

ROGERS LAKE AUTHORITY
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF DECEMBER 21, 2010

A meeting of the Rogers Lake Authority (RLA) was convened at the Lyme Town Hall at 7:30 pm on December 21, 2010. The following members were present: Fred Holth, Chairman, Mike Sicord and Elizabeth Sunshine (Secretary) of Lyme, Dick Smith and Robert Recor, of Old Lyme and approximately 5 residents.

The Chairman, Fred Holth, opened the introduction of guest George Knoecklein. Mr. Knoecklein had been engaged to survey the lake weed problem to give us an understanding of the current weed conditions in the lake. Mr. Knoecklein gave a report of what he had found during his survey, and stated that he would like to complete the survey during the summer months when weed growth is at its peak. One of the major concerns is that he found a new invasive plant called Fanwort that is a very aggressive species and should be dealt with immediately. Overall the lake is fairly healthy; the nutrient levels, phytoplankton, oxygen, and clarity of the water are good. The problems lie with the shallow areas and invasive weeds. These invasive plants tend to alter balance because they grow much more prolifically and they change the environment in the water column by creating a canopy which cuts off light and makes the environment inhospitable for all other native species.

Mr. Knoecklein stated that the first undertaking needs to be a detailed survey and overall plan for the health and maintenance of the lake. He is willing to identify areas in need of attention, recommend methods of treatment and review treatment for efficaciousness. The Chair requested that Mr. Knoecklein in preparing his recommendation give equal balance to all possible treatment methods and consider ways for abutting property owners to counter weed growth such as the use of benthic mats.

Policing

There was much discussion in past meetings regarding the lack of ability to get adequate police patrolling on the lake. A volunteer has offered to take the course to become a dedicated lake officer. A motion to request funds for the training of a dedicated Rogers Lake Officer was made by Mike Sicord and it was seconded by Rob Recor and the vote was unanimous in favor of adding the cost to the proposed 2011-12 budget.

Budget

The proposed 2011-2012 budget was as follows:

Boat launch attendant		
Memorial day to mid September	360 Hrs @ 16.00	5,760.00
Monitor – Lake authority boat		
Memorial day to mid September	360 Hrs @ 16.00	5,760.00
Police Patrols		
\$750.00 by each town		1,500.00
Lake authority boat		
Maintenance		1,000.00
Administrative		

Secretarial Services	400.00
Media and additional meetings	250.00
Educational materials	200.00
Membership fee to CT Federation of Lakes	150.00
George Knoecklein	5,000.00
Police Training (cost per state standards)	TBD
Benthic Mats	<u>2,000.00</u>
Total Operating Budget for 2011/12	22,020.00

Plus the cost of police training TBD

A motion by Dick and seconded by Rob was presented to preliminarily (pending police training cost) approve the proposed budget for submission to the towns as stated above. The motion was put to a vote and passed by unanimous vote.

Sub Division

The Chairman discussed the fact that a comment from the RLA was requested regarding the effects of water runoff from the proposed 38 unit development on the North side of the lake well within the watershed. The chair discussed meeting with planning and zoning and the inland wetlands commission, who are the overseeing authorities, to discuss buffer strips around the development and the appropriate forms of plantings and water management tools to ensure that there is no run off into streams entering the lake. Mr. Knoecklein stated that there should be a no runoff policy, and that anything over a 20ppb total phosphorus would have an effect on the lake.

Draw Down

There will not be a draw down this year. This decision was made due to the low levels of water this year, the number of complaints received this year from the draw down last year, the fact that the majority of residents wanting to effect dock or wall repairs have already done so and the concern that changing the natural habitat may interfere with the study we are engaging George to do in the spring.

General Discussion

Attending resident Maureen Plumleigh requested a greater dissemination of information from the Authority. She suggested emailing to a list of related associations and asking them to participate. The recommendation was also made that the RLA, create a lake management plan, that sets goals and priorities for the maintenance and general health of the lake.

The meeting was adjourned, ending at approximately 9:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted



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Secretary for RLA
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