

AMSTON LAKE DISTRICT

Board of Directors Regular Meeting Minutes

October 20, 2021 7:00 P.M.

Remote meeting via Zoom

www.amstonlake.org

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m.

B. Roll Call of Officers and Directors

Present: F. Hoisl, L. Bowen, A. Fichtel, K. Patterson, T. LaMontagne, T. Nixon.

Absent: B. Pelegano, A. Connor, J. Greenfield.

C. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes from the September 22, 2021 meeting (K. Patterson/T. Nixon). L. Bowen requested correction to item J.3(1) to remove the duplicate word "said." Motion to approve the minutes as amended (K. Patterson/T. LaMontagne) unanimously approved.

D. Presentation of Correspondence

F. Hoisl: 1. Received an email from B. Pelegano saying that repairs to the Lebanon roads have been scheduled for November 3 & 4. F. Hoisl would like to put some information for Lebanon roads on the website. 2. Resident at 209 Deepwood Drive, Hebron has a groundwater runoff drainage issue. F. Hoisl will talk to the Hebron town planner to discuss options, with possible use of a water garden. 3. In response to a request to install a benthic mat in front of their property, the residents at 430 Deepwood Drive, Lebanon were sent a form to fill out. When returned, it will be reviewed by the Lake Health Committee and the board. 4. Question about outstanding fees on a property that's for sale. F. Hoisl said he would only release the information to the homeowner. 5. F. Hoisl attended the "Cannabis in your District" webinar, but most, if not all of the information, was not applicable to running the ALD. 6. Received a thank you note from Hebron Deputy Fire Chief Huppe for allowing them to do a water rescue drill at the lake in September. 7. Request from a resident asking if there was a possibility to add more dock space. 8. Request from a resident to add a handicap-accessible boat launch. **A. Fichtel:** received weed samples from two different residents who thought they had discovered invasive weeds, but they were not invasive. He thanked the residents for caring about the lake.

E. Old Business – Discussion and Possible Action

1. Duck Pond dam: F. Hoisl and A. Fichtel met with two different contractors to get a professional opinion about what to do regarding the structure over the dam, which seems to be in disrepair. They have received one proposal, and hope to have the second in time for the November board meeting.

F. Task List and Action Items

F. Hoisl said we are already well underway with the October and November tasks – plunge pool cleaning, leaf raking, weir board removal, dock and boat removal – but he urged board members to look at the list to make sure nothing slips through.

G. Recognition of Guests, Residents, and Property Owners

There were no guests or residents requesting recognition.

H. Receive President's Report

F. Hoisl gave a shout-out to A. Fichtel for all the time and effort he's put into enforcing the boat ordinances. A. Fichtel recently coordinated the removal of 22 boats without valid stickers from the beaches and ROWs, noting that 19 of the boats had at least one warning sticker, and several had two. A. Fichtel said he is just enforcing the ordinances, so that we can ensure that any boat stored on ALD property belongs to an ALD resident. K. Patterson asked about the process for removing the boats and what the board does to identify the owners of the boats. Discussion ensued.

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

1. A. Connor was not at the meeting so there was no report. The financials will be posted to the website next week. 2. The Tax Collector's report has been posted to the website.

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

1. Lake Health: 1. F. Hoisl reported that the committee minutes have been posted to the website and encouraged everyone to visit the lake health tab to see all the reports and test results that have been posted over the last several weeks. 2. The committee expects to do one more round of secchi and dissolved oxygen testing, while stormwater and the bacterial testing at Main and Lollipop beaches are done for the year. 3. He hopes that Aquatic Ecosystems Research (AER) will visit the lake one more time this season to look at the water clarity. 4. F. Hoisl met with Lebanon Town Planner Phil Chester, First Selectman Kevin Cwikla, and Office Manager Bernie Dennier regarding the 10-year Plan of Conservation and Development and will meet with them again before the end of the year. He offered assistance from the ALD to help with any of the issues that would affect Amston Lake. 5. The committee seems to be on track with their budget for the year to date. 6. A. Fichtel said it's getting late in the year to schedule Sanitrol to clean out the storm drains, culverts, and plunge pools before the winter. Also we would need a location on ALD property to drop what has been suctioned out of the lake. 7. A. Fichtel is concerned about the lack of silt fencing on properties under construction in Hebron and also noted that a property on the north shore of the lake in Hebron has added a sizable amount of sand to their shoreline. He stated that all of this contributes to cyanobacteria bloom, and we now have something called Aphanocapsa in the lake. F. Hoisl will send a letter to the homeowner that added the sand.
2. Beaches and ROWs: 1. T. Nixon went over the committee's October meeting minutes, which are on the website. She noted that BOD director K. Patterson and Lake Health Committee member J. Arpin both attended the meeting. 2. T. Nixon reported that both the Lake Health and the Beaches and ROWs Committees have concerns about the town of Lebanon increasing the percentage of salt that is used when treating the roads in the winter. F. Hoisl said the goal of the Director of Public Works is to eventually use 100% salt and no sand. He will

ask if there's an opportunity for the ALD to voice our concerns about that practice in the lake watershed. 3. Four plunge pools have been scheduled to be cleaned – at Elsmere and Meadowbrook ROWs, Lollipop beach, and the one just before the end of the cul-de-sac on Deepwood Drive, Lebanon. 4. The fall cleanup will take place this year over three weekends, November 6-20. Volunteers will be encouraged to help clean the shorelines at the beaches and ROWs and a contractor will remove the debris at the end of the third weekend.

3. Security, Boats: 1. F. Hoisl will contact dockmaster D. Arnold to arrange floating the docks out for the winter at Main and Lollipop beaches.
4. Lebanon Roads: 1. B. Pelegano was not at the meeting but emailed the board about the upcoming repairs being done on the Lebanon roads November 3 & 4.
5. Communications: 1. L. Bowen will send out an email blast to make the residents aware of the dates for the Lebanon road repairs. 2. Proceeds from the four boats sold at the online auction was \$255. 3. L Bowen is beginning to update/edit the “best Lake Practices” and the intro letter from the ALD Handbook. Once they are completed they can be bundled together with the ordinances that were revised this summer. 4. K. Patterson reported that she mailed out six welcome kits to new owners (going back as far as April 1) and hand-delivered 18 more.

K. New Business - Discussion and Possible Action

Lake Manager: K. Patterson is working on a draft job description for a lake manager and asked that if any committee chairs want to give additional feedback, she will incorporate their comments.

L. Prepare Agenda for Next Meeting

F. Hoisl asked that the Dam Committee be added back to the agenda for November.

M. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn (T. Nixon/K. Patterson) passed unanimously at 8:13 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.