



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Town of Southwick

Lake Management Committee

454 COLLEGE HIGHWAY, SOUTHWICK, MA 01077
Telephone (413) 569-0515 Fax (413) 569-0515

Minutes of meeting held August 10, 2017, 7:00 P.M. at Town Hall College Highway, Southwick, MA, with attendance as follows:

		Voting	Present	Absent
Mike Coombs	Member	Yes	X	
Malcolm DeBay	Member	Yes	X	
Mike DeBay	Member	Yes	X	
Dick Grannells	Chair	Yes	X	
Scotty Graves	Member	Yes	X	
Sue Hepburn	Secretary	No	X	
Deborah Herath	Member	Yes	X	
Eric Mueller	Vice-Chair	Yes	X	
Ken Phillips	Member	Yes	X	
Steve Schmid	Member	No		X
Rick Wylot	Member	Yes	X	

Guest(s): Greg Fitzpatrick - Westfield News Reporter

- 1. Scotty made a motion to accept the minutes from the June 22, 2017. Deb seconded, all were in favor and the motion passed.**
- 2. Scotty made a motion to accept the minutes from the July 13, 2017. Ken seconded, all were in favor and the motion passed.**
- 3. 86 Point Grove Docks – Con Com is going to go out and do some of their own measuring of these docks.**
- 4. 70 Sunset Dr Docks – It appears that they will need an LPP Variance, because their dock is 120' long with a lift that is 10' wide by 24' long. Eric drew a sketch of their layout and Mike D showed us an actual photograph of their entire dock system. Dick will notify the Schmidts of the need for a Variance.**
- 5. Harbormaster – Mike D. made a motion to recommend to the Select Board that any new harbormaster needs to be qualified according to the State Laws governing Harbormasters. Furthermore, the LMC recommends that every officer patrolling the lakes needs to pass the Massachusetts Boating Safety Course. Eric seconded the motion, all were in favor and the motion passed.**
- 6. Trash Removal – Frank LaBranche has been removing our trash from the ramps for many years now. He not only does a wonderful job, but he takes the time to remove many of the cans and bottles from trash bags so that we can recycle them. I call that going Way Above his job description! Thanks Frank for being so amazing! You will be missed, but you deserve many years of true retirement!! Rick Solek will be taking on the trash removal job. Welcome to the team Rick Solek!**

7. Boat Gatherings Complaint – A local lake resident made a complaint about the massive amounts of boats that tie up together at various locations around the lakes. Members noted that they have observed as many as 56 boats moored together in the northeastern part of North Pond and 15 to 20 in the southeastern corner of South Pond. There are also gatherings in Middle Pond at the sand bar and the cove ~0.5 mile from the state line. This resident and LMC members are concerned about where these boaters are going to the bathroom and proper trash disposal among other issues. Another concern is the discharge of human waste from toilets (that are required to be sealed) on cabin cruisers and houseboats on Congamond and also from those who are tied up for hours at a time in these boat clusters. The Harbormaster, Dennis, Dick, Chris Pratt, and a Rep from the Board of Health will soon be meeting about this issue.
8. Alum Treatment - Dick provided a copy of the Select Board's recent letter to legislators regarding expeditious funding of the alum treatment.
9. North Pond PWCs - Members are unsure as to the current policy and enforcement of same as PWCs have been seen being operated on and also towed to/from North Pond. Dick will seek that information from the Chief/Harbormaster.
10. Boating Safety - Members discussed the concern with many observed unsafe boating operations like high speed and/or no lights after dark, PWCs operating after dark, overloaded boats, people riding on the gunwales, bow and/or stern, PWCs playing "chicken" and cutting off other boaters, high speed operation close to shore and swim areas, speeding during the 10 MPH before 10 AM on Saturday and Sunday, etc.
11. Boats moored off property behind The Cove - Members have observed 6 boats on the docks and two pulled up on shore on the vacant property behind The Cove (9 Lakeview St). Are these rentals? Members also noted a pontoon boat (Crest II) tied up at Louis B's docks that has a 2016 (expired) registration (MS41733?)
12. Eric noted that he has a High School student who is looking for a project. Eric plans to put together a plan for a water monitoring project for this student.
13. **Scotty made a motion to adjourn and Mike DeBay seconded. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.**
14. Our next scheduled meeting will be held on August 24, 2017

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Hepburn - Secretary

Cc (11): BOH, Con Com, DPW, Fin Com, Historical Com, J. Middleton (email), Park & Rec, Planning Board, SPD Chief/Harbormaster, K. Stinehart, Town Clerk, File (1)