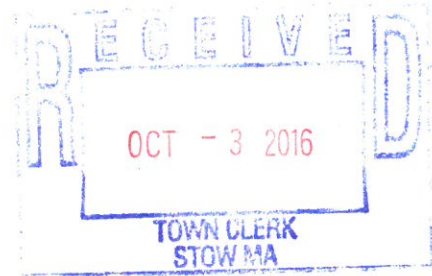


**Lake Boon Commission
Meeting Minutes
August 15, 2016**

A meeting of the Lake Boon Commission was held at the Stow Town Building, 380 Great Road, Stow, MA on August 2, 2016 at 7:30 pm.

Members Attending: Conray Wharff, Chair
Theresa O’Riorden, Secretary
Don Hawkes
Absent: none



The Lake Boon Commission meeting was called to order at 7:31 pm.

Fire Department Presentation

Don Hawkes introduced Chief Landry of the Stow Fire Department. He came in to talk about the boat sinking on Pine Point. He said the Fire Department does the initial response, they have some limited resources. But the Fire Department does not do the cleanup of the spill. They call the Mass. Environmental Police and Mass. DEP to take care of it if it’s anywhere near the water because spills can travel much faster in the water. They call Mutual Air or the State Hazardous Materials Team for remediation. Once DEP is there, they own the site and take care of the remediation.

Question from Kent about what to do when a boat flipped over in front of his house. Chief Landry said ^{to} call the fire department in the future.

Chief Landry said the immediate response at Pine Point was probably the correct move.

Don Hawkes commented about moving the leaking boat. Chief Landry said in the future to contact DEP before breaching the containment boom. Janet Styles talked about the speed of their response. Chief Landry said that the point of the containment boom was to absorb the spill. The boat should have stayed inside until the containment boom was lifted. He said it’s an offense to breach a containment boom.

Dick Gelpke asked who to call when there’s a problem. Chief Landry said if you live in Hudson, call Hudson Fire Dept., if you live in Stow, call Stow Fire Dept. He said the agencies work closely together. Conray asked if it was a serious accident would DEP send a crew to resolve it. Chief Landry said that if the spill is too big for the current contractor they would have upgraded the response team. Don asked if the LBC could be on correspondence for education, Chief Landry said yes.

Don suggested that we outline the protocol for future spills go in the newspaper and in the future marking off an area for boats to stay away.

Minutes

The August 2, 2016 minutes were read and amended. Don made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Conray seconded the motion. All approved.

Public Comments

Kent Seith, 11 Hale Road, wants to draw our attention to some swimmers in the narrows that were blocking the boat of his friend from getting through. The swimmers were taunting the boat while not allowing them to pass. Another recent reoccurring incident is swimmers jumping into a narrow section of the lake to prohibit a boat from driving quickly to wakeboard.

Hank Tarbi wants to talk about his buoy request from June 6 and what the erosion around the lake is doing to the trees.

Michelle Walsh wants to know if the tree is being removed. Theresa said that the Conservation Commission knows about it.

Kathy Flynn wants to bring up an incident she saw last night. There was a skier at the narrow point of the 2nd basin. She said the Commission boat pulled out in front of the skier. She thought that was uncalled for and unsafe.

Laura Diamond and Carolyn met with the police today to discuss and clarify rules on the lake. She questioned the 300' rule and swimming areas. The other issue is beach starts. Sgt. Sallèse said taking off from shore is not legal and will be enforced. She said Sgt. Sallèse said he was going to recommend that a no wake buoy gets moved to the narrow part at Indian Point. Conray answered the reason why Sgt. Sallèse was not there. He said what Don asked for on the agenda was different from what he asked for when they had discussed in advance of the meeting. Don had asked to talk about the Indian Point buoy, he hadn't requested to add "adding a no wake buoy" to our agenda. Those are two different buoy issues.

Georgie Smith wants to know what rules are being enforced. Conray said the police enforce the rules.

Peter Keller, 151 Barton Road, was the skier behind the boat the LBC cut off in the narrow area by Indian point. He said the LBC boat snuck out in front of them. He doesn't understand why the LBC boat would create a dangerous situation.

Steve O'Riorden read an excerpt from a 1995 letter to the LBC about the author believing people would die because of the chaos on the lake due to boats. He asked, how many people have died on Lake Boon in 20 years. This is history repeating itself. We have 2 patrol boats. We have a very safe lake. He measured the distance at the narrow point by Indian Point to be 320'. He wants to throw out all the LBC rules and defer to the state rules.

Michelle Walsh, Pine Point, asked are there rules being enforced for paddle boarders and Kayakers who go down the middle of the basin. If the swimmer or kayaker is dead, who wins?

Conray says 95% of the time no one is on the lake. There are peak hours where the lake gets busy.

Don says he almost hit a swimmer at night. He was going headway speed and the swimmer was towing a buoy but it was pitch back out. Swimmers need to be an advocate for their own safety.

Kris Krablin brought up the topic of dock labeling. They are going to be focusing on public safety to label docks. She has volunteers to hang flyers on mail boxes. She gave us a draft. See attached. Don said we would strongly urge the committee to label addresses instead of names and for people to use contrasting colors.

Dick Gelpke says Kris should go out on Sunday afternoons to talk to people on docks. Don strongly urged Kris to label the flyer with addresses, not names. Kris said she'd run it by the police before distributing it.

Subcommittee for Reviewing the Rules

Linda Hathaway said that vacancy notices need to be posted a minimum of 14 days before members are appointed for a formal subcommittee. Kris asked if there's any way the citizen group can get together without triggering open meeting law. Don knows the old town administrator from the Town of Hudson. He will ask him.

We are going to wait for Linda Hathaway to decide how our working group can get together legally without having to become an official working group and complying with ~~town~~^{open} meeting.

LBC Boat, Seasonal Buoys, and Budget

Conray said police have asked the LBC boat to be grounded until LBC safety officer resolves some problems.

Conray was asked about the seasonal buoy removal. He said that we will do the buoy removal at our discretion.

Don asked when the trailer was purchased. Conray explained the timeline of how the ~~boat~~^{trailer} was purchased.

Don wants reflected in the minutes that the town of Stow has always been the one to handle the administration of the LBC budget. Conray explained that because of the weed funding things have changed in the decades since Don was on the LBC. Expenses and wages are separated. In Hudson it's different. We can spend our budget however we want.

Don wants to see the meeting minutes where the LBC approved the purchase of a trailer.

Henri Tarbi has a red buoy in front of his house that may/may not be approved. He wants to place 2 LBC buoys in front of his house to protect his property from waves. Don wants to wait to discuss the buoy before next summer. We are going to discuss buoy placement at the next meeting.

Conray apologized to Don for misunderstanding the agenda request for the buoys at Indian point.

9:48 Theresa made a motion for the meeting to adjourn. Conray seconded the motion. All in favor.

LAKE BOON PUBLIC SAFETY NOTICE

ISSUED: AUGUST 2016

The Stow and Hudson Police & Fire Departments are urgently requesting that all Lake Boon waterfront property owners have their street address &/or name prominently visible from the lake, year-round, using lettering at least 3 inches in height.

This is a safety issue because emergency services may need to be alerted from someone on the water/ice, and a first responder could be arriving via the lake itself (rather than from the street). Without markings indicating the address &/or the owner of the closest shore property, the timely arrival of first responders may be delayed.

If you have questions regarding this urgent request, please contact a member of the Lake Boon Commission for clarification:

- Conray Wharff - ..email & phone?
- Theresa O'Riorden - ..email & phone?
- Don Hawkes - ..email & phone?

FREE LOTTERY! ALL HOMES APPROPRIATELY MARKED FROM THE WATERFRONT BY SEPT 30 2016 WILL BE ENTERED IN A LOTTERY, AND 3 LUCKY WINNERS WILL RECEIVE A FREE LAKE BOON T-SHIRT.

(DONATED BY THE LAKE BOON ASSOCIATION)