

AMSTON LAKE HEALTH COMMITTEE  
Regular meeting March 02, 2021, 7:00 PM

Minutes

Zoom meeting

**Call to Order:** 7:01 PM

**1. Roll Call of members:**

Attending: Jeff Arpin, Joyce Clark, Kathy Feldman, Al Fichtel, Frank Hoisl, Les Parlin

Absent: none

Attending Guest: none

**2. Approve Previous Months Meeting Minutes**

1<sup>st</sup> Al Fichtel, 2<sup>nd</sup> Joyce Clark, Minutes unanimously approved

**3. Committee interface**

• **Beaches and ROWs**

- B&R meeting update
  - Smoking debris on Beaches
    - Kathy Feldman noted the B&R is setting up a small group of people to discuss the beaches during the start of the year to make recommendations via the information provided by Kathy about cigarette filter effects on water
  - Elsmere RoW looks like there is a “Sink Hole” issue at the water’s edge but it is believed its due to the low lake level and should be covered once water level returns
  -

• **Roads**

- Lots of sand on the Lebanon Roads this year
- Hebron roads seems to be using much more salt than previous years.
- We need to talk with the towns on defining the Amston Lake water shed as a “low salt area”
- Frank took the action to work with Amston Roads Committee and have a discussion with the towns, Action 159
- Also discussed the Towns yearly cleaning of the catch basins around the lake area may not be adequate, Al Fichtel took an action to investigate and acquire pricing for additional catch basin cleaning by a contractor, Action 160

• **Dam**

- Inspections
  - Evacuation plan
    - Frank reported he sent emails to DEEP and the Author of the evacuation plan to help decide whether to revise the plan or make an amendment.
- Lake level
  - Excessive rain still fighting against trying to lower lake level, it was agreed to keep the weir boards at the lake lowering level until the mid-March time frame.
  - Jeff asked what the next steps are for the lake lowering as a result of the documentation the committee has reviewed and summarized. It was noted the past Limnologist, Northeast Aquatic Research has noted that they at times agree with lake lowering and disagree with lake lowering other times. Based on the

information we have reviewed there are no plans to change the lake lowering plan during the winter months

#### 4. Water Testing Program

- **Deepwater Testing**
  - Both Kathy Feldman and Les Parlin noted they can help collecting samples.
- **Storm Water Testing**
  - Currently Jeff Arpin, Al Fichtel, Dave Bareiss will collect and Joyce Clark (when available) with Les as a backup as needed for sample collectors
  - Al Fichtel noted he may have others that can help and will check and report back. Action 161
- **Main and Lollipop Beach Testing**
  - Joyce closed her action on Beach testing, currently no Town facility will test Lollipop area
  - Jeff received *E. Coli* test costs from Phoenix Labs and currently has in the draft budget
  - Les and Jeff determined that testing of all beaches occurred from 2004 until 2010 and it was possibly dropped due to an attempt to reduce the budget by the Towns
  - Frank discussed possible liabilities of testing
  - A discussion why the town of Lebanon does not take responsibility as Hebron has because even if we are a private lake there are Lebanon tax payers/residence at this lake.
  - Frank will contact the town of Lebanon to see why they are not testing for the Lebanon residents. Action 162
  - Joyce will check to see if Columbia Labs will come and test lollipop beach, Action 163
- **Limnologist Updates**
  - Jeff has been in communication with AER responding to comments to support their proposal, Jeff thinks we should receive AER offer soon.
  - Amston Lake 2020 Water Quality Monitoring report issued and will be put on the website
    - A glossary was discussed because some of the wording may be too scientific for the general public. There was nobody willing to take on the development of the glossary. It was noted that during the AER visit if the public wanted a better understanding they could ask questions. It was noted that it is very difficult to write a technical report that everybody would fully understand and in today's technology terms could easily be Googled if someone did not understand a particular word. It was also mentioned that in the past NEAR reports were more readable but contained much less information.

#### 5. Aquatic Plant Management Plan

- **Plant Survey**
  - Amston Lake Aquatic Plants Community Assessment issued and will be put on the website
- **Algae**
  - No discussion

#### 6. Lebanon Sanitary Sewers

- **Connection Tracking Spreadsheet**
  - Joyce reviewed the on-line February meeting minutes, Subject had no changes, no additional connections reported

#### 7. Storm Water Control Program

- **Manion Road Catch basin design modification**
  - Meeting update with Lebanon town officials, Jeff Arpin
    - Jeff sent out information for a meeting, JEP sent updated design information to the Lebanon designer (Brandon Handfield) but we have not heard back. Jeff will continue to push for a meeting to make sure the town is in agreement before moving forward on obtaining quotes

- Jeff to note to the town we are trying to establish our budgets and would like to get the towns input on this design effort
- Funding was discussed and with the public's agreement in a special meeting we could possibly use the rainy-day fund and replenish the following year.
- **Detention Basin Design progress**
  - No update.
- **2020 Lebanon POCD Draft** (Plan of Conservation & Development)
  - It was reported after the meeting by Les Parlin the report was issued. See following link:

<https://www.lebanonct.gov/town-planner/files/2020-plan-conservation-and-development>

## 8. Watershed Management Plan

- **General Guidance for Property Owners**
  - Property owner ordinance violations
    - BOD to respond to violations
  - ALH Website updates
    - Frank will contact Liz Bowen on getting the web site updated with the lake health information. Jeff Arpin noted willingness to help.
  - E-mail Blasts
    - None
  - Amston Laker Input
    - Jeff provided "What is lake health" writeup to Frank
- **Historical Documentation**
  - Lake health summary history current spreadsheet
    - No changes.
  - Amston lake historical lake management files spreadsheet
    - No changes.

## 9. Fish Reports

AI is investigating the information on the tagged bass and will update the committee at a future meeting.

## 10. Action Item Review

## 11. Additional Business

- Benthic mat
  - Jeff developed a draft guideline from information from AI, Frank and on line searches he performed and sent to the ALHC for review. The committee needs to provide comments so it can be updated and presented to the BOD. Action 164
- 2021 Budget
  - Jeff sent the committee the draft ALH budget that includes everything except the AER final offer. Expect shortly
  - Jeff sent to ALHC last year's budget and current spend to December, No ALH spending in January
  - Jeff sent his communications with Phoenix labs and AER to the committee so we all have the same information for (July 1, 2021 – June,30, 2022) budget discussions

**Adjournment:** 9:27 PM

1<sup>st</sup> Les Parlin, 2<sup>nd</sup> Kathy Feldman

Submitted by Jeff Arpin

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

Action item list follows, Updates in RED

Action Item No	Action Owner	Action Description	Date Assigned	Action Closure	date completed	reviewed with Committe	Print for minutes
31	Jeff Arpin	Implement Action item 22 comments to Amston Lake Guide for lake management procedures and planning	5/12/2018	2/25/2021 - Meeting scheduled 3/4 to start review 2/2/2021 - Jeff to schedule meeting in February 5/29/2020 - Changed Action owner from ALHC to Jeff 5/7/2020 - Agree to meet after Lake history efforts are completed		Yes	Yes
67	Jeff Arpin, Joyce Clark	Continue to meet with Lebanon WPCA to get homes connected	6/5/2019	2/25/2021 - Both unable to attend, will review meeting minutes 1/28/2021 - Joyce attended but no quorum, LWPCA confirmed The Chairman indicated 16 on the list 2 connected, 2 permits pulled, 2 Uninhabital, 2 in Bankcrucpy Therefore 8 town action to connect 2/2/2021 - Al talked to her about supporting ALH meetings.		Yes	Yes
78	Kathy Garvie	Review Candlewood lake home owners guide to see if we want to issue similar information about Amston Lake	8/30/2019	12/08/2020, 11/10/2020 - Frank to see if Kathy has made any progress on the guide 7/7/2020 - Kathy Garvie noted she would draft an Amston Lake		Yes	Yes
93	Jeff Arpin Frank Hoisl	set up a meeting with the town of Lebanon to discuss the phased approach of the Manion Catch basin	12/11/2019	2/5/2021 - Meeting request sent out with documents, 2/16 - Town replied with open items, 2/16 - JEP responded with updates to design 1/7/2021 - Frank emailed guidance from Attorney, Cohen, Adam J,		Yes	Yes
113	Frank Hoisl	prepare future steps for Lollipop and Elsmere ROW designs and send to JEP engineering	3/3/2020	10/6/20 - lollipop Detention basin not on district property, Frank to discuss with property owner 7/21/20 - Lebanon had no input to the designs because not on town	On Hold	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	2/19/2021 - Reminder to move forward, limited backup space on ALHC member drives 12/13/2020 - Jeff sent Liz note ready to move forward, learning Wordpress 12/08/2020 - Jeff to start to work with webmaster		Yes	Yes
138	Kathy Feldman, Joyce Clark, Jeff Arpin	Need to get GIS coordinates of the E. Coli locations so they can be added to the AER final report so they are captured for any future efforts if needed	8/18/2020	10/15/2020 - team went to collect GPS coordinates, some points failed and will need to be taken again, very windy day. 10/7//20 - Dates set for 10/14 to get locations		Yes	Yes
140	ALHC	Committee review of Lake history document	9/17/2020	1/6/2021 - Sheet updated and sent to committee 12/29/2020 - Jeff updated history spreadsheet, may need update after AER issues year end report		Yes	Yes
141	Frank Hoisl Jeff Arpin	Safety Vests for ALHC volunteers	10/6/2020	11/10/20 - Frank saw many different vest types. Will look into a large size to fit over jackets.		Yes	Yes
147	Joyce Clark	Hebron has Chatham Health perform this test each Tuesday during the summer months. We need to obtain the results for our tracking purposes	11/10/2020	2/22/2021 - Joyce sent summary to committee, Jeff added to Historical files for future reference 2/2/2021 - Joyce received all input as of 2/2/2021 and will summarize to the committee	2/22/2021	Yes	Yes
148	Joyce Clark	Joyce will talk with the town of Lebanon and Uncas to obtain more information for Lollipop beach testing in the summer months	11/10/2020	2/22/2021 - Joyce sent summary to committee, Jeff added to Historical files for future reference 2/2/2021 - Joyce received all input as of 2/2/2021 and will summarize to the committee	2/22/2021	Yes	Yes
151	Frank Hoisl	Lollipop owner to be contacted to see if we can implement our detention basin design on their property. Will need to talk to our Attorney and get an easement documenting such agreement	11/10/2020	2/2/2021 - Frank has resident email and will send information about the lollipop survey.		Yes	Yes

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157	Jeff Arpin	research erosion control tube that we could use to help areas that are experiencing problems	1/5/2021	1/29/2021 - Erosion control Tube Fill tubes with compost to provide an effective solution to erosion control, while facilitating new vegetation growth for a permanent run-off protection solution. ... • Water easily passes through, while leaving silt and sediment behind. <a href="https://www.farmtek.com/farm/supplies/prod1;ft_ground_cover_iners;pg106443.html">https://www.farmtek.com/farm/supplies/prod1;ft_ground_cover_iners;pg106443.html</a>	1/29/2021	Yes	Yes
158	ALHC	Research Benthic Barriers	2/2/2021	2/21/2021 - Jeff provided a summary of input defined by Al Fictel and Frank Hoisl along with additional research and guidance for the committee review		No	Yes
159	Frank Hoisl	Work with Amston Roads Committee and have a discussion with the towns on excessive road salt (Hebron) and Sand (Lebanon)	3/2/2021			No	Yes
160	Al Fichtel	Investigate contractors for periodic cleaning of the catch basins around the lake area and the costs to perform	3/2/2021			No	Yes
161	Al Fichtel	Try to get storm water sample collectors to support or be backup	3/2/2021			No	Yes
162	Frank Hoisl	Contact the town of Lebanon to see why they are not testing Lollipop Beach for <i>E. Coli</i> for the safety of Lebanon residents.	3/2/2021			No	Yes
163	Joyce Clark	Check to see if Columbia Labs will come and test lollipop beach	3/2/2021			No	Yes
164	ALHC	Review and provide comments on the Benthic barrier guidance jeff sent to the committee. Frank will then report to the BOD	3/2/2021			No	Yes
165							
166							