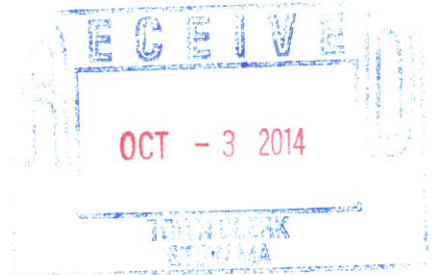


**Lake Boon Commission
Meeting Minutes
August 25, 2014**



A meeting of the Lake Boon Commission was held at the Stow Town Building, 380 Great Road, Stow, MA on August 25, 2014 at 7:30 pm.

Members Attending: Conray Wharff, chair
Lee Heron
Theresa O’Riorden
Absent: none

The Lake Boon Commission meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm.

Approve Minutes

Theresa read the minutes from the last meeting, June 25, 2014. No amendments were made. Lee made a motion to accept the minutes as read. Conray seconded the motion. The minutes from last meeting were accepted.

Recreation Commission and Pine Bluffs

Laura Greenough and Mike Busch were in attendance. Laura says that 6 kayaks, 3 canoes, and 1 bike boat are currently in use at Pine Bluffs. They have been in use by the summer camp program and kayak rental program for 4 years. Still River Outfitters used to rent boats to the Rec. Commission until they purchased their own.

Bare Hill Pond (BHP) Rowing approached Laura to run the program on Lake Boon. The Rec. Commission got some of the proceeds from that program. There were 4 shells and 2 chase boats. It started in mid spring (May/June) and has now ended for the summer. The beach is also closed now, it closes right after the Water Carnival.

The Rec. Commission allows Laura to schedule programs without them being approved at Rec. Meetings. The BHP Rowing group did teach the camp kids the basics of using the shell boats. The rowing community on BHP got too large to fit BHP Rowing so that’s why they approached Laura about Lake Boon. Harvard High School uses BHP for their rowing club and Harvard didn’t want outside residents to use the lake.

Mike Busch and Laura Greenough admitted to not reading the Lake Boon Commission bylaws until recently.

Camp kids are trained to use the kayaks and canoes. Renters sign waivers but do not get training on how to use them. Renters only put on a life jacket and are told that an air horn will blow if they are past their allotted time. If they don’t return the lifeguards call 911 and send out a canoe to search for them. There is no minimum age to rent a kayak with parental sign off. For camp kids, the age minimum is 7 to use the kayaks. Renters are charged \$5 for 30 minutes.

Don Hawkes said that he is disappointed that nearly 2 months has gone by since the beach was shut down and reopened and nothing has been addressed since then. Laura and Mike explained how they

tried to get a Rec. Commission meeting scheduled after she came out of the hospital. Conray explained that it was their job to come to LBC to get a permit, not LBC's job to come to Rec. Commission. Lee said there was a delay with the Selectmen in appointing our 3rd commission member (Theresa).

Conray stated that it's the LBC's job to decide what to recommend to the Selectmen as to what should be allowed next year. Laura said she is going to recommend to the Rec. Commission not to run BHP rowing again. But she does want to continue the rental program and camp use of the rental boats.

The Rec. Commission has been trying to get the rope swing tree cut down and have gone to Bruce Fletcher. Don Hawkes wants the residents to be able to use the dog beach to swim. LBC only has jurisdiction to the water's edge.

Mike Busch suggested that our boards meet more often. Rec. Commission has 5 members.

The LBC members discussed that the rowing club is not going to happen again next year.

Laura said she wants to add one more canoe to the fleet next year.

Lee made a motion: LBC will recommend to the Selectmen to permit the Rec. Com. To operate the summer camp and rental program subject to the prior 5 issues mentioned in previous minutes. Theresa seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.

LBC supports Rec. Commission's use of the lake. We will talk about this more in specifics after we receive a letter from the Rec. Commission asking us for permission.

Ice Eaters on Lake Boon:

The Koloffs have been keeping a large swath of ice open over the last few winters.

Conray wants the Selectmen to know that there's a problem. We need to talk to the Koloffs before they leave for the winter. Don suggests that a letter go to the Selectmen raising the safety issue with the example of the Koloffs, and cc the police and fire chiefs.

Patrol Update:

Lee is pleased with this year's activity on Lake Boon.

Lee submitted a bill for 80.5 hours for \$1,610.00. We need to talk about next year's budget. Don suggested a line order for contingency water testing.

8:55 Lee motioned for the meeting to be adjourned. Theresa seconded the motion. All in favor.