

Lake Oversight Committee  
Town of Holland  
Minutes: August 10, 2017

Meeting called to order at 7:02PM.

**Members Present:** Dennis Allard, Chris McCooe, John Stevens, Elias Gillen, Val Lundin

**Members Absent:** Luke (new member)

**Guest Present:** Donna Allard, Rick Lundin, Andy Harhay, Bill Terbush, Alfred DePeau, Darlene DePeau, Don Beam, Carol Beam, Raymond Boire, Joan Boire, Ralph Martone, Marianne Martone, Bev Aube, Sharon Keyes

**Order of business:**

- Motion by V. Lundin, 2<sup>nd</sup> by D. Allard to accept the minutes of June 21, 2017. Per E. Gillen: members that were present at that minutes may vote to approve the minutes. Motion passed with one abstention.
- Motion by V. Lundin, 2<sup>nd</sup> by D. Allard to accept the minutes of July 7, 2017. Motion passed with one abstention.
- Motion by E. Gillen to accept the minutes of July 19<sup>th</sup>, with amendments. Motion passed.

**Old Business:**

- New Fiscal Year Priorities and Goals: to be discussed at a later date. C. McCooe suggested including public education.
- Update on docks in Right of Way Bylaws: D. Allard reported this is a private and personal decision of the property owners.
- E. Gillen made a motion that since B. Johnson (Highway Dept.) was on vacation and could not attend the meeting to discuss public/private roads and drainage. Discussion be tabled until he could attend a LOC meeting. Motion passed.
- LOC Bylaws: E. Gillen suggested they be reviewed soon. If decision to make any changes the warrants would need to be written and included in the special town meeting.
- C. McCooe spoke with K. Robbins concerning the RFP for the dam spillway. K. Robbins confirmed it has been mailed to Tighe and Bond engineering firm.

**New Business:**

- Brandon Cove dredging: D. Allard contacted companies - including Northeast Aquatics, for information concerning different means of dredging i.e. suction as one method – cost varied by company. As previously noted, up to 100 cu yds. could be removed. However, prior to any decision on dredging, discussion with Highway must address retention pond which, E. Gillen commented on that “it was designed right, it just does work right”, and culverts. D. Allard made a motion to investigate the costs including the retention ponds for discussion at a future meeting. All in favor. Motion passed. The cost of Soil samples would need to be analyzed for any contaminants-at a cost of \$1000 for the test, this would be the best way to see how we would be able to proceed. A disposal site for spoils would need to be found, the actuals costs for the complete project, and where the actual funds will come from need further discussion. E. Gillen asked if Brandon Cove was the obvious choice to dredge. D. Allard replied it was the “worst area on the lake.” C. McCooe reported she had contacted GZA to obtain a copy of the 1983 Feasibility Study and the 2000 Conway Study. Along with a copy of the 319 Grant, this

would provide better information as to the areas of the lake that need the most attention including Brandon Cove. The drainage from culverts are still an issue to runoff into Brandon Cove. Motion by C. McCooe to table the culvert discussion until the August 24, 2017 meeting. Additional information should be available and can be discussed with B. Johnson and the property owners from the cove in attendance. Motion passed.

- Spillway/Dam: C. McCooe reported that according to DCR, the spillway is inadequate - Tighe & Bond engineers are working on it (RFP for dam maintenance), no information from them yet.
- RFP for dredging: C. McCooe reported the RFP has been sent out. However, there was a discrepancy in the acreage: actual acreage is 413 not 475. It is in the RFP that corrections can be made. Motion by C. McCooe to have K. Robbins correct the acreage from 475 to 413. All in favor. Motion passed.
- E. Gillen reported he had information from the town of Spencer on how a betterment system for temporary road repairs on private ways works. Some towns use this however, it's the property owners that pay for any road work to be done. Motion by D. Allard to table the discussion on temporary/private road repairs until B. Johnson can attend a meeting.
- Shore Drive boat ramp: D. Allard reported that this issue is being discussed L. Mandell and K. Robbins, with a qualified land attorney – Robert Nislick who is a Rights of Way attorney. If anyone on South Basin has used this ramp for 20 years, could sue land owner for use...it's called prescriptive easement. The town is researching information on how long the town has been using this property and if they have been using for 20 years, the town could get file suit against the land owner for prescriptive easement to continue using the land. Best scenarios, the town could purchase the land, which would not extinguish anyone's rights to it. Anyone that has been using it, could maintain it, but not obstruct it. Also, a parcel of land by the same land owner is for sale on Mashapaug Rd. If parking and a sanitary facility is necessary, a possible solution would be to consider the purchase of land for sale on Mashapaug Rd. A letter of commitment from the lawyer with options that the ways the town could pursue this property is expected by September 1, 2017. When received, his recommendations will be reviewed and a decision will be presented to the town. Clarification on questions concerning this property include how many years it has been used by other property owners. C. McCooe reported that B. Johnson's (Highway) report for the Annual Meeting of 1983, stated the property was being maintained - well over a 20-year period. Also, continued use of this property would strictly be used for ingress and egress – as it has been used.
- Invasive Weed (Fan Wort) update: C. McCooe reported that since Solitude (7/19/17) discovered the weed, two divers, at the cost of about \$2000, will be coming for two days during the week of August 21, 2017, to hand-pull and disposal of it. Funds from the HRA will cover this cost.
- C. McCooe noted that all chemicals used in weed treatment are EPA approved. Solitude also tests the water - a different test than the town does weekly - for nutrients, phosphates, and nitrogen and noted that there was nothing to be alarmed at and Brandon Cove is well within the desirable limits for these tests.
- C. McCooe would like to make a recommendation to nominate B. Terbush-who has been on the committee many years-to return to the LOC committee. Prior to deciding if he would like to return to LOC, he would like to attend a few LOC meetings. McCooe made a motion to nominate B. Terbush to the LOC. E. Gillen said the nomination would need to go to the BOS. LOC will wait on further information as to the return of B. Terbush.

**Other:**

- Guest concerns/comments;
  - What is the cost to purchase the Shore Drive ramp property?
  - There are No Trespassing signs posted. Can we still get our boats in and out?
  - Would parking and a Port-O-Potti be needed?
  - Why is the town considering purchasing 2 acres of property on Mashapaug Road?
  - Has means been established of evaluating the FRP (Feasibility Study) responses when returned?
  - Thanks, was given to D. Allard for all the work he has done at getting this far with the South Basin Launch.

Next meeting: Thursday, August 10, 2017.

Motion to adjourn, 7:56 PM, E. Gillen. 2<sup>nd</sup> by J. Stevens. All in favor. Motion passed.

Minutes respectfully submitted.

Val Lundin, Recording Secretary

*Valerie K. Lundin*