

**Lake Mansfield Improvement Task Force**  
**Minutes of Monday, May 15, 2017 meeting**

Present: Bill Cooke (Selectboard), Christine Ward (Citizen at large), Kathleen Triem (Citizen at large), Peter Franck (alternate Citizen at large), Gaetan Lachance (Conservation Commission).

Absent: Dale Abrams (Lake Mansfield Alliance), Brandee Nelson (Planning Board), and Parks Commission rep. (seat is vacant)

Staff Present: Shep Evans, Chris Rembold, and Sean Van Deusen

Acting Chairperson Christine Ward called the meeting to order at 8:35 AM at Town Hall.

1. Administrative Business:

A. Small edits were made to the minutes of 4/10/17. Cooke moved to approve the minutes of 4/10/17, Triem seconded. All were in favor.

2. Updates from Task Force representatives and the DPW

A. Ward said Lake Clean Up Day was a success. She said there is less litter than in years past because people who use the lake are much better stewards of the area. She reminded everyone about the science class trout release in June, birding classes in June, and yoga in July.

B. Van Deusen said the DPW fixed up the changing rooms, and new grills have been ordered and received.

C. Evans asked about phragmites removal and what the Task Force wanted to do. He said he would contact the consultant we used before and get a price quote. Lachance suggested the work might be covered by the previous Cons. Comm. permit, if it had not expired.

D. Cooke noted that Town Meeting approved the CPA grant to pay for the Lake road engineering work.

3. Lake Mansfield Improvement Planning

A. Rembold reviewed the scope of work envisioned for the CPA grant the Town received at Town Meeting. The project will be the detailed baseline engineering of Lake Mansfield Road, and it will result in a bid-ready design for an outlet structure. The Task Force discussed these projects. Rembold said he and Van Deusen hope the work can begin in July.

(a) There was some discussion about the outlet structure. Rembold said the general goal is to have a structure that allows the lake level to remain the same while also being able to deal with high water conditions. Evans said he would talk with the Mass. Division of Ecological Restoration (DER) to see if and how they could assist this process.

(b) Triem asked if anyone has thought more about seasonal road closures during busy recreational times. Franck suggested that the Engineer doing the work could be asked about this and that if the work requires partial closures that we take that into account.

(c) A citizen, who owns land abutting the lake, asked, if the road is not fixed, will the Town be liable if an accident occurs or a pedestrian gets injured. Rembold said the Town will look into that.

B. Rembold discussed the upcoming grant application due in early June for federal 319 grant funds (through Mass DEP) for the Knob Hill Rd storm water mitigation project. He said the cost of the project is estimated to be about \$342,000 and the grant would pay the bulk of that. The Town does have to come up with matching funds but that can include other work we are doing in the watershed.

C. Rembold said he has not heard back from the OFBA yet about the boat launch improvement plans. He said he believes the boat launch and Knob Hill can be done independently if needed.

D. Ward said she and Rembold met with a trail designer in the Lake Mansfield forest in April. She said he will be providing cost estimates to finish the accessible loop trail in the forest. She said the last time the cost was about \$17,000.

4. Citizen's Speak Time

- There was a discussion about safe walking routes into Town from the forest trail entrance at Christian Hill Road. One citizen said that road is very narrow and unsafe for pedestrians.

5. The next meeting will be Monday morning June 12 at 8:30. Lachance will chair.

6. Ward adjourned the meeting at 9:40 AM

Minutes prepared by: 