

# **AMSTON LAKE DISTRICT**

Board of Directors Regular Meeting Minutes

January 20, 2020 7:00 P.M.

Remote meeting via Zoom

[www.amstonlake.org](http://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, J. Greenfield, T. LaMontagne, T. Nixon, B. Ryan.

F. Hoisl asked all those in attendance to observe a moment of silence to recognize the passing of resident Jeff Hatch, a true friend of the lake. Jeff was always willing to go the extra mile, and made a positive impact on the District and all who knew him.

## **C. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**

Motion to approve the minutes from the December 16, 2020 meeting (B. Pelegano/ J. Greenfield) passed unanimously.

## **D. Presentation of Correspondence**

1. L. Bowen received an email from a resident asking permission to remove a tree for firewood that had fallen near Main Beach. T. Nixon had the resident fill out the volunteer waiver form from the website, and he then removed the tree. 2. A. Connor received a follow-up letter from the Superior Court regarding the next hearing date.

## **E. Old Business – Discussion and Possible Action**

Ordinance review: F. Hoisl read ALD ordinance 2008.6(b) and asked whether the BOD thought a hearing was necessary regarding the benthic mat that was placed in a resident's waterfront last summer. It was agreed that a hearing was not needed since the residents have already sent numerous emails to the BOD explaining their position. The Lake Health Committee will research the use of the mats further and develop a protocol/ policy for their possible use in the future. The Board reiterated that regardless of the outcome of this incident, all residents must seek approval from the BOD each time they'd like to install anything in the lake.

## **F. Task List and Action Items**

1. F. Hoisl went over the task list and asked everyone to start thinking about goals and objectives for the coming year, as well as the first pass at budgets by the end of February. 2. A. Connor asked that we add an item to the task list for each March – a review of upcoming board vacancies, in order to plan ahead for possible recruitment of new members.

## **G. Recognition of Guests, Residents, and Property Owners**

John Matra, 265 Deepwood Dr, Hebron. As president of the Amston Lake Association, he asked if the BOD had begun making plans for 2021 pass distribution, as the ALA normally piggybacks their membership drive with the pass distribution. T. LaMontagne responded that it was still early in the year, but that he would share his thoughts about

pass distribution at the next meeting. J. Matra stated that the ALA thought that with the vaccine rollout, they would be able to start introducing activities by early summer.

Maureen Dagon, 144 Deepwood Drive, Hebron. 1. She sent an email to the BOD earlier in the day with a review of what's been done on the beaches and ROWs over the past six months. 2. She stated that there was a great deal of overcrowding at the beaches and ROWs last summer, brought on by people who were not from the District, and hopes that something will be done about that this summer. 3. She feels that the red "Warning" stickers that were placed on boats with no or expired tags only worked to a limited extent and she offered assistance from the Beaches and ROWs Committee in the effort to remove non-ALD boats.

#### **H. Receive President's Report**

F. Hoisl attended the Lebanon P&Z Zoom meeting about their Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD). It was the last public hearing to address the plan, which gives the town the ability to get discretionary funds from the state, and will be finalized by January 25. Jeff Arpin sent in a storm drain report that had been done by Les Parlin (both Lake Health Committee members) as another data point about the lake. At the meeting, Town Planner Phil Chester said that they appreciated the input and documentation from the lake district.

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

1. A. Connor reported that the December financials were complete and had been posted to the website. It was a slow month for accounting activity. No BOD members had any questions about the report. 2. The Tax Collector's report had not been received as of the meeting date, but A. Connor stated that collections had been slow in December and the first two weeks of January. She surmised that the last two weeks of January would be busy with people paying their taxes at the last minute.

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

1. Lake Health: 1. F. Hoisl reported that the committee meeting minutes had been posted to the website. 2. He said that they are looking for additional volunteers to help with stormwater testing this year. 3. The lake level remains high and continues to be monitored. 4. The committee is reviewing the AER plant survey and hopes to post it on the website by next month.
2. Beaches and ROWs: 1. T. Nixon reported that their last meeting was January 12 and that the minutes had been posted to the website. The meeting revolved mainly about work that remains to be done and asked that a blast be sent out, looking for contractors to help with maintenance and landscaping. 2. Security continues to be a hot topic and the committee believes that something has to be done about it for this year. 3. T. Nixon and committee member Maureen Dagon will have the budget proposal ready for the end of February. 4. They'd like to work with the Lake Health Committee on the issue of banning smoking on the beach. 5. There is a wall that has collapsed on one side of the Francis ROW and the committee would like to do a survey to see who owns the wall. F. Hoisl asked her to hold off because we might have enough information that a survey wouldn't be necessary. 6. A. Connor suggested that for tasks like boat rack staining that

don't require particular expertise, the ALA might arrange a group of volunteers for a "staining party" in exchange for a donation to the ALA.

3. Security, Boats: 1. A. Fichtel is sending out a Request for Proposal (RFP) to a list of security companies. 2. He has left messages for several residents whose boats were removed from ALD properties at the end of the season but has received few responses.
4. Lebanon Roads: 1. B. Pelegano reported that we've had only one sizeable snowfall so far. 2. He had a meeting with F. Hoisl and Lake Health Committee member Jeff Arpin to discuss possible drainage issues on one of the private roads. F. Hoisl said that he is trying to contact the town to make further suggestions about the higher risk areas.
5. Communications: 1. L. Bowen explained that the website has turned out to be more of a challenge to update than she expected and the original web designer has not been as available as she had hoped. This has delayed the posting of the Lake Health Committee data. She has some names of people who work with Wordpress (the website creation platform we are using) and will contact them about their availability. 2. L. Bowen suggested that we return to issuing a newsletter for 2021, with the possibility that it might only be online. She asked the other BOD members to begin thinking about what to include in the newsletter.

**K. New Business - Discussion and Possible Action**

There was no new business to discuss.

**L. Prepare Agenda for Next Meeting**

Nothing to add at this time.

**M. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn (B. Pelegano/A. Fichtel) passed unanimously at 8:37 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.