

Meeting minutes from September 5, 2023 Lake Oversight Committee meeting.

Prepared by Chairman Cari Robertson

Present: Cari Robertson, James Whalen, Robert Kamay and by telephone conference Peter Frey

Meeting convened at 7:23pm:

Topics

- Committee appointments/reorganization- not discussed due to absence of other members. Newly appointed Conservation Commission member needs to be confirmed by the Select Board and Whalen will contact the Chair of the Conservation Commission.
- Any updates of bacteria testing of Hamilton Reservoir- FHRA and BOH both tested bacteria levels of the lake in August 2023 and the test results were favorable. According to Kamay the FHRA will not continue with testing in the future, as long as testing is completed by the BOH. Kamay raised concerns with the BOH being committed to testing the bacteria levels and suggested testing be completed by the LOC. Robertson reminded the LOC testing of bacteria levels falls to the BOH by MGL and the LOC is only an advisory committee to the Select Board with no budget authority through the bylaws. No action was taken.
- Any updates regarding 2024 Weed Treatment plans- No additional treatment is planned for the summer 2023 season. A small section of the north basin that was re-treated at no additional cost has not been inspected by any LOC members; Robertson will check on the area and report back on the status of this August treatment at the next meeting. A general re-cap of the costs for the summer 2023 treatment was pre/post survey approximately \$3000 and treatment in June approximately \$21000. Kamay explained in the future phragmites can be treated in September for an estimated cost of \$3000, including mobilization, and the anticipated two areas would be on the north basin near the dam; for this year the window to treat these areas was missed. Whalen will put this September treatment tentatively on the Select Board calendar for September 2024. Next lake weed treatment will be in June 2024. No action was taken.
- Updates regarding Dam Inspection- No date has been set for the inspection and the Town Administrator had applied for another extension that is good until 10/31/2023. Currently water has stopped going over the spillway. Town Administrator is coordinating with DB Tree for the clearing of the brush prior to the inspection. No action was taken.
- Any updates for Mitigation of runoff, and excessive sediment, in coves- Kamay confirmed one cove on the north side (Island Road) and one cove on the south side (Inlet Drive) has residents

willing to go through the hydro raking process and incur 50% of cost with the FHRA (Friends of the Hamilton Reservoir Assoc) incurring the other 50% of cost. Kamay inquired if the Town could obtain a permit through the Conservation Commission for the entire lake since they own the lakebed. Frey corrected Kamay that there are residents who may own parts of the lakebed through the way some deeds extend to the brook/riverbed. Whalen will discuss with the Chair of the Conservation Commission are available options for the Town to assist and report his findings.

Kamay informed the LOC the FHRA proposed supporting financially other areas of runoff adversely affecting the lake; no specific areas of the lake were identified, and no formal action/vote was taken by the FHRA on this matter. No action was taken.

- Sandy Beach road project update- Whalen briefed the LOC that Sandy Beach Road was paved by DPW. No action was taken.
- Flood Mitigation- Kamay informed the LOC the FHRA membership inquired what could be done to help address damage to property during elevated lake levels that result in flooding areas around the lake. Kamay spoke with the Chief of Police on behalf of the FHRA about this issue. The Chief and Kamay discussed the following: since the FHRA owns the boat ramp on the south side of the lake the FHRA could close their boat ramp; the boat ramp on the north side is not owned by the Town and cannot be closed; use of the Code Red system to inform residents of high water levels and the urging of no motorized boat use during flooding and/or no wake being posted during flooding times; any process would be voluntary due to its unenforceable action, and any actions taken would rely on a majority participating and influencing others to participate no lake use during these flooding times. No action was taken.
- Approve prior meeting minutes- No action was taken.

Meeting adjourned at 7:48pm.

Next meeting planned for Tuesday October 3, 2023 7pm.

These meeting minutes approved by vote on 10/03/2023.