



Town of Southwick

Lake Management Committee

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

Minutes of meeting held on January 12, 2023 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

- The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.
- Members reviewed the minutes from the 12/8/2022 meeting. **Deb made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Norm seconded the motion and all voted in favor.**
- Public Comments – No public comment.
- Con Com Update – No major issues – LLP Form – Con Com accepted a revised version of the LPP form that has vessel number & vessel owner. Con Com next meeting is 1/17/23
- Master Plan update – Norm presented charts from the Master Plan Survey. Question 11 asked the public their opinion on what types of development should occur over the next 20 years. “Agriculture” development received 704 votes; “Business” development received 547 responses; “Residential” development received 433 votes; “Office” development received 320 responses; “Industrial” development received 213 votes, and “All other” received 113 responses. Question 12 asked the public what land use strategies should be encouraged for future growth over the next 20 years. “Educate land owners on protecting land” received the most votes at 777; “Additional zoning to protect agriculture” received 773 responses; “Balance development with water supply” received 758 votes; “Acquire land for wildlife preservation” received 726 responses; “Acquire land to restore wildlife habitats” received 695 votes; “Acquire land for passive and active recreation” received 681 responses; “Acquire land for recreation” received 675 votes; “Update zoning boundaries” received 515 responses; “Zoning for mixed use” received 488 votes; “Expand zoning for business and industrial” received only 300 responses; and, “Zoning for higher density housing” only received 193 votes. Over the next 20 years-agriculture

- CRC update – CRC has a Board meeting next month. Dick gave an update on new lighted buoys. LMC ordered 4 new buoys from a new company that has one-piece construction at significant cost savings. LMC needs to request a Reserve Fund Transfer of \$2,400 to purchase replacement buoys. Town money. **Mike made a motion to make the funding request. Scotty seconded the motion and all were in favor.**
- Several docks are still in water. Norm and Dick are trying to ascertain the addresses.
- LPP Chapter 91 – 129 North Lake Ave – Three permanent structures total ~1,800 sq ft. Docks cannot be permitted under LPP and DEP already rejected Chapter 91 License Application due to size. Should LMC send email to Con Com, SPD Harbormaster and Chrissy Hopps at DEP regarding these 3 docks? **Norm made a motion to do so. Mike seconded the motion and all were in favor.**
- 141 Congamond – There has been no resolution on where the effluent goes for the lower level restrooms as the sewer pumps are not working so a dye check could not be performed. There is also reportedly a sump pump in the lower level that cannot be connected to the Town Sewer or Stormwater Systems. A 4-foot fence has been put up on Beach Road that appears to be blocking line-of-sight. It does not appear that the Planning Board, Select Board or SPD approved extending the fence onto the Town right-of-way.
- Effective 2/1/23 Tom Hibert is the Town's new Health agent.
- Canal & Great Brook - NRCS signed contract with a consultant to do assessment and scope restoration efforts. Process is all federally funded.
- LMC Annual Report - **Mike Coombs made a motion to send out as written. Mike DeBay seconded the motion and all were in favor.**
- LMC Election – The consensus was to leave as is Dick as Chair and Eric as Vice-Chair. **Malcom made a motion for Dick as Chair. Dick abstained and Paul seconded the motion. All others were in favor. Malcom made a motion for Eric as Vice-Chair. Eric abstained and Scotty seconded the motion. All others were in favor.**
- Ramp Attendants CY 2023 pay rate – Dick suggested \$16/hour as CY 23 minimum wage is \$15/hour and members concurred. **Eric made a motion to recommend \$16/hour to the Select Board. Deb seconded the motion and all were in favor.**
- Buoy bands & wrappers are worn out need to be replaced and Dick suggested using the colors as per photos. All agree.
- LMC needs maps of the lake bottom to quantify depths and volumes of muck in the coves. LMC will seek FY 2024 funds for this mapping and plans to seek State and/or Federal funding to do the dredging.
- E. coli Testing - Doug Moglin is coordinating combined meetings with Con Com, Health Agent, LMC and CRC. Eric noted that DNA testing can be done on samples at the lab to determine source of the E. coli.
- LMC Representative MPAC focus group is looking for people to volunteer to attend. Deb Volunteered for the group meeting
- Eric made a motion to adjourn, Norm second the motion all in favor meeting adjourn at 8:15 pm

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)