arpin will continue to support Deep Water testing this year
 - Jeff noted she is doing this because of COVID 19 and she is doing an excellent job going out every 2 weeks supporting lake health
- Deepwater tests performed on 5/7, 5/20, 6/2, 6/17, 7/2
 - Sample results have been good this year compared to previous years; Nitrite and Nitrate even with the lower limit implemented in the testing is still below the level we can monitor (very good the lower it is), Chlorophyll has taken a long time to test because Phoenix labs sends to another lab for testing. Jeff noted that AER can perform but getting the sample there in a refrigerated state may be difficult and expensive. Kathy Feldman will see if she can find other labs (Action 133)
 - Joyce has a cooler and ice packets left by Phoenix Labs for the next Deep-Water test.
- Stormwater testing performed on 4/9, 5/1, Limited rain fall to collect
 - Heavy rain is expected 7/10 Friday late but this is outside our Phoenix lab pickup period
- North cove *E. Coli* testing update
 - It was agreed to perform this testing, Jeff Arpin to order sample bottles for use by Kathy Feldman next week
- North cove versus other lake areas sediment measurement plans
 - Discussed how to perform. Jeff Arpin noted it was agreed that 5-6 volunteers could perform this testing but needed the help.
 - It was suggested AER perform the measurements, After the meeting Jeff Arpin forwarded an offer that the assembled at the request of the lake Health Committee in March 2020 by AER. Jeff also noted that measurements throughout the lake area would need to be performed for comparison purposes.

Remaining sewer hookup status (Tracking Spreadsheet updated)

- Confirmed #326 Deepwood Dr. Lebanon connected
- Covered in Action items
 - Jeff Arpin and or Joyce Clark will attend the 7/27 meeting. Jeff noted he typically sends LWPCA a note so they will be prepared to answer our questions (Action 67)

Lake Health Historical documentation

- Overview of effort to get on web site
 - Jeff Arpin presented the current ALH part of Amston Lake website
 - Jeff Arpin also presented his ideas for modifications so we could get a lot of our documents, progress and ideas on the website. (See the ideas at the at the end of these minutes) Jeff sent this document to the committee 7/6/2020 via email
 - Committee noted it was a lot of information but important. Jeff noted we need to all agree on the content and that he was not a web designer (special skills) but willing to help. The committee is to review the 7/6/2020 email and provided any and all recommendations to modify so jeff can summarize and present to the committee and the Liz Bowen for implementation.
- Review of Presentation (if necessary) and Spreadsheet sent by Jeff Arpin
 - The committee provided input on the modifications and we agreed to review in detail and send to Jeff after they have given it more thought

ALH Committee Membership

- Define Membership versus Guest status, Action 123 closed

Future activities

- Ordinances review and enforcement, remind us all of our rules
 - Jeff Arpin noted the information he sent to the committee was just noting that there may be some issues with the current ordinances and that someone should consider his comments as well as review. Frank Hoisl noted he would get a BOD member to lead. (Action 134)

Other item addressed not on Agenda

30 Deepwood Drive Lebanon weed kill last year was implemented by the home owner and Frank Hoisl noted the owner used Vinegar and Water as the solution. It was noted they did another weed kill at the lake shore again this year. Frank will investigate (Action 135)

Kathy Garvie noted she would take the Candlewood lake Guidance flyer on propose a modification so it can be used for Amston lake. The Committee thought that was a great idea. Will update action 78

It was agreed that the ALHC meeting dates and times to be added to the website because this is the only way the district get to know when the meetings are. All ALH meetings are open to the District

Action Items, review and new

Adjournment: 9:17 PM

1st, Joyce Clark 2nd Jeff Arpin

Submitted by Jeff Arpin

Web modification list and Action item list follows

Proposed Amston Lake Health Website update

Proposed Level 1	Level 1 Details	level 2
What You can Do to protect our Lake	ALH Mission Items from the Candlewood lake Items from the Amston Laker Any similar items Be a volunteer	
Analysis and reports	Yearly lake reports, by year Bathymetry Reports, by year Fish Reports, Summary and each report Plant Surveys, By year Aquatic Nuisances, Links to DEEP, Possible level 2 Current Year Testing activities and results, Updated monthly, level 2 Lake data spreadsheet, Updated quarterly (July, November)	Phoenix, ALHC, AER formal monthly results
Committee Activities	Agendas, minutes ALHC testing Efforts (will need breakout detail) Lake management Guidelines (when published) Barley Straw History and Effectiveness Historical Document Management Spreadsheet Lake Management History Spreadsheet This Year in summary Level 2	Lake level Algae Plants ?????
Erosion Control	Stormwater control - 2 major documents (Stormwater Conveyance, Les) ROW and Detention Basin efforts Manion Catch basin Design Lollipop Detention Basin design Catch basin measurements	

Action Item List

Action Item No	Action Owner	Action Description	Date Assigned	Action Closure	date completed	reviewed with Committee	Print for minutes
31	Jeff Arpin	Implement Action item 22 comments to Amston Lake Guide for lake management procedures and planning	5/12/2018	5/29/2020 - Changed Action owner from ALHC to Jeff 7/2020 - Agree to meet after Lake history efforts are completed	Hold until COVID 19 Passes	Yes	Yes
45	Al Fichtel	Work with DEEP to get fish tagged during fish count	10/11/2018	6/30/2020 - Al Sent DEEP a reminder for report for May 2019 fish survey		Yes	Yes
67	Jeff Arpin, Joyce Clark	Continue to meet with Lebanon WPCA to get homes connected	6/5/2019	Next meeting 7/23/2020 7:00 PM, Jeff send a note about connections prior to the meeting		Yes	Yes
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	Yes
78	ALHC	Review Candlewood lake home owners guide to see if we want to issue similar information about Amston Lake	8/30/2019	7/7/2020 - Kathy Garvie noted she would draft an Amston Lake Home Owners Guide based on the applicable items in the Candlewood version and send to the committee for comment 6/2/2020 - Keep on Frank still thinks this is a good idea, need a lead person		Yes	Yes
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	7/7/2020 - Phil Chester Lebanon noted his team could meet 7/21 or 7/28, JEP will not be able to attend, Jeef to request meeting on 7/21 starting after 12:00 6/28/2020 - Send reminder of meeting needed to Lebanon Phil Chester, JEP unavailable after 7/16/20 until November		Yes	Yes

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101	Robert Bielert	As a licensed Surveyor, Robert could survey the areas identified by AI that needed attention Action item 98. Robert would start with the highest priority item and work through them.	1/7/2020	7/7/20 - Frank noted Pins located, Needs to continue with the town of Lebanon land document review, will check on surveyor progress.		Yes	Yes
106	Jeff Arpin	How to monitor lake boating for Amston Lake stickers, state registrations and boating certificates (all motored boats)	1/25/2020	6/2/2020 - Frank sen a note to web master to send a boating safety message out to the district.		Yes	Yes
113	Joyce Clark	prepare future steps for Lollipop and Elsmere ROW designs and send to JEP engineering	3/3/2020	5/1/20 - JEP update - nearly completed the design for the Lollipop Beach Sediment Trap Site at the outlet of the existing 15" RCP near the lake shore. I am holding off on the design for its companion site along Deepwood Drive/Island Beach Road (catch basins and connecting pipes) depending on the discussions and decisions for the Manion/Deepwood Site. I will forward copies of the Sediment Trap design drawings to Joyce when completed.	On Hold	Yes	Yes

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114	Les Parlin	5/7/20 - Added Les to get an update of Lebanon's progress Initial - Add Watershed to the Lebanon Conservation Plan and send email describing the information he has captured through AER, Hebron and Lebanon	3/3/2020	7/7/2020 - town expected to issue in August / September for public comment	Initial closed 5/7/2020	Yes	Yes
116	Frank Hoisl	During the AER visit concern was raised over brush removal at Cove ROW near the area where water flows to the lake. The brush stabilizes the land so it does not wash into the lake. Frank will send the beaches and ROWs committee the lake health items we need to be contacted for	3/3/2020	7/7/2020 - Frank will discuss with new beaches and ROWs chair Teri Nixon 6/2/2020 - Noted at May BOD meeting. Frank to discuss with Brandon (Beaches and ROW lead) about erosion control with the contractors so they are aware of our concerns		Yes	Yes
118	Teri Nixon	Connecticut Federation of lakes membership, check what the benefits are for obtaining association membership	3/3/2020	June BOD - Frank noted will Join CFL as an Association 6/1/2020 - Teri joined as an individual member	Remove, Frank made decision	Yes	Yes
120	Frank Hoisl	get other committees to post agendas and minutes on the website	5/7/2020	6/2/2020 - Currently Finance, Beaches and ROWS produce meeting minutes		Yes	Yes

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121	Kathy Feldman	Kathy Feldman previously shared information about pet waste with the committee and will ask the author if we can share with the community	5/7/2020	7/7/2020 - Information will be sent to Frank to post on the lake health website	6/29/2020	Yes	Yes
122	Frank Hoisl	Maintenance of emergency gate valve, contact Carl Wool to assist in the maintenance because they have performed this function before	5/7/2020	7/7/2020 - Plan to perform in July		Yes	Yes
123	Frank Hoisl	Draft a note defining the requirements to be a committee member in good standing. We will use this to keep the committee active	5/7/2020	6/29/20 - Frank issued email on committee membership vs guest 6/28/20, 6/5/20 - Jeff Sent Frank attendance summary spreadsheet	6/29/2020	Yes	Yes
124	Frank Hoisl	Action to coordinate between Jeff and Web master on how to get historical documentation available to ALHC, BOD, General public as applicable (Old action 6)	5/7/2020	7/7/2020 - Committee reviewing Proposed Lake health Web format 6/25/2020 - Jeff sent Historical records update to ALHC that provides an example of a categorization scheme for review prior to next meeting for discussion 6/17/2020 - At BOD meeting it was requested the ALHC define the web structure and provide recommendations to the web master		Yes	Yes
125	Frank Hoisl	Remove the Ryan Terrace grass matting that is causing a tripping hazard	6/2/2020	7/7/2020 - Frank Removed tripping hazard and confirmed with the contractor that the netting will dissolve over the year. Frank has the specification for the netting	7/7/2020	Yes	Yes

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126	Jeff Arpin	Bring Lollipop design to the Lebanon Manion design review meeting	6/2/2020			Yes	Yes
127	Jeff Arpin	Request AER to visit Cove ROW to inspect the possible invasive plant, discuss how to remove, recommendations on who can remove	6/2/2020	6/23/2020 - AER planning Plant Survey 7/18/2020, take one possibly 2 days	6/23/2020	Yes	Yes
128	Frank Hoisl	Review AER north cove report for discussion at the next meeting	6/2/2020	7/7/2020 - Frank provided a summary and the AER report to the committee recommendation is to continue to monitor but that large stand does not pose issue to water quality. Also citing that large stand provides prevention of soil erosion and habitat area. Removal of stand would probably need to be revegetated to prevent erosion. Conclusion: Based on AER recommendation the ALHC should continue to monitor but no immediate actions required. 6/25/2020 - AER report excerpt to Frank	7/7/2020	Yes	Yes
129	Frank Hoisl	Address the construction that is on going next to cove ROW, doesn't seem to have erosion control in place	6/2/2020	7/7/2020 - Frank reported that hay bales were installed and grass is being planted.	7/7/2020	Yes	Yes
130	Frank Hoisl	Contact Brandon about discussing Erosion control with the contractors doing work so they meet the intent of AER recommendation of not removing plants around water courses.	6/2/2020	7/7/2020 - Frank will discuss with new beaches and ROWs chair Teri Nixon 6/2/2020 - Noted at May BOD meeting. Frank to discuss with Brandon (Beaches and ROW lead) about erosion control with the contractors so they are aware of our concerns		Yes	Yes

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131	Jeff Arpin	Check AER report for limiting storm water collecting to Spring and early Summer	6/2/2020	6/22/2020 - AER asked about future testing, they suggest one more storm water collection and look at the results to make final decision on future collections for the summer.	6/22/2020	Yes	Yes
132	Frank Hoisl	Provide Jeff the AER approved offer to be scanned into the hisorical records	7/7/2020			Yes	Yes
133	Kathy Feldman	Investigate other labs that can perform Chlorophyll testing	7/7/2020			Yes	Yes
134	Frank Hoisl	Assign a BOD member to review Ordinances and provide Input send by Jeff Arpin	7/7/2020			Yes	Yes
135	Frank Hoisl	20 Deepwood Drive lebanon is using a weed killer as they did last year, need to see toxicity and if they in Ordinance compliance	7/7/2020			Yes	Yes