

Lake Management Advisory Committee

March 6, 2024 / Hybrid/Zoom

Minutes of the Meeting

Town Hall Conference Room

- Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order by Michael Gnazzo Wednesday March 6, 2024 7:03 P.M.
- Present:** Mike Gnazzo, Phyllis Dunn, Mike Scalise, Mary Roickle, Robert Millerd, Greg Stryker, Noreen Farrington, James Santos
- Absent:** Robert Powell
- Excused:** Henry Beck, David Vanderbilt
- Minutes:** Michael Gnazzo called for a motion to accept the February Minutes. Motion to accept Mary Roickle, 2nd Noreen Farrington. All Approved.
Motion Carried
- Guest Speakers:** None
- Audience of Citizens:** Frank Gifford, 16 Erdoni, Columbia, Ct
- Communications:** A Deep Zoom Meeting to be held on 3/18 with Peter Francis, of Deep, Mark Walter, Town Manager and the LMAC Subcommittee to review the Town Ordinance changes before completion.
- Committee Reports:**
- Permit Review:** Michael Dobrush, 3 Sleepy Hollow has been approved for emergency repair to the lakebed from stormwater wash out after a site visit from the sub-committee.
- All other permits have been approved and repairs are under way for completion before the 3/15/24 closing date.
- Town of Columbia – Town Beach – Emergency repair, erosion, and sand displacement.
- Objective:**
- Identify immediate and long-term solutions to repair current lakebed erosion damages and minimize future erosion damage due to the increased precipitation, intensity and velocity of stormwater flowing from the Town Beach drainpipe. As background the erosion and sediment displacement from this drainpipe was identified in 2022.

Motion by Mary Roickle

LMAC advises the Town of Columbia’s Board of Selectman to initiate a Pilot Project to meet immediate and long-term needs in the area outlined in the attached map showing significant sediment displacement damage from the stormwater drainpipe, known as the Town Beach Pipe, located at 16 Lake Road in order to:

- Conduct emergency repairs when the lake’s water level allows to regrade the sediment displacement damage on the lakebed and
- To evaluate options to repair the Town Beach pipe and/or design and install devices as a Velocity Dissipation Device and/or devices upstream from the lake in order to reduce the water flow velocity during intense rainstorms to minimize the erosion damage into the lake with a goal of installation of approved device(s) at the next period for construction on the lake after the October 15, 2024, drawdown.
- The Pilot Project will be a collaborative effort of the Town Administrator, the Department of Public Works, IWWC, LMAC and consultants as needed as a Hydrology Engineer, to evaluate best practice approaches to regrade sediment displacement, to design and install approved devices, and to apply town guidelines for construction on the lake. Follow up actions will include milestones analyzing Pilot Project results to assess the value for potential future uses on the lakebed.

2nd by Greg Striker. All approved motion carried.

Dam: Gate Closed: Water level 3 feet 10 inches
Weep Holes: No report.

Gate repair- Board of Selectmen has asked that the Town Manager send out another Request for Proposal. Bid information has been sent.

Water Quality: No Report

Fishing: No Report.

Access, Safety and Regulations: **Mark Walter to reach out to a lake resident on Rt 87 who has moved rocks into the lakebed clearing their beach area.**

Water Shed Watershed Management Plan: No update.

Storm Water Culverts: **TRC proposal and the 10 stormwater drains have been approved they will be identified for analysis and repair. TRC will move forward the week of 3/10/24 for the 1st flush.**

Dam Emergency Plan: Nothing to report.

Budget Review: LMAC budget currently being reviewed it is expected to pass.

Open Business:

- Update electrofishing** -April LMAC will have the report.
- Excel permit link** – Still under review
- Minicucci/Esposito culvert issue** – still no resolution
- Geese monitoring** – In hopes of curtailing the geese population, LMAC subcommittee along with members of the CLA will locate as many nests as possible and addle the eggs. The addling is expected to commence in late March or early April. Mark Walter will contact the landowners involved.
LMAC – addling subcommittee, Mary Roickle, James Santos, Mike Scalise, Greg Striker
- Boat launch** – Manny’s Landscaping has done a site review. They suggested inserting a drainpipe to dry out the area. Mark Walter will contact them for a site walk to review their recommendations and then request a proposal. Another option presented was the possibility of a wooden deck to cover that area.

Adjournment: Michael Gnazzo called for motion to adjourn. Motion to adjourn, Mary Roickle, 2nd. Mike Scalise All approved. Meeting Adjourned 8:25 p.m.

Submitted by
Phyllis Dunn, Secretary