



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 December 12, 2019, 7:00 P.M. at Town Hall College Highway, Southwick, MA, with attendance as follows:

		Voting	Present	Absent
Norm Cheever	Member	Yes	X	
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	
Annie Hanson	Secretary	No	X	
Deborah Herath	Member	Yes		X
Eric Mueller	Vice-Chair	Yes	X	
Paul Murphy	Member	No	X	
Ken Phillips	Member	No		X
Rick Wylot	Associate	Yes		X

Guest(s): Christopher Pratt, Michelle Pratt, Jerry Patria, and Dennis Clark

1. Members reviewed the minutes from November 14, 2019. **A motion was made by Eric M. to accept the minutes. Mike D. seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.**

2. Senator Markey

In recent, there has been plenty of discussion between Senator Markey's Washington Aide Eric Kashdan and Dick G. Eric has made inroads with the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) regarding USACE taking on the design, permitting and dredging Great Brook and possibly even Canal Brook as both flow to and contribute to Long Island Sound pollution. The USACE Chief of the New England District Planning Division has been in email contact with Dick and they plan to have more discussions after the holidays.

3. 159 Berkshire Avenue

Letter to Cease and Desist was signed, as well as demanding the owner put in erosion control and submit an engineered plan to the town before continuing to disrupt the land that poses a threat to Congamond's water quality.

4. 101 Point Grove Road

DEP did not include the agreed-upon conditions in the Chapter 91 License Application in the issued License. One of the conditions was that the docks would be removed in the off-season. Dick has been having discussions with DEP about the missing conditions.

5. Alum Treatment funding

LMC, Con Com, CRC, BOH and others want to send a letter to the state to get the Alum treatment funding released. Michelle, who is the president of CRC, desperately wants to get funding for an alum treatment in the spring, as Congamond is inching closer to an urgent deadline to get the Alum treatment. Eric mentioned that the more copper sulfate we use, the more resistant Cyanobacteria will become. It is very important that the cause is cured and not just treat the symptom. As noted in the past, an alum treatment should prevent the algae blooms for upwards of 20 years.

6. 133 North Lake Avenue

Mr. Waversak requested a variance for dock removal for the winter season. It was recommended by Dick G. that LMC accept his Variance request and that he must have his dock number visible on his dock, which is for safety reasons. **A motion was made by Malcolm to accept the variance request and Scotty seconded motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.**

7. 2020 LPP Form

LMC members mentioned that this form needs to be updated. Members agreed on what changes need to be made. These changes do not include added charges for the 2020 season. Dick will forward information to Jean for incorporation by Con Com in same.

8. LMC Charter

The LMC Charter currently does not have a charter stating what this committee can and cannot do. LMC plans to make a draft before sending this over to the Select Board. LMC also plans to include that we identify water quality and safety issues, care about the wellbeing of the lake, and identify other lake issues.

9. LMC Budget

Following review of the draft budget that was presented by Dick, members mentioned the need to add in beaver dam removal in Canal Brook because it is the only outlet for Congamond water. Members also want to include Canal Brook dredge design and permitting, along with Congamond Alum Treatment. **A motion was made by Eric to recommend these topics to be added into the draft Lake Management budget that is to be presented to the Select Board. Scotty seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed. A motion was made to accept the draft Lake Restoration budget by Mike D. Mike C. seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.**

10. Road Salt

Deb brought up her concerns in an email regarding the amount of salt that is entering our lake. It is known that a significant amount of salt could affect the livelihood of bodies of water. Eric responded to Deb's email input by stating that there are currently no concerns in Congamond about salt levels. He did mention, though, that over time, this could definitely become an issue. It is definitely important to watch, but as of now, it is not anything urgent that needs to be taken care of. A huge change was made in recent years for treating roads, which was that Southwick has switched over to strictly salt. This will definitely make the levels of salt rise in the lake. As far as now, DPW is continuing to explore alternatives that could benefit everyone. Dick will forward this info to Ken Wagner for his assessment and comments.

11. Holiday Party

Dick reminded all about the holiday party on Friday 12/20 from 5 PM to 7 PM.

12. **A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mike C. Norm seconded the motion. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.**

Respectfully submitted,

Annalia Hanson - 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)