

Lake Boon Commission
Meeting Minutes
Apr 26, 2021

A meeting of the Lake Boon Commission was held on Apr 26, 2021 at 7:00 pm. The meeting took place by telecommunications using Zoom, because of coronavirus-related state limits on public meetings per the Mar 21, 2020 order of Governor Baker.

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

Meeting Called to Order: 7:00 pm

Public Comments

- Dave Gray said that contracted scuba divers would do sediment sampling on Saturday May 1, 2021

Meeting Minutes

- Conray moved, Dan seconded and we unanimously approved the minutes from Apr 7, 2021

Bills for Payment

- Conray paid \$322 for repair of the fuel pump assembly, for the LBC boat. Dan moved, Conray seconded and we unanimously approved reimbursing Conray.

Stow Recreation Commission request for boat rentals

- Stow Recreation Director Laura Greenough joined the meeting to discuss boat rentals.
- Laura reported they rent 5 canoes and 6 kayaks. The funding for 2 paddle boards didn't come thru. She said that renters sign a permit form, and a waiver of liability. She said that most rentals are for 1 hour, with recommendations to stay near the shore. She noted that renters are given cell phone # of the beach phone.
- Dan commented that this rental system helps open the lake to people who don't live on the lake.
- Kris moved, Dan seconded and LBC unanimously approved our support for the rental program.

Report from Stow Chief of Police Mike Sallese and Lt. Darren Thraen

- Stow Chief of Police Mike Sallese and Lt. Darren Thraen joined the meeting to discuss lake patrols.
- Chief Sallese reports that they patrol the lake mid-May to mid-October, mostly on the weekends
- He said their primary role was to educate and inform, rarely giving citations.
- He said that the town may need to replace the current police patrol boat. He had considered a multi-purpose solution, with one boat for serving the police and LBC, but an official police boat, can only be used by police, and not LBC commissioners.
- He asked LBC to send a reminder that docks should have resident addresses posted.

Boat and Buoys

- Conray reported that the LBC motor is old and will need replacing sometime over the next couple of years. The motor is 17 years old (2004), and has required a series of repairs.
- Conray reported that 5 buoys are in the water now, 2 more to go.
- Conray asked if Dan and/or Kris planned to get certified to use the LBC boat. Dan confirmed he would take the certification course and in-boat training, for certification this summer.

Healthy Lake Boon Initiative (MVP grant)

- Dan introduced Rebecca Longvall, the part-time coordinator of the citizen science sample program. In her other job, Rebecca is Conservation Director for Bolton, so she brings solid expertise to this position.

- Dan presented a summary of activity: data and sample collection by volunteers began Apr 18; scuba divers will take sediment samples May 1; Alpha Analytical began analysis of samples; Brown & Caldwell has begun in-depth analysis of the early data reports.

LBC Statement of Support for Healthy Lake Boon Fund-raising

- Dan drafted and Kris and Conray edited a statement of support for fund-raising for acquiring Hallock Point. Conray moved, Kris seconded and LBC unanimously approved the statement, as follows:
- "The LBC strongly supports Stow acquiring the Hallock Point property and its preservation for the health and safety of the lake and community, and for public access and use. The proposed acquisition aligns well with the Healthy Lake Boon Initiative, and has already garnered supportive funding from over 150 local residents. Lake Boon is a small & shallow lake, and as such it is more vulnerable to the effects of over-development both on the health of the lake and surrounding watershed areas, and to safe recreational use of the waters. Loss of undeveloped land could have significant negative ramifications in both of these areas, as natural vegetation & buffers are eliminated."

LBC article for LBA Gazette

- Kris presented a draft article about LBC for the annual LBA Gazette. Conray suggested adding comments about the need to post addresses on docks, and that all power boats must be registered. Dan moved, Conray seconded and LBC unanimously approved the article as amended with suggestions from Conray. Kris will forward to LBA to publish.

Solitude Activity Status

- Red Aylward is the official LBC liaison with Solitude, per approval in Apr 7, 2021 meeting
- Red reported that the annual survey will take place May 10, with treatment likely on May 26.
- Dan and Red will prepare a status report for review by Stow and Hudson ConComs, in a format that will be integrated into the Healthy Lake Boon annual report.
- Red will work with Dave Gray et al to notify residents at least one week prior to treatment.

Old Business

- **Annual Report** - Dan commented that we will initiate a new annual report on the status and health of Lake Boon, integrating across all projects, including the MVP grant, herbicide treatment, drawdown + refill and the integrated analysis across all sources of data. The report is due May 30 of each year. Dan will take the lead on producing the report, in collaboration with our partners. Dan will present a draft outline at the next LBC meeting.
- **2020 Archives** - LBC needs to complete its 2020 archives, for submission to both Stow and Hudson, including agenda, minutes and attachments. Dan, as LBC clerk, has this responsibility. Dan will take care of this, with Kris' help as warranted.
- **Public Boat Launch** - Kris reported that the Boat Launch's location is not actually on town-owned land. Kathy Sferra, Stow Conservation Coordinator said that if the Hallock Point acquisition by Stow is approved, then the current location will be on Stow-owned property. Kris also recommended that we review the signage in the public kiosk and thanked Dave Siewerski for generously making the kiosk several years ago.

New Business

- Annual Report - review and discuss
- Long range plans - replace LBC boat

Date of Next Meeting

- Tentatively scheduled for May 24, 2021, 7:00 pm

Meeting Adjourned:

- Conray moved, Dan seconded and LBC unanimously approved adjourning.
- Meeting adjourned 8:25 pm

Approved by LBC on: 5/24/21

Daniel U. Sarstrom