

HOLLAND LAKE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Minutes of meeting held on September 9, 2015

Called to Order: 7:06

Attendance: Chris McCooe, Eli Gillen, Lynn Arnold, Chad Brigham, Suzanne Wilbur

Absent: John Stevens, Dennis Allard

Old Business:

- E. Gillen made a motion to accept the vote of Chairperson and Secretary from the last meeting. C. Brigham seconded. Motion was passed unanimously.
- It was restated that meetings will be at 7pm on the first and third Monday of the month, starting in October. Next meeting is Monday, September 21st at 7pm.
- Finalized meeting minutes will be distributed to the other relevant boards in town.
- A previous version of the mission statement was obtained and revised. Revised mission statement is below. C. McCooe made a motion to accept the mission statement. C. Brigham seconded. Vote was unanimous.
 - The mission of the Lake Oversight Committee is to oversee lake and watershed maintenance and preservation projects by:
 - Working with the town boards and town departments to ensure that the lake gets the attention it needs.
 - Coordinating lake efforts with the FHRA, public and private sectors both from within and outside the town of Holland.
 - Exploring sources of funding and grant writing.
 - Initiating funding requests
 - Ensuring that we maintain town wide commitments.
- Reviewed short term goals, prioritized in order of importance and assigned action items.
 1. South basin boat launch repairs – Repairs need to be made to the asphalt. This issue is time sensitive as people have already begun to remove boats.
 - **E. Gillen** will get in touch with Brian Johnson regarding this, by the next selectboard meeting.
 2. Ensure safety of lake users – The north basin should have two floating signs, one with a speed limit and one reading caution. One sign has been missing and needs to be replaced. It was also suggested that additional bouys or markers be purchased to mark off the area around the dam.
 - **E. Gillen** will contact Brian Johnson and Brian Haughey about this issue and get a cost for these items from them. He will discuss this with them by the next LOC meeting for LOC action by November.
 3. Catch basin clean-up and retention basin clean up – Should be performed by the highway department in accordance with the methods and procedures outlined previously. Selectmen voted in previous meeting (9/1/15) to give the highway department \$1,100 to rent a vac truck.
 - **E. Gillen** will follow-up with Brian Johnson about a schedule for these cleanings by the next meeting.

4. RFP for state required dam inspection – Dam inspection needs to be performed in 2016.
 - **L. Arnold** will look into when this is due by the next meeting.
 5. Prepare RFP for next weed treatment
 - **C. McCooe** will look into when this is due by the next meeting.
 6. Inspect both causeway culverts – Concern was raised over Palmer Paving’s trucks heavy usage of Mashapaug Road.
 - **S. Wilbur** will look into how to schedule an inspection with the state by the next meeting.
 7. Prevent January fishing derby water level adjustments – Recommend this derby is held later in the year and make sure that the gate for the dam (allowing water to flow out of the reservoir) remains open.
 - **E. Gillen** will discuss this with Brian Johnson by next meeting and also be on the look-out at Board of Selectmen meetings for the permit for this tournament.
 8. Combat illegal parking at Fisherman’s Launch and the small causeway – Vehicles with trailers parking illegally on roadway. The signs designating the area as a no parking zone have either been stolen or rotted away.
 - **C. Brigham** will contact Brian Haughey about this by the next meeting.
 9. Address homeowner’s gating off access to public right-of-ways – The first step is to identify the right of ways in town and then compile a list of ones that re being restricted.
 - **C. Brigham** will contact the assessor’s office for a list of public right-of-ways by the next meeting.
- Since the last meeting, the following short term goals have been started or completed.
 - Dam clean-up
 - Determine date of annual drawdown – Conservation commission determined the date of the drawdown.
 - Two additions were made to the list of long-term goals. Discussion of long-term goals was tabled until the next meeting.
 - Long Term:
 - Dredging
 - Dam Repair – to structure and operating mechanism
 - Grants
 - Notice of Intent to draw lake down by 36” (current NOI is for 24”)
 - Explore revenue sources – Parking, dock fees, excise tax on boats, taxing deeded rights, betterment tax
 - Testing wells as needed
 - Testing septic systems as needed
 - Additional catch basins
 - *Enforce address signs on docks*
 - *Maintenance and repair of causeway culverts*

New Business:

- C. McCooe gave a report from the Conservation Commission:
 - Property owners or hired contractors cannot take anything out of the water or within 100 feet of the waterfront (buffer zone) without Conservation Commission permission,

even at drawdown levels. However, they are allowed to clean the waterfront and remove leaves without approval from the Conservation Commission.

- Repairing retaining walls or any equipment on the waterfront (for any reason) is not allowed without permitting from Conservation Commission.
- The Order of Condition for weed treatments is on file in the Conservation Office (#184-130). It expires in 2017 and can be extended.
- The Order of Condition for the drawdown is filed in the Conservation Office (#184-129). It expires with the weed treatment OOC in 2017.
- Conservation Commission writes a recommendation for the start of the drawdown and presents it to the Board of Selectmen in early September. Conservation recommends the Tuesday after Columbus Day.
- The Order of Condition permit that allows dam maintenance and cleaning around the dam is bundled with the road permits (Highway DEP File #184-0291). The work is to be completed as needed and the Order of Condition can be extended in September 2017.
- **C. Brigham** did some research into parking rates at other lakes. His preliminary results are below. He will continue his research with a few other suggested lakes (Sturbridge, Union, Coventry) by the next meeting.
 - Vehicle: \$30
 - Vehicle + Trailer: \$50
 - Bus: \$120
 - School Bus \$90
- The next meeting will be Monday, September 21, 2015 at 7pm. The agenda will include a review of everyone's action items and a discussion of long-term goals.

Adjourned: 8:26 PM

Respectfully submitted by,

Suzanne Wilbur, Secretary

C: Select Board, Conservation Commission, Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals, Highway Department, File