



# Town of Southwick

## Lake Management Committee

454 COLLEGE HIGHWAY, SOUTHWICK, MA 01077

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

Minutes of meeting held September 10, 2020, 7:00 P.M. via online Zoom videocall, 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	Associate	No		X
Rick Wylot	Associate	Yes		X

Guest(s): Jerry Patria, Sam Shulman

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.
2. Members reviewed the minutes from of 8/28/2020. A change was made to add John Velis as a guest. A change was made to #10, that LMC is not in favor of anything being built over the water. **A motion was made by Mike D. to accept the minutes with the changes, and Scotty seconded. The vote was unanimous.**
3. Con com update  
Norm contacted Kurt Saunders. Kurt requested 72 stickers for boats, though there's nearly 90 boats. Kurt has lots of short term renters, as well as boats needing repairs, so there will always be a discrepancy. Kurt said the discrepancy is high, so he will re-look into this.
4. Boat Census  
Mike C mentioned that the \$2,440 is no where near close to the amount of money needed by CT. This is actually closer to \$5,000.
5. 84 point grove road  
Paul Murphy is continuing to have issues with his neighbors dock.
6. Lake level  
224.25 MSL
7. Anchoring on South Pond  
The governor is persistent on not having more than three boats rafted together. Mike C has updated this comment and now there is no boats that are allowed to tie up together.

8. Conservation Lift Survey

Only 8 of the persons that have lifts in the water have responded with details, and 4 of those lifts have 120 volt lifts.

9. Buoys

At the last meeting, LMC members spoke about getting heavy duty steel buoys. These buoys are well over \$1,000 each. The lighting is also very expensive. The differences could be huge, including needing to anchor them differently, as well as needing to keep them in throughout the winter. Police in town are assuming responsibility in helping with the buoys, as LMC has lost their budget for them this year. The most damage to the buoys is during the day as well as at night while boaters are speeding, as well as during the day. This is a huge safety concern, as boaters clearly are not using caution. Norm insists that safety is very important and that we need to work on this throughout the winter.

10. Boating Safety on Congamond

Police logs indicate that there is a lot of action from the police on Congamond. This is great, though LMC members mentioned there are no logs reported on speeding, nor is there any tickets being issued. Sam, our guest, wanted to speak on boating safety. He began the topic with mentioning that there were 18 passengers on one pontoon boat. Shockingly enough, the boat was still floating. Also, people are not following the 10 MPH until 10 AM rules on the weekend. People are also creating wakes within 150 feet of shore. This is a huge issue for the shores, as well as the docks. Dick noted that people are responsible for their wakes, but there's not much of a way to police that unless there is an eyewitness. Sam also expressed that there are people wakeboarding on North Pond before 10 AM on the weekend. Sam wanted to also speak on people not following their "lanes" in the channel near the sandbar. LMC also mentioned that a young woman ended up losing her foot due to a boating accident on Congamond.

11. Entertainment on the lake

Any sort of parade, race or large gathering needs permits. This includes a Mass Environmental police license, as well as a permit from OFBA if they are using the ramps. These permits are free.

12. Police boats

Westfield donated a police boat to the Town of Southwick. This boat is always in the water, but the Boston Whaler is on a trailer, which creates the issue of needing to launch the boat each time it is in use. Doug Cameron of OFBA and the Police are discussing building a boat house for the police boat and would be completely secure. It would be a fairly inexpensive project.

13. **A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mike D and Eric seconded. The vote was unanimous and the meeting was adjourned.**

Respectfully submitted,

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Annalia Hanson - Secretary

Cc (11): BOH, Con Com, DPW, Fin Com, Historical Com, J. Middleton (email), Park & Rec, Planning Board,

