

AMSTON LAKE DISTRICT

Board of Directors Regular Meeting

February 26, 2019 7:00 P.M. (postponed from February 20, 2019)

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

www.amstonlake.org

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M.

B. Roll Call of Officers and Directors

Present: F. Hoisl, B. Pelegano, A. Connor, L. Bowen, B. Lederer, M. Dagon. Absent: A. Stec, T. LaMontagne, N. Nurge

C. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

A. Connor moved to approve the January 16, 2019 minutes, seconded by B. Pelegano, motion unanimously approved.

D. Presentation of Correspondence

1. Resident contacted the BOD to report that they received a notice about a fine on a boat that was not theirs. B. Pelegano will look into it. A. Connor stated that the District has only collected \$200 of the \$570 in fines that were billed. B. Pelegano will follow up.
2. An email signed by four residents asked the Board to consider switching the location of the longer "pontoon type" docks to Main beach because the current location at Lollipop is very weedy and a problem for the boat motors. Prior to the meeting, A. Connor discussed the situation with dockmaster Dave Arnold, who said the reasons they are at Lollipop include the space required and the depth of the poles that hold the docks in place. A. Connor will discuss a Plan B with Dave Arnold. F. Hoisl will also talk to AER to get their thoughts about a possible option of removing the weeds in that area.
3. A resident emailed with information from the Lebanon fire department about future fire protection, which will be discussed under Old Business.

E. Old Business – Discussion and Possible Action

1. Lebanon sewer non-hookups: This item was on the Lebanon WPCA's agenda for February 20, however the meeting was canceled due to the weather. The District wants to know what the town's plan is for the 20 properties that have not connected, only two of which are undeveloped.
2. Future fire protection: Resident Joyce Clark has spoken to Captain Schall of the Lebanon Fire Department, as well as Chief Olenick, who is the chief of dry hydrants. F. Hoisl said Chief Olenick will be invited to the next Lake Health Committee meeting. T. LaMontagne will chair a committee to investigate the feasibility of putting dry hydrants around the lake, starting with Lebanon, and then moving on to Hebron.

F. Task List and Action Items

1. From last month's actionable items, the two weir boards in the dam that had been removed were re-installed at the end of January. 2. On the February task list, many of the items will be discussed under individual committee reports. 3. A. Connor reported

that tax collector Eileen Curtin is in discussion with QDS, about updating the tax collection software and hardware. The laptops that the treasurer and the tax collector are using were purchased in 2013. 4. It is unclear whether or not the District is still under contract with last year's vendor for grass cutting, so M. Dagon will check after the meeting. Discussion ensued about putting out RFP's for a variety of tasks. 5. F. Hoisl reported that T. LaMontagne will take over the beach and boat pass distribution task from A. Stec this year. 6. L. Bowen asked the directors to have their newsletter ideas ready to discuss for the March meeting, and then content submitted to her and A. Stec by April 1.

G. Recognition of Guests, Residents, and Property Owners

Joyce Clark, 6 Deepwood Drive, Lebanon

1. She reported that she has spoken to the Lebanon FD and that they are eager to attend a BOD meeting. They can work with the Hebron FD to survey the lake and review the previous dry hydrant sites. Their expert on dry hydrants told her that the DEEP has a matching program, contributing up to \$2000 for each dry hydrant. 2. The Lebanon FD is looking for property on which to build a sub-station, with their best option so far being on Route 207, near Lake Williams. 3. She attended a public information session at Lake Pocotopaug where the lake limnologist presented results of their water testing. The scientists recommended that the most important issue was to clean up their watershed and limit everything that's coming into the lake. They also discussed lake aeration, although it is an expensive option.

Carl Wool, 182 Deepwood, Hebron

1. Regarding the dry hydrants, he stated that certain depth parameters are required to install them and that the depths of Amston Lake present a problem. 2. He provided a handout to the BOD including a letter from Joanne Wool regarding the taking of minutes, the Freedom of Information Act guidelines, and a copy of Hebron's Board Clerk procedures. 3. He stated that the chain at Main beach is very heavy and asked that we consider replacing it with the same type of rope we are using at Lollipop to make it easier for him or any gate opener/closer to handle.

H. Receive President's Report

F. Hoisl reported that we are in the planning period for the 2019-2020 budget, and A. Connor is working on a schedule for budget planning. The Board needs to do everything in its power to keep the budgets in check and he requested that everyone start thinking long-term. This year the District had some unplanned expenses due to damage at a few ROWs, and with regards to the ROW repairs, they should be long-term repairs, rather than just a quick fix.

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

1. A. Connor has issued the January financial statements and they have been posted to the website. The District is about \$7000 shy of its revenue goals for the year, so in an effort to encourage payments, Tax Collector Eileen Curtin will send out late notices earlier this year. 2. A. Connor proposed some formatting changes to the financial statements to make items easier to track – most importantly for the Beaches & ROWs and Lake Health Committees. She would like the directors to do the first pass at their budgets before the next meeting. 2. The Tax Collector's report has been posted to the

website. The report has an error. It states year-to-date collections are through December, but should read January.

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

1. Finance: A. Connor reported that at the last meeting, the committee discussed continued maintenance and repairs around the District and are working on setting up a format to track budget to actual expenses by area that anyone (future board directors) can follow. Next meeting is scheduled for March 12th.
2. Lake Health: 1. The committee is close to finalizing the Scope of Work with AER, before receiving their quote. ALD will still use resident volunteers to collect samples this year, but will be working directly with a local lab and can expect the results faster. The results will then go to AER for analysis. 2. This past weekend some of the committee members walked halfway around the lake with engineer Joe Polulech to look at the ROWs and plunge pools (anyplace water enters the lake), and get his recommendations. 3. The 2018 lake health report has been received from Dr. Knoecklein and is being reviewed by the committee before being finalized and published to the website.
3. Beaches and ROWs: M. Dagon reported that there is a subcommittee working on a maintenance calendar, as well as the associated costs. Jeff Hatch, 12 Lake Road, Hebron, and owner of Yard D'Tales, presented a proposal for maintenance and repairs to the Oakland ROW. He stated that catch basins catch the debris from the road, should have a sump, and should be cleaned regularly. Also, once the repair work is done, money needs to be allocated for maintenance. M. Dagon moved to accept his proposal. A. Connor pointed out that some of the items in the proposal were of a one-time nature to repair the damage caused by severe weather and some were more in the nature of recurring maintenance. Discussion ensued. M. Dagon amended her previous motion and moved that the District spend \$1650 for the maintenance tasks at Oakland ROW, B. Lederer seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved. M. Dagon moved that the District spend \$1658 for the one-time repair tasks, with no new sand added, no sand reclaimed from the lake, and the current sandy area not enlarged, seconded by A. Connor, motion unanimously approved.

Regarding the Ryan Terrace ROW repairs, the Lebanon Inland Wetlands Committee (IWC) is requiring a plot survey for the Ryan Terrace ROW, which has been completed at a cost of \$1800. The IWC is also requiring drawings from an engineer that will reflect the work to be done. The engineer that the committee selected will need to work with the contractor to design the repairs for the ROW. The \$1500 approved at the last meeting for this task needs to be increased because the quote from the engineer is \$2000. B. Pelegano moved to increase the allowance up to \$2000 for the engineer. A. Connor stated that between the survey and the engineer, we will have spent \$3800, so she guesses that this project is going to be costly. She believes that a special meeting should be held to get resident approval before continuing to spend-on this repair. A

special meeting would inform the residents and ask for approvals to spend money on these repairs. The officers will select a date for the special meeting. B. Pelegano withdrew his motion.

4. Security, Boats: 1. B. Pelegano reported that last year's security company, Aron, will not be increasing their prices. He is going to suggest some alternatives for their schedule this year. 2. The letter he sent to residents who did not remove their boats in time explained that they could either pay the fine or attend the February BOD meeting to plead their case. No one came to the meeting for that purpose, and less than half the people have paid their fines. B. Pelegano made a motion to suspend all beach and boat pass privileges for the residents that have had their boats removed and that have not paid their fines to date, A. Connor seconded, motion unanimously approved.
5. Lebanon Roads: A. Stec was not at the meeting so there was no report.
6. Signs: N. Nurge was not at the meeting so there was no report. However, F. Hoisl reported that N. Nurge will present information on a design for an enclosed bulletin board at the March BOD meeting.
7. Communications: The newsletter was discussed earlier in the meeting under Task List.

K. New Business - Discussion and Possible Action

No new business was discussed at this time.

L. Prepare Agenda for Next Meeting

Nothing to add at this time.

M. Adjournment

A. Connor moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:01 P.M., seconded by B. Lederer, motion 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.