

AGENDA

Lake Boon Commission

7:30 PM, Jan 29, 2020

Stow Town Building

380 Great Road, Stow MA

1. Public Comment
2. Meeting Minutes - Review/Approve
3. 2019 Annual Report - Review/Approve
4. Pay Bills
5. Total Lake Management Discussion (following BOH meeting)
6. Discuss Process & Timelines for a NOI
7. New Business
8. Date of Next Meeting
9. Adjourn

Lake Boon Commission
Meeting Minutes
Jan 29, 2020

A meeting of the Lake Boon Commission was held at the Stow Town Building, 380 Great Road, Stow, MA on Jan 29, 2020 at 7:30 pm.

Members Attending: Kris Krablin (Chairperson), Conray Wharff (Commissioner), Dan Barstow (Clerk)

Meeting Called to Order: 7:30 pm. Meeting was not recorded by Stow TV.

Agenda:

Public Comment -

Comment: Elsie Rodney suggested testing for phosphorus and not just algae. She also suggested resuming LBA's past practice of a Welcome Committee for new residents, that it could include guidelines about phosphorus and other impacts on the lake.

Response: Kris appreciated the suggestions. Dan commented that increased testing for phosphorus is under consideration.

Comment: Larry Smith mentioned about an email he and colleagues sent to LBC with information about the connections between failing septic systems and increased lake algae.

Response: Kris appreciated the comment and suggested he provide more details during the discussion about total lake management.

Meeting Minutes -

- 12/3/2019 LBC meeting – With a minor edit about the date for the next meeting, Kris moved and Conray seconded approval of the minutes. That motion was unanimously approved.

2019 Annual Report -

- Kris presented her draft annual report of the LBC. With no edits, Dan moved and Conray seconded approval of the report. That motion was unanimously approved.

Bills for Payment -

- No bills due.

Total Lake Management Discussion

- Kris reported on the Jan 9, 2020 meeting of the Stow Board of Health, and the need for a coordinated plan between LBC and BOH for monitoring and communicating about the health of Lake Boon, especially based on some of the problems that emerged last summer regarding cyanobacteria testing and beach closure. The meeting confirmed the need to solve those problems.
- Dan commented that we need a total lake management approach, that integrates multi-faceted measurements, responsive treatments that deal with causes and symptoms, and improved communication among the governing agencies and the residents. Dan also commented that he was gathering a comprehensive set of prior studies and action plans from past years, and the potential benefit of culling insights from those reports.
- Conray commented about some of the actions taken in the past such as the catch basins for improved drainage, and some ideas that have not been implemented, such as aeration systems. Conray also noted that several studies over the past couple of decades have provided important data and recommendations. He noted that the Charter Oak Golf Course drains into Lake Boon and is required to do annual testing for Phosphorus. Conray agreed to request their reports.
- Larry Smith (public comment) shared a detailed email and accompanying science reports that focus attention on failing or non-compliant septic systems as a primary cause of increased

nutrients such as Phosphates, and the potential benefit of point source detection using boat-based monitoring instruments.

- Dan agreed to coordinate with Lake Boon Association to review prior reports, identify key recommendations, consult with aquatic biologists and make recommendations for action, monitoring and communications, in time for this coming year.
- No motion needed.

Discuss Process and Timelines for a NOI

- Dan summarized key elements and timeline for two permits relating to Lake Boon:
 - Weed Treatment – Permit #299-317 – LBC needs to request a three year extension by July 10, 2020, submitted to the Stow Conservation Commission
 - Drawdown – Permit #299-409A – This previously required MA DEP review and approval, because of contention around the action plan. However, those issues have been resolved, and the MA DEP will defer to Stow Conservation Commission to review and approve a new plan. LBC needs to submit a new Notice of Intent to SCC, with a report and plan, for review and approval by SCC, with a deadline of Oct 4, 2020
- For the next LBC meeting, Dan will prepare:
 - recommended request for extension for Permit 299-317 Weed Treatment
 - timeline for the new permit to replace 299-409A Drawdown

New Business for Next Meeting

- Stow Warrant (due Mar 6, 2020)
- Update on Total Lake Management
- Draft letter requesting Weed treatment extension
- Draft timeline re new Drawdown permit

Date of Next Meeting – TBD, such as Feb 18 or 19

Meeting Adjourned:

- Dan moved, Kris seconded and LBC unanimously approved adjourning.
- Meeting adjourned 9:30 pm

Approved by LBC on: Feb 19, 2020
 
Daniel Barstow, clerk