

Lake Management Advisory Committee

January 3, 2024 / Hybrid/Zoom

Minutes of the Meeting

Town Hall Conference Room

- Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order by Michael Gnazzo Wednesday January 3, 2024 7:08 P.M.
- Present:** Mike Gnazzo, Phyllis Dunn, Mike Scalise, Mary Roickle, David Vanderbilt, Robert Powell, Robert Millerd, Greg Stryker, Noreen Farrington, Henry Beck, James Santos
- Absent:**
- Excused:**
- Minutes:** Michael Gnazzo called for a motion to accept the November and December Minutes. Motion to accept Mary Roickle, 2nd James Santos. 2 abstentions. Motion Carried
- Guest Speakers:** None
- Audience of Citizens:** Ann Dunnack, 103 Lake Rd., Columbia
Bill Fochi, 62 Lake Rd., Columbia
Frank Guifford, 15 Erdoni, Columbia
- Communications:** Nothing to report
- Committee Reports:**
- Permit Review:** Bill Fochi -62 Lake Rd. Columbia. – repair approximately 55 feet of collapsed stone wall. – LMAC Approved administratively
Tony Clementino, 3 Upper Woodland Terrace, Columbia -replace and repair 4 posts on dock- LMAC approved administratively.
- Dam:** Gate repair- Bid received from Costal Engineering, Greenwood Lake, NY. Coastal has met all of the standard qualifications for the project. They are a small firm equipped to manage a project of the size of Columbia. Other vendors felt the Town of Columbia was too small to enter the bidding process. Currently awaiting a review from the Director of Public Works prior to submitting final approval to Board of Selectmen. LMAC is requesting that the project be completed as soon as possible, preferably prior to 3-15-2024. Lake fill. Estimated Project cost \$30,500.
- Water Quality:** No Report
- Fishing:** No Report.

Access & Safety: Brian Auld and Debbie Fiske will attend the next LMAC meeting. They will discuss procedures they are planning on implementing for the 2024 Boating season. This will include the application process and boat inspections.

Water Shed Watershed Management Plan:

No update.

Storm Water Culverts:

TRC submitted a written and oral report at a special meeting held on 12-9-2023. Lake Management group assembled, accepted the results of the oral and written report of the Consultants. Ratification of the proposal will need to be at a formal meeting.

Henry Beck made a motion that ratification of the TRC proposal be accepted in the January meeting. The December 12-9- meeting was not an official meeting due to a failure to post the December meeting in a timely manner where LMAC heard and accepted the written report of our consultants. 2nd Mary Roickle. Motion carried.

There has been a significant increase in the cyanobacteria count in the lake. Particularly due to the phosphorus levels from the storm water culverts.

LMAC has asked the Town Administrator, Mark Walter for an update on the current July 2023 through June 2024 budget to see if \$4800.00 dollars remain to conduct the annual stormwater testing of 10 stormwater intakes in the February to April time frame. With the increasing cyanobacteria algae patches and native plant growth there is a sense of urgency to understand where the phosphorous is entering the lake in order to access how to limit the intake.

As an example: TRC's current testing of one stormwater drain discharging water from 2 Erdoni Road near Utley Pond intake intake measures the highest phosphorous content entering the lake by nearly 8 fold. This is considered a "hotspot" that bears investigation.

Motion by Mary Roickle. LMAC recommends the Board of Selectmen approve TRC's 2024 Annual Scope of Work base budget proposal for our annual limnological procedures including the Phoenix lab costs and ad hoc consultation outlined in Tasks 1 & 3 for an annual cost of \$23,900. 2nd Robert Powell Motion Carried.

Motion by Mary Roickle. LMAC recommends that the Board of Selectmen approve TRC's Scope of Work Proposal for Tasks 2 & 4 listed as optional in the TRC proposal for an Annual Cost of \$7100.00. LMAC'S rationale for this motion that both tasks – sediment sampling at \$2900 and sampling an additional 10 stormwater in takes at \$4800- are needed investments to analyze the phosphorous levels already in the lake and entering the lake. We must understand our phosphorous level in the lake and identify where it is entering into the lake due to the continued

increase of the green filamentous and cyanobacteria algae patches and aquatic plant growth in the lake. Phosphorous is the main ingredient to driving algae and plant growth both of which are harmful to the lake ecosystem balance, water quality and those who use the lake. 2nd Henry Beck Motion Carried.

Dam Emergency Plan: Copies of the Emergency Plan have been sent out to all LMAC members for review. The Town completed the required Dam inspection for 2023. The Dam report complies.

Budget Review: LMAC still within budget.

Open Business:

- Update electrofishing
- Gate repair Costal bid pending.
- Excel permit link
- Minicucci/Esposito culvert issue
- Update on message board remind Debbie Friske.
- Geese monitoring
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Adjournment: Michael Gnazzo called for motion to adjourn. Motion to adjourn, Phyllis Dunn 1, 2nd. James Santos All approved Meeting Adjourned 8:38 p.m.

Submitted by
Phyllis Dunn, Secretary