



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Town of Southwick

454 COLLEGE HIGHWAY, SOUTHWICK, MA. 01077

Telephone (413)569-0515 Fax (413)569-0515

Lake Management Committee

Thursday, November 10, 2022 @ 7:00 PM

		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: Doug Moglin

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM.

2. Minutes - Members reviewed the minutes from the 10/27/2022 meeting. **A motion was made by Norm to accept the minutes as written. Deb seconded the motion and all voted in favor.**

3. Conservation (Norm Cheever)- There were no lake concerns on the agenda for the last Conservation meeting. No update

4. Master Plan Advisory Committee (Norm Cheever) – Residents major concerns regarding Congamond: (1) Following lake rules for residents and non-residents along with Police presence & safety; (2) Non-residents are welcome on Congamond it is a Great Pond (State-owned)owned. (3) The Lake Management Committee believes it would be a good idea to add to the existing post on the Lake Management Committee Town webpage more in-depth lake rules and Congamond water ownership information; (4) The rules will be posted clearly for both daytime and nighttime users and should be strictly followed by all residents and non-residents. (5) The Police patrol the lake regularly and enforce what is provided in bylaws.

5. Weed Control (Norm Cheever) - Invasive species are a very small percentage of the weeds in Congamond. LMC plans to add information on the web page showing photos of invasive and native species. This may be misattributed and pressed as a larger concern by other Committees and Boards. The LMC plans to post the results of the annual invasive species survey done in May on the website. This will hold information from the yearly survey taken in May on the lake in regards to the weeds. This survey defines areas of invasive species that will be treated to ensure a healthy lake.

6. Citizens Restoring Congamond (Deb Herath) - The annual CRC Christmas / Holiday Party is Saturday December 3rd. Cocktails 6-7 and dinner and dancing 7-10:30. Playing is Acoustic Thunder. Tickets are \$35.00 at the Brass rail. Tickets can be found at Congamond.org or by contacting Deb.

Dick is working with SPD and Sheriffs on a robust adapter design for securing buoy lights to the buoys. Dick is hoping to have at least 12 adapters made by the sheriffs in time for the 2023 season. CRC has offered to purchase some buoy lights for the 2023 boating season.

7. 141 Congamond Rd – dba Crabby Joe's – The Chapter 91 License has not yet been issued by MassDEP. Proposed docks - LMC members are very concerned that the interlake culvert was never added to the RLA plan as requested numerous times. Sanitary sewer – LMC members are very concerned about the potential for overflow of the on-site sanitary sewer into adjacent catch basins that are connected to the Town's

stormwater management system that outfalls into Middle Pond. The LMC plans to work with other Town Boards and Agencies to ensure that this system has the proper pumps, alarms and fail-safes to prevent such a water quality issue.

8. Sofinowski Preserve - A group of volunteers has gone to the preserve to make digs to see how it relates to the ice-age Lake Hitchcock with more information to follow as it becomes available.

9. Special Town Meeting - November 15th is the Special Town Meeting for Broadband that has to be voted on twice once on November 15th then again at the Annual Town Meeting in 2023.

10. Lake Water Testing – Eric noted that a number of members from the community have asked that the Town look into options for water sampling and notification regarding E.coli. Eric noted that low water levels and outflow due to the extended drought conditions, along with higher water temperatures seen this summer foster E. Coli formation. Dick advised that Select Board member Doug Moglin will be coordinating meetings on this subject over the winter and that the meetings will include representatives from Con Com, Lake Management, Select Board and Board of Health. Deb noted that CRC would like to participate and is willing to help pay for additional Lake testing.

Eric Muller made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Scott Graves seconded the motion. The Vote was unanimous in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cynthia Barton

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)