



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 October 24, 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	Associate	No		X
Rick Wylot	Member	Yes		X

Guest(s): None

1. The meeting on October 10th, 2019 was cancelled due to lack of a quorum.
2. Members reviewed the minutes from September 25th, 2019. **A motion was made by Malcom D. to accept the minutes. Eric M. seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.**
3. 131 North Lake Avenue (Delcamp)
As of recent, it is noted that Mr. Delcamp meets all necessary criteria for his variance request to be approved. He also takes extreme caution in keeping his docks well protected in the winter months. Dick recommended that LMC agrees to and accepts the Variance Request. **Mike D made a motion to accept the Variance request. Norm C. seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.**
4. 84 Point Grove Road (Panella) - The topic of Mr. Panella's docks was brief. It was stated that in the 2020 season, he must meet all requirements in order to put his dock in the water. This includes keeping his dock under the 36 ft maximum length and 30' minimum from Mr. Murphy's dock.
5. 159 Berkshire Avenue - Though this property is on the opposite side of the road from Middle Pond, it is being discussed in LMC meetings now due to evidence that the muddy waters from this property having entered into Congamond. At this property, pictures show disturbing and clearing of significantly more than 1 acre of land and silt from erosion of that area is being carried into the nearby detention pond. In addition, the intermittent stream path appears to have been changed and an earthen dam has been created. Members want to know why this excavation is being allowed to continue without the required NPDES MS4 permit, SWPPP and detailed plans and requested Dick to follow-up with other Town departments.
6. 141 Congamond Road - The unlicensed docks at Crabby Joes have been pulled out of the water.
7. Blue Green Algae/ Dredging - The committee discussed treating of algae blooms in Congamond. The constant vigilance and testing by LMC volunteers and rapid response by Con Com and Board of Health has thus far allowed timely treatment of the more frequent and more severe Cyanobacteria algae blooms. While the copper sulfate treatments are relatively inexpensive (~\$5K/treatment), this is a band-aid approach and adds the heavy metal copper to the muck on the lake bottom. The

proposed alum treatment would prevent these blooms and benefit our community for up to 20 years. The cost is \$600,000 cost is relatively high, but the prevention of catastrophic shutdown of Congamond and associated loss to recreation, business and tax revenues is worth far more. Also, if copper sulfate treatments are continued to be used, the bacteria will soon grow resistant to that treatment. Eric M. stated that Congamond could see a more aggressive strain of Cyanobacteria and mat algae if we don't treat the cause instead of the symptom. Dick G. mentioned and passed copies of an email to Eric Kashdan (Aide to US Senator Markie) that details how Congamond's outlets are clogged and the impact on water quality and waterfront home due to flooding. This includes the Canal Brook as well as the Great brook, which eventually flow into Long Island Sound. The decades of climate change and associated damaging ice storms, heavy snow, rain and wind storms all have taken their toll on clogging the paths to these critical outlets. The reverse-flowing of these two streams sends nutrient-laden water into South and Middle Ponds, further aggravating the algae bloom issues. Dredging these outlets would dramatically help decrease the algae and begin to prevent the recurring blooms. Southwick is accordingly seeking US Army Corps of Engineers assistance to continue the dredging project initiated back in the mid-1980s.

8. Town Contract - The Office of Fishing & Boating Access provided LMC with the funds to have the leaking (North Ramp) gazebo roof replaced. Work is scheduled to start October 30. This is great news to everyone on the committee.
9. Docks - The North Ramp docks were removed from the water on Saturday, October 19th. Dick personally thanked all volunteers and DPW for their help. This includes Rich Bosak and Keven Soper of the DPW, Norm, Malcolm, Mike C., Mike D., Annie, as well as Dick. Ken also mowed the South Ramp, and Jillian, Dick's granddaughter, volunteered hours at the North Ramp to clean out unwanted materials from the Visitor Center attic and shed. Great work everyone!
10. 21 White Street (Ludorf) - It appears that the situation regarding Mr. Ludorf and the waterfront property he wants to claim will most likely be going to court. The Town has water, sanitary sewer and stormwater/drainage infrastructure all along White Street which is an "unaccepted public way" and accordingly does not support Mr. Ludorf's request.
11. **A motion to adjourn was made by Eric M. Norm seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.** The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM.
12. The next meeting is scheduled for November 14th, 2019.

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)