



# 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 October 26, 2023 7:00 P.M. via Hybrid Zoom Meeting 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): Jason Giguere, Doug Moglin, Dominic Meringolo, Kara Sliwoski

Lake Management Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm

1. Members reviewed the minutes from the meeting September 29, 2023. Norm noted that Mr. Goldberg's name needs to be added to #10. **Norm Cheever made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Malcom DeBay seconded the motion and all voted in favor.**
2. Public Comments – No public comment
3. Con Com Update (Norm) –
  - a. 81 Point Grove Road – Mr. Grillo requested being allowed to remove the beaver hut. Members noted that approval is required from Con Com and MassDEP. Norm noted that the beaver hut should be removed for navigation safety as the boats on the eastern side of the docks in their current position impede the line-of-sight to the culvert to North Pond.
  - b. 141 Congamond Road dock removal: The 141 owner has requested modifying the Order of Conditions to allow leaving their docks in the water over the winter. LMC members have been and continue to oppose leaving docks in the water for safety reasons. This issue has been discussed numerous times at previous LMC meetings. **A motion was made to send an email about taking the docks out at 141 Congamond Road by Mike DeBay. Deb Herath second the motion and all were in favor.**
  - c. 141 North Lake Avenue Dock Issue - Mr. Goldberg has removed his dock from in front of #137 North Lake Ave.
  - d. 16 Berkshire Ave – A retaining wall has been constructed without due Con Com approval and also a pavilion has been built just behind the new wall. Con Com will investigate.
  - e. 579 Forrest Road (Suffield) – Dock and jetty issue. Con Com plans to follow-up with Suffield.
  - f. 530 Griffin Road (Suffield) – Dock is not 25' from property line and has to be moved or removed.

- g. North Pond Rope Swing – Harbormaster needs to submit application to Con Com for tree removal.
4. LPP budget (Norm) – Suffield LPP Contract is over and expired. Income and revenue. Thanks to Norm for his data and analyses.
  5. Master Plan Subcommittee (Norm) – The subcommittee is done with project and no more meetings. Norm will be sharing more “results” information at future LMC meetings.
  6. CRC Update – CRC officers were voted in. Michelle Pratt was voted in as President, and Scott Snyder-Perusse was voted in as Vice-President.
  7. North Ramp Docks – LMC & CRC volunteers along with 2 DPW workers and equipment removed them on October 21. North Ramp. Thanks to all from CRC, LMC & DPW who helped accomplish this feat in the rain in record time.
  8. Canal Brook – The Beaver dam remove before the Canal freezes and Solitude needs to schedule. Con Com has been duly notified of the imminent need to do so.
  9. Helicopter Crash in Middle Pond (1963) – The experimental helicopter went down near the site of the recently constructed public fishing pier. Contractor told Select Board then that the “road” built to remove it was totally removed but we know that it was not as the “rubble” still remains in that area.
  10. Hydrilla – Kara Sliwoski from DCR noted that in 2016 a new strain of Hydrilla was found in the Connecticut River and it is now been found in many lakes in CT and a few in MA, now including Congamond by the South Boat Ramp. It seems to relate to a 2020 one fishing tournament club that visited each of the water bodies in 2020 and there is an ongoing investigation by DCR and USACE. The Army Corps is managing a \$6 million effort. Solitude will include checking for the presence and locations of Hydrilla as part of its annual invasives mapping efforts. However, the growth cycle of Hydrilla is later than Eurasian Watermilfoil and Curly Leaf Pondweed, so a second assessment and treatment will likely be necessary. LMC plans to seek additional FY2025 funding for this additional assessment & treatment. Solitude is doing some research before estimating the increase costs for assessing and treating Hydrilla. Kara will find out if water Temperature makes a difference in the growth cycle of Hydrilla. Boat washes can help as well as Boat Ramp Attendants looking to see if plants are hanging off the trailer or boat. Unfortunately, small fragments can quickly reproduce and spread the Hydrilla.
  11. Mike Coombs said that he completed his Ethics Training that is required by all members.
  12. Members again expressed disappointment with the apparent lack of enforcement on the Lakes!
  13. **Mike Debay made a motion to adjourn. Mike Coombs seconded the motion and all were in favor.** The meeting adjourned at 8:48 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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Karen Shute - Secretary

cc (16): Ag Com, N, Cignoni, 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)