

AMSTON LAKE DISTRICT

Board of Directors Regular Meeting Minutes

August 18, 2021 7:00 P.M.

Remote meeting via Zoom

www.amstonlake.org

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

B. Roll Call of Officers and Directors

Present: F. Hoisl, B. Pelegano, A. Connor, L. Bowen, A. Fichtel, K. Patterson.

Absent: J. Greenfield, T. LaMontagne, T. Nixon.

C. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes from the July 18, 2021 meeting (K. Patterson/L. Bowen) with the correction that anywhere the name K. Peterson appeared, it should be changed to K. Patterson. Three directors approved, one abstained, motion passed.

D. Presentation of Correspondence

F. Hoisl: 1. Sent letter to owners of 284 Deepwood, Lebanon, informing them of the possible ordinance violation for the two benthic mats that are in the lake in front of their property. The owners agreed to remove the mats and will seek permission from the board to install the mats next year. 2. Letter from Hebron Deputy Fire Chief Dan Huppe about holding a rescue drill at the lake with the Tolland County Dive team. They will get back to us with a date so that we can inform the residents. 3. The residents who were interested in donating the two lots on Deepwood Drive in Lebanon to the District were informed by the town that their total parcel was too small to subdivide, so they are unable to donate them. 4. A. Fichtel noticed a small leak in the main dam. Engineer Karl Acimovic will be at the dam on Wednesday, August 25 at 8 a.m. to inspect. 5. The property at 287 Deepwood Drive, which is partly located in Colchester, Lebanon and Hebron, is still on septic and not connected to sewers. The Lake Health Committee is going to follow up to see what can be done. This waterfront property also does not pay taxes to the District. B. Pelegano pointed out that the ALD technically owns the water, and suggested asking the ALD attorney if it would be possible to charge the residents to access the water. 6. The resident who had a lawsuit pending against the District has withdrawn their suit. **A. Connor:** Received a bankruptcy court notice regarding a resident, which she forwarded to F. Hoisl and Eileen Curtin. K. Patterson asked if the ALD had rights of first refusal for properties that were going into bankruptcy – B. Pelegano answered that there was nothing in the bylaws addressing that situation. **B. Pelegano:** 1. Email from Walt Saja with concerns about boats being left at Lollipop beach – B. Pelegano referred him to A. Fichtel. 2. Email from the Poole family who are unhappy with the shrub and tree trimming work done recently at Lollipop beach.

E. Old Business – Discussion and Possible Action

1. Welcome letter: F. Hoisl thanked K. Patterson, T. LaMontagne, and J. Matra, president of the Amston Lake Association (ALA), for creating the welcome package. K. Patterson thanked all the board members for their feedback, comments and edits. She reported that in doing research for the package some

inconsistencies were discovered across our print and online material regarding the size of the lake and the number of property owners. She has confirmed the number of property owners with Tax Collector Eileen Curtin as being 800+, and F. Hoisl will confirm the lake's acreage with Aquatic Ecosystems Research (AER). Discussion ensued regarding who to give the packages to and how to distribute them. The three members of this ad hoc committee will try to deliver them to new homeowners in person, but will mail them when that is not possible. In response to a question from L. Bowen, J. Matra confirmed that the package addresses the need for owners to come before the board and the town Inland Wetlands commissions before doing any work on or near their waterfront.

F. Task List and Action Items

F. Hoisl said he had a small list of tasks that should be completed each year after the season ends that he will email to L. Bowen for inclusion in the task list.

G. Recognition of Guests, Residents, and Property Owners

There were no guests or residents requesting recognition.

H. Receive President's Report

F. Hoisl will send K. Patterson a list of tasks that had been put together a few years ago that outlines both paid and volunteer tasks, to aid in researching the lake manager idea. K. Patterson said she would put some preliminary ideas together and bring them to a Lake Health Committee meeting to solicit feedback. The committee will be meeting the first Tuesday of the month beginning in October.

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

1. A. Connor said that Tax Collector Eileen Curtin is having computer software issues and had sent her report to the board as an email – if the problems continue A. Connor will create the report and have it posted to the website. 2. The July financials are on the website. A. Connor noted the percentages of taxes that were collected in July – for Hebron it was 51% and for Lebanon it was 53%, signifying that residents are paying their taxes on schedule and that we won't be adding to our receivables. 3. She has yet to finalize the fiscal year-end report – she had received one additional invoice and is still waiting for the final posted tax rate book from QDS so that she can make adjustments to balance the property tax receivables.

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

1. Lake Health: 1. F. Hoisl reported that the committee did not meet this month but that he, L. Bowen and resident J. Arpin met with our web person to discuss how to add all of the data the committee has been collecting to the website. They also discussed adding analytics to the website to see what people are looking at and what they are searching for. They will meet again on August 25.
2. Beaches and ROWs: 1. Committee chair T. Nixon was not at the meeting so there was no report.
3. Security, Boats: 1. A. Fichtel said he's not seeing any trouble security-wise. He said there are five boats that can be put in the auction. L. Bowen asked about the swim

raft that's been sitting at Lollipop for quite a while and wondered if we should add that to the auction. She will contact A. Fichtel for auction planning purposes.

4. Lebanon Roads: 1. B. Pelegano said he hadn't yet engaged a contractor to fix the remaining roads and is waiting on a quote from another contractor.
5. Communications: 1. L. Bowen asked the other board members if they had any ideas about how to get the physical copies of the newsletters in people's hands. K. Patterson said if we did start doing analytics on the website, it would be interesting to see how often the newsletter was read online.

K. New Business - Discussion and Possible Action

1. Duck pond dam: B. Pelegano met with F. Hoisl at the duck pond and noted that it's almost completely filled with weeds, to the point where the water is almost no longer visible. He suggested the other board members take a look at the area and asked F. Hoisl to discuss it with the Lake Health Committee. He would like AER to assess the situation. F. Hoisl said they also looked at the stone structure and the wooden deck over the duck pond dam which are both showing signs of deterioration. The concern is that if the structure gave way, it could clog the dam. He's going to ask Karl Acimovic for recommendations for companies to give estimates for repair or removal.

L. Prepare Agenda for Next Meeting

Nothing to add at this time.

M. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn (K. Patterson/A. Connor) passed unanimously at 8:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,
Liz Bowen, Clerk
Amston Lake District

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