

Town of Goshen  
Board of Selectmen  
Lake Weed Management Committee

Regular Meeting

First Selectmen's Office  
April 28, 2015 7:00 PM

Present: Steve Romano (Chair), Michelle Fitzpatrick (TL), Nell Glass (WSP), Chris Sanders (WSP), Richard Reis (WL), Lida Exstein (DP)

Absent: Santo Manicone (DP), Frank McCarthy (TL), Ken O'Hara (WL)

In Attendance: Dan Fitzpatrick (TL), Steve Marhevsky (DP), Patty Sanders (WSP)

1. **Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order by Steve Romano at 7:00pm
2. **Approval of Minutes for March 31, 2015 Meeting** – Nell Glass moved that the minutes be approved as written, seconded by Michelle Fitzpatrick. No discussion followed. The motion passed unanimously. *NOTE: Subsequent to the meeting, it was determined that this vote was invalid as an agenda for this meeting had not been properly posted with the Town Clerk. As a result, this matter will be revisited at the next meeting.*
3. **Action Items from Last Meeting**
  - a. **Bob Valentine:** A question was asked about the status of funds that have been donated and expended to date. Bob said he would get that information to all before the next meeting.

REPORT: Steve reported that the grant funds had been received. Chris pointed out that Bob had informed us on this via email shortly after the meeting.

- b. **Each Lake:** Each lake's group of representatives agreed to develop a proposal for next steps (what we had been calling an "Action Plan") for their lake. This approach reflects the fact that each of the three lakes represents a different situation. We should be prepared to discuss initial drafts of such a plan at the April meeting. This plan should take into account:
    - a. Dr. Knoecklein's questions about the goals for the lake (e.g., fishing, recreation, clear property areas, clear particularly bad areas, long term solution vs. short term, etc.)

- b. The various remediation options available that Dr. Knoecklein outlined in his presentation slides and discussed further by Santo at this meeting.
- c. Our best understanding of the preferences of the lake property owners.
- d. Some consideration of the ability and willingness of the lake property owners to participate in covering the cost of any remediation. (e.g., Will they contribute to a program or will some other source be required? Will they help raise funds? Will they volunteer to help?).

REPORT: Michele reported that Tyler Lake's Association has generated a letter to all area residents to survey their feelings about several aspects of a lake plan. This had been mailed in the week prior to this meeting and result should be available by the next. Chris reported that several WSP residents (Nell, Doreen Deary and Chris) had met twice since the last meeting to discuss a lake plan. Chris handed out a draft action plan that he had authored. He noted that the WSP group felt that a meeting of their property owners was needed and were planning this for late May so that seasonal residents were available. Lida reported that she thought Santo had worked on this, but he did not attend the meeting. She reported interest in using the Woodridge Lake harvester. Richard Reis pointed out that this will be expensive and that there are issues to be worked out such as a qualified crew and disposal of the cut weeds. In addition, it could only be done through the Town due to the need for insurance coverage for the equipment.

- e. **Steve Romano** to report on acceptable uses for the DEEP Grant funds.

REPORT: Steve reported that the grant funds cannot be used to purchase the water sampling equipment. He reviewed the approved uses, which generally were (i) a Presentation on the issues to the Town, (ii) study required to prepare an Action Plan, and (iii) finalization of the Action Plan. Steve Marhevsky reviewed the fact that anyone work works on these activities should keep a timesheet as their hours would be used to make up some of the "in kind" portion of the grant that we are expected to fund. Timesheets were handed out and it was agreed that each committee member would turn in a timesheet at each monthly meeting. Back timesheets to Jan 1 2015 should be completed. Steve Marhevsky said he would compile the timesheets into a spreadsheet to track.

- f. **Michele Fitzpatrick** to report on water sampling program and training based on discussion with Dr. Knoecklein on April 15<sup>th</sup>.

REPORT: Nell Glass, Chris Sanders, and Michele Fitzpatrick all attended the Connecticut Federation of Lakes meeting on April 15<sup>th</sup>. They did speak with Dr. Knoecklein there. Dr. Knoecklein confirmed the equipment list and said that once we have the equipment he will calibrate and show us how to use the

equipment. Chris volunteered to get the equipment to George when it comes in and to look into training for those who will do the sampling.

- g. **CLMA Group:** We need to confirm the equipment needed for water sampling with Dr. Knoecklein and provide this list to Steve Romano for procurement by the Town as soon as possible. No later than the next meeting.

REPORT: This was done. The equipment is on order by the Town and should be in or or around May 1.

- h. **CLMA Group:** We need a proposal from Dr. Knoecklein for a business basis for working together. Ideally to be approved at April meeting.

REPORT: This had not happened but Michele is pursuing it with Dr. Knoecklein. Dr. Knoecklein did propose that in addition to monthly water quality monitoring through the season, we should conduct another aquatic survey at an earlier time in the season to give us a better mapping of the various species; he has proposed one day per lake for this. He proposed two days for the Town Presentation or one day if he uses the same presentation he did for us (this is what we decided to do). Before this we discussed a need to have some time to consult with Dr. Knoecklein about the Lake Plans; much of this can be done via email or phone. The group discussed the importance of having not only rates from Dr. Knoecklein but also a plan for the tasks he plans to do with us and a time estimate for each. This will enable us to budget. Michele will report at next meeting.

- i. **CLMA Group:** We need to confirm a date for the Town presentation by Dr. Knoecklein and the cost of such a presentation.

REPORT: This had not happened, but Michele is pursuing it with Dr. Knoecklein. The group discussed and concluded that we should do the presentation in July on a Saturday or on the Thursday before July 4<sup>th</sup>. Michele will report when she confirms with Dr. Knoecklein. Chris said he would try to get notice out in the next Town Topics. It was suggested that we record the presentation to allow residents not present to view at a later time.

- j. **Chris Sanders:** Offered to come to the next meeting with a draft of proposed Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws for a "Goshen Lakes Protective Association, Inc." as a basis of a further discussion of the concept. Will also ensure that Committee members not in attendance get the materials presented.

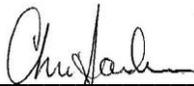
REPORT: Chris led a discussion of some of the potential issues with a single

“umbrella” non-profit representing the issues of the 3 lakes. Some of these are legal issues; some are a matter of governance. Richard Reis suggested that we try to consult with the Town attorney for input. Chris reported that he has reached out to Connie Trolle of Bantam Lake Protective to discuss their experience and expects to do this shortly. He also has Bylaws from several lakes associations to use as models. Chris said the real issue is whether everyone wants to proceed with this. Michele noted that there is resistance from Tyler Lake residents as they have their own Association. Chris indicated that there would be no point in considering further if Tyler did not want to participate given their large population. Michele will discuss further with their residents.

4. **Discuss Next Steps** – The following next steps were agreed upon:
  - a. Complete all open items from last meeting.
  - b. Begin water sampling program.
  - c. Finalize Town Presentation date and publicize.
  - d. Discuss Lake Action Plans
  - e. Decide whether to proceed with formation of a “Goshen Lakes Protective Association”.
  
5. **Meeting Adjourned** – The meeting adjourned at 8:08PM.

The next meeting is May 26, 2015 at 7PM.

By Chris Sanders, Committee Secretary



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