



Town of Southwick

Lake Management Committee

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

Minutes of meeting held August 25, 2022 7:00 P.M. via online Zoom video call, 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
Karen Shute	Secretary	No	X	
Deborah Herath	Member	Yes	X	
Eric Mueller	Vice-Chair	Yes	X	
Paul Murphy	Member	Yes	X	
Ken Phillips	Associate	No		X
Rick Wylot	Associate	No		X

Guest(s): Jerry Patria, Peter Currier, Doug Moglin, Sam Schulman

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.
2. Members reviewed the minutes from the 8/11/22 meeting. **A motion was made by Mike DeBay to accept the minutes as written. Norm second the motion seconded and all voted in favor.**
3. Public Comments – No public comment.
4. Con Com Update – August 15 another violation notice was issued for an unpermitted MA dock. Norm believes that Con Com won't be taking a stand on the sewer pump alarm systems or the length of the docks at 141 Congamond Road. There is a violation at 16 Grandview Street as no silt fence was used for erosion control.
5. Masterplan Subcommittee – Some 600 surveys have been submitted. Reminder signs are up at the Transfer Station and around town.
6. CRC Update – There was a good turnout for a North Pond Conservation Land weekend "meet & greet" where volunteers talked about the land use and prohibitions and gave out flyers. CRC members were reminded that they can send individual inputs DEP Chrissy Hopps or respond to survey to in favor, or not in favor of the marina at 141 Congamond Road. September 17 CRC is sponsoring a golf tournament at Edgewood with reception at The Brass Rail (\$35.00 just for dinner).
7. Lake Water Testing – Southwick Health Agent, Alex White, reported that the South Pond Town Beach is closed due to high E.coli. Alex has stopped testing as the Beach is now closed for the season. Members and the general public expressed concern about the lack of testing other locations. Congamond is a Great Pond which is owned by the Commonwealth and responsibility for testing all three ponds is being questioned. Eric commented that fecal matter, likely goose and duck poo, are the likely source and that levels along the shoreline would be expected to be higher than in the middle of

the lake due to elevated water temperatures this year. The surface water temp was 87°F on one day. The Select Board plans to convene a meeting in the fall to discuss testing, responsibility, notification, and funding needed for this.

8. Buoy lights – Dick is assessing the steel prototype buoy light mount made by Sgt. Westcott. The Sheriffs plan to fabricate aluminum mounts in the prison shop once a design is finalized.
9. Weir gates – Dick recommended purchasing the heavy duty driver and stand for the moving the weir gates. **Eric made a motion to do so and Mike DeBay seconded the motion. All were in favor.**
10. Beaver Hut at Tri-PBJ Marina – A trapper would be needed to remove the beavers. The Select Board plans to discuss the owner’s request for hut removal at their meeting Monday.
11. Boat Lift Stickers _ Members agree that there-should not be a fee in 2023.
12. Overflow Parking – Non-tournament Vehicles are being left overnight in public parking lot without the OFBA-required Permit. Tournament. Vehicles are priority #1 per contract with State. All other overnight vehicles may be towed at owner’s expense per signage.
13. Dredging Canal & Great Brooks – NRCS plans to initiate assessment process in the fall.
14. North Pond Channel Fallen Tree – LMC received complaints from neighbors about a tree blocking North Pond. Permission from Con Com is required to remove the tree from the water and shoreline.
15. 141 Congamond Road (dba Crabby Joe’s) – Planning Board (PB) previously said they have nothing to do with the docks as they are a “land use” board. LMC members noted that the owner still needs the required a parking spaces to support the proposed marina which LMC does not support. MassDOT District 2 plans to send a letter to the Town about the planned altering of the State Highway Layout for changing the entrance and the PB-required marina parking spaces. MassDOT also has issues with the alterations of Beach Road Right-of-Way that was part of the \$5M State and Federal funded Congamond Road Project completed in 2018. LMC will be sending a letter to MassDEP Chrissy Hopps regarding the Chapter 91 License Application and to MassDEP Western Region about water quality issues associated with the lack of sewer pumps and wet well alarm systems and unpermitted connection of adjacent private catch basins to the Town’s stormwater system that discharges into Middle Pond adjacent to Saunders. **Eric made a motion that chair could sign on the document on behalf of the LMC. Deb seconded the motion and all were in favor.**
16. 101- Point Grove Road (dba Louie B’s – Kyle Scott has issued more violation notices and fines associated with mooring boats at that site.
17. South Pond Helicopter Rides – Dick noted that there is a website for them and will have more information for a future meeting.
18. **Deb made a motion to adjourn. Eric second the motion and all in favor. Meeting adjourned 8.10pm**

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Shute - Secretary

cc (15): Ag Com, BOH, Con Com, DPW, Fin Com, Historical Com, J. Middleton (email), Park & Rec, Planning Board, SPD Chief/Harbormaster, K. Scott, Select Board, K. Stinehart, Town Clerk, File (1)