

Lake Mansfield Improvement Task Force
Minutes of Monday, September 11, 2017 meeting

Present: Dale Abrams (Lake Mansfield Alliance), Bill Cooke (Selectboard), Peter Franck (alternate Citizen at large), Gaetan Lachance (Conservation Commission), Brandee Nelson (Planning Board), Ilana Siegel (Parks Commission), Kathleen Triem (Citizen at large), and Christine Ward (Citizen at large).

Staff Present: Chris Rembold, and Sean Van Deusen

Acting Chairperson Dale Abrams called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM at Town Hall.

1. Administrative Business

Lachance moved to approve the minutes of June 19, 2017, Nelson seconded. All were in favor. Abrams passed out the meeting notes from July 10. There was not a quorum at that meeting so it was a discussion-only session.

The task force welcomed Siegal and thanked her for representing the Parks Comm.

2. Lake Mansfield Improvement Planning Updates

Rembold reviewed various projects underway and how they were coordinated. He said the road engineering is in its first phase now, with wetlands scientists and surveyors doing work now.

The task force suggested that staff do some informational outreach to the public because people were wondering about the blue flags.

Rembold said geotechnical borings of the road will happen soon and the road may have to be closed for a day. He said this phase of road engineering will figure out what needs to be done to correct drainage, stabilize the bank, and so on, and will establish how much room is left in the right-of-way for the actual road and recreational activities. A second phase of engineering could begin next year, if there is funding, which would develop actual road designs and lead to a decision of the road use, number of lanes, and direction of travel. He said engineering would last through 2018. In addition this phase includes 100% design of the outlet structure.

Rembold said Mass DEP will make announcements this month about the 319 grant for the Knob Hill work. If that is funded, designs would be finalized in 2018 and construction would be in 2019.

Rembold said the Mass Dept. of Fish and Game, Office of Fishing and Boating Access (OFBA) has sent the Town a "land management agreement" which is the prerequisite for the OFBA to make improvements to the boat launch. He said OFBA would carry out the basic design that we preferred, from the KZLA report, and we would be able to review the final designs. The task force agreed that it should be sent to the Selectboard for approval.

The task force asked that the Engineer come to the next meeting to present the base plans and to discuss the schedule of the rest of the engineering work.

The task force suggested the Engineer evaluate the road's existing conditions – is the road safe? Since it will take a few years finish the design tasks and actually fix the road, we may need to make an interim decision or interim improvements.

The task force also asked Van Deusen if there were any interim solutions for the Knob Hill stormwater problems and discussed paving the driveway aprons or diverting the runoff water. Van Deusen said there are some permitting issues and it could be costly to mobilize crews for this small area, but he would consider what might be done.

Ward said she and Rembold will work on a CPA application for funds to complete the accessible trail loop in the forest. If funded the work could begin in the fall of 2018 after the summer beach season.

3. Updates from Task Force representatives

Ward asked if DPW had the mowing guidelines. Van Deusen said yes and they are not a problem to implement. He said the mower is broken however.

Ward said the yoga sessions have been very popular.

Lachance said he would follow up on the phragmites control with Conservation Agent Evans. Funding and permitting need to be taken care of before work could begin.

Van Deusen said yield to pedestrian signs have been installed. He said material has been added to the parking lot to fill it in.

4. Citizen's Speak Time

- There was a comment the road should remain two way because it is a connection and means of communication between neighborhoods.

5. The next meeting will most likely be Monday October 16. Lachance volunteered to chair.

6. Abrams adjourned the meeting at 9:30 AM

Minutes prepared by:

