



Town of Southwick

Lake Management Committee

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

Minutes of meeting held May 12, 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, Sabrina Pooler, Michelle Pratt

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. Eric chaired the meeting as Dick was unavailable due to illness.
2. Members reviewed the minutes from the 4/28/22 meeting. **A motion was made by Malcom. Deb second the motion and all voted in favor.**
3. Public Comments - There were no public comments.
4. Con Com Update - Jerry reported on the last meeting. He stated that Park & Rec wants to put new sand at the Town Beach. Con Com is looking into what type of sand they need to purchase. Con Com made a site visit to 141 Congamond Rd. They told the owner that no Chapter 91 License Application has been filed with MassDEP. They also advised Mr. Eggleston that the docks had to be removed from the water by December 1 each year. The previous owner removed them each year so claiming a hardship was not good route. It was also noted that Sanders Marina boat docks are grandfathered.
5. CRC update - Michelle reported that Eric gave a presentation on the health and water quality of the lake which was very well received. The CRC discussed the proposed marina at 141 Congamond Road and that CRC is against the proposed marina. Michelle had a question about the chapter 91 process. She requested data on boating capacity of the lakes. Mike DeBay agreed to send Michelle a copy of what he concluded after reviewing studies that he had compiled, along with the links to the original study. CRC is putting together a letter to the Select Board about the boat traffic pattern, 141 docks interference with the interlake culvert and lake safety.
6. 141 Congamond Road – Members reviewed the email from Dick Grannells to verify that it captured the committee members collective thoughts. Dick requested the email be reviewed by the members and

voted on by the committee, to verify the committee's opinion. **A motion was made by Malcom to accept the document as written. Deb seconded the motion and all were in favor.** Page 11 of the handout was a 5/9/22 email response from Chrissy Hopps, MassDEP Assistant Director, Waterways Regulations Program (Chapter 91) stating MassDEP had not yet received a Chapter 91 License Application for 141 Congamond Road.

7. 101 Point Grove Road – Facility does not appear to be in compliance with their (HCRD) recorded Chapter 91 License which prohibits rental of berths for mooring boats at that location. The License permits dock spaces for restaurant customers (when open) but specifically prohibits “marina” spaces due to insufficient on-site parking. Also, Norm had previously provided information on changes made to the dock configuration that were not permitted by their current Chapter 91 License. Dick believes this information needs to be turned over to Con-Com to be officially sent to DEP. **Mike made a motion to pass this information on to Con Com and Deb second the motion. All were in favor.**
8. NRCS Canal & Great Brook dredging. While fabrication of the Great Brook weir gates at Berkshire Avenue is progressing, the decades old flow blockage of Great Brook and Canal Brook outlets remains a major cause of flooding on Congamond. Dick has been seeking federal funding for project(s) to address the root causes of Congamond flooding. NRCS issued a Press Release that NRCS is going to do the necessary studies to hopefully lead to USDA/NRCS funding the desperately needed projects.
9. Dick is still seeking State funding to dredge the muck-laden shallow coves in Congamond.
10. Norm made a motion to adjourn, Malcom second the motion. Meeting adjourns at 7:40pm

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)