

LAKE MANSFIELD IMPROVEMENT TASK FORCE (LMITF)
Meeting Notes
March 13, 2017

Present: Dale Abrams, Bill Cooke, Nina Evans, Chris Rembold, Sean Van Deusen, Christine Ward

A quorum was not present. Those members present discussed the agenda items.

Administrative Items:

Minutes from September and October minutes could not be approved.

Christine welcomed the new DPW Superintendent Sean Van Deusen.

Christine referenced the Task Force charge of duties and membership list and the Task Force final report to the Selectboard from the previous year.

Christine said Kathy Plungis who is the Parks Commission representative to the Task Force submitted her resignation. The Task Force thanked her for her service. A new Parks Comm. rep. will be needed. Bill and Chris will remind Parks Comm. of this.

Nina said she is stepping down as well. She is the alternate rep. from the Lake Mansfield Alliance (LMA). Christine thanked Nina for her 10 years of dedication to the Task Force. She's written for the LMA newsletter, taken Task Force minutes, and has long been an engaged member of the lake community. The Task Force thanked her for her years of service.

Christine said the Task Force also includes 2 citizen-at-large members. She is one of them. The other, Deb Phillips, has submitted her resignation. She said Deb served for 10 years, first from the Conservation Comm. then from the Selectboard and most recently as a citizen appointment. The Task Force thanked her for her many years of service.

Christine said she has served as Chair of this Task Force for 10 years since it was established. While it has been her pleasure she would like to pass the duties to another person. She said she and Chris thought a rotating Chair person could fill in. That way it's not too much responsibility for any one person. Chris said he would help the Chair plan the next meeting and make sure meetings are posted. The Chair really would have to just run that particular meeting. Bill agreed to Chair the next meeting.

Chris said he will present an updated charge of duties to the Selectboard so the representation on the Task Force can be updated. For example, there is no need for DPW to be a voting member, and the Fire District no longer needs a representative.

DPW, Parks, and LMA Maintenance / Programming Updates:

Sean will begin coordinating with Berkshire South and Parks Comm as the summer season approaches to get the porta potties installed at the right time.

Christine said the Lake Day this year will be April 29. Usually the toilets are installed then. That is also the day the swimming ropes are installed. Then the weed fabric barrier can be installed.

Christine said there would be wood harvesting of fallen locust logs this coming weekend in the forest. The logs will be used for trail repairs.

Christine said a 7th grade science class project is raising trout. They might stock the lake with them. This would be in addition to the state's regular stocking program.

Lake Improvement Plan and Grant Updates:

Chris said he has been in contact with the Office of Fishing and Boating Access again and they are going to start coordinating for boat launch improvements. He said the Town will also apply for a 319 grant this year for the Knob Hill stormwater improvements.

Chris said the Town Meeting will be asked to approve the CPA grant request which will fund detailed baseline engineering for the roadway, including the lake outlet.

Christine said LMA and the Town would like to complete the handicapped accessible trail in the forest. It was planned as a loop but only half was built several years ago because of limited funds.

Citizen Speak:

Several citizens asked what the scope of the CPA engineering would be. Chris explained it will gather basic information about the road right-of-way location, pavement and road base conditions. He said it is not being limited to a one- or two-way road option.

A citizen wondered why drainage could not be directed from the parking lot to the outlet stream, and from whale rock south towards Hollenbeck.

A citizen notified the commit of potential EPA "healthy community" grant funding. Chris said he would look into it.

A citizen asked at what point would the road just become too dangerous for either the lake health or public safety. Sean said if it became so unsafe then the Town could be forced to close it. There was a discussion that the rough road surface makes people drive slowly which is a good thing. There was a discussion that filling potholes is not healthy for the lake since the asphalt simply breaks apart and ends up in the water.

Next Meeting: April 10 at 8:30

Adjourn: 9:40 AM