

Lake Massapoag Advisory Committee

Meeting of March 7, 2023

Minutes of Zoom Meeting

Members present: Laura Henze Russell, Debbie Tatro, Dan Lewenberg, Gary Bluestein, Ken Hyman.

Attending: Josh Philibert, Conservation Admin.

Topics covered:

- **Vote:** Approval of January minutes: Dan made motion to accept, Debbie seconded. Gary, Ken, Debbie, Dan and Laura all approved.
- **Vote:** Approval of February minutes: Laura made motion to accept, Dan seconded. Gary, Ken, Debbie, Dan and Laura all approved.
- Future funding for DASH was discussed
- No word on 604b grant.
- Recently spoke with high school students.
- This may be the last year we get CPC funding but we should consider other funding sources.
- Lawn maintenance and fertilization: Attorney General made ruling in town of Ayer that fertilizer application can't be regulated by the town but there is an exception on Cape Cod and the islands.
- **Lawn service companies must register.** Can we send them letters from us or BOH? Ask Kevin Davis if he can include a message in their communications about using phosphate free fertilizers. Series of social media posts, put flyers in mailboxes.
 - Laura to invite Kevin Davis to the next meeting.
 - **Vote:** Motion to endorse Chapter 300, Article 11 which is 'Regulation for Pesticide, Chemical and Fertilizer Applicators'. Dan made motion to endorse, Debbie seconded. Gary abstained, Ken approved, Dan approved, Debbie approved, and Laura approved.
- Community Beach will be closed this summer – consider a fence to deter geese. Linda is open to trying this. There is a grape flavored artificial deterrent. Not clear how it would be applied. The docks are a real problem. Gary to ask Linda at Rec Dept about putting out decoys and fencing.
- Weeds: File an amendment to the 'order of conditions' extension since it is expiring May 6. We will be adding DASH and hand pulling. We need to notify abutters near the South coves and Fletcher cove.
 - **Vote:** We will not include benthic barriers since ConCom has concerns. Gary made motion to not include them, Laura seconded. Gary, Ken, Debbie, Dan and Laura all approved.
 - **Vote:** Motion to approve the cost associated with filing the NHESP permit, public hearing notice, and costs of notifying abutters option 1, estimated to be \$860). Gary made motion to approve, Laura seconded. Gary, Ken, Debbie, Dan and Laura all approved.
- Natural Heritage Endangered species. Josh gave update that there is a bladderwort plant with purplish flower. We will need to survey for this and may need to use a botanist. The people pulling weeds may need to know about the plant and avoid it during DASH or hand pulling removal. Fluridone might be used in the lagoon and then blocked off for a period of two weeks to avoid it from entering South cove. This needs further investigation. Josh will ask Natural Heritage about alum treatment in the future.

- Need grab sediment testing samples which would be used to develop a dosing plan for alum treatment (this would be later this year or next year). We have 4k in budget for TRC doing this work. We asked Matt about this. We need the samples now to have the information for next year.
 - **Vote:** Gary motion to spend \$4,000 for TRC to take sediment samples, Debbie seconded. Gary, Ken, Debbie, Dan and Laura all approved.
- Budget for hiring TRC to consult on MVP Grant is \$4,000, plus May/June Deep Hole tests which would cost \$1,744. Total \$5,744. Cumulative total for new TRC contract = \$9,744.
 - **Vote:** Gary made motion to use \$5,744 from the budget for this, Debbie seconded. Gary, Ken, Debbie, Dan and Laura all approved.
- We will need consultation from Matt at TRC on any future alum treatment. We will need to allocate future budget toward developing the dosing and protection plan and permitting for it.
- Outreach to community
 - Flyers for upcoming events are expected to be under \$200 – no vote needed.
 - Sharon Green Day - Table at event in SHS, Sunday May 7, 12:00-4:00 pm
 - Sharon Adult Center - Presentation/discussion, Wed. May 17, 10:45-11:45 am
 - Men's Club - Presentation/discussion, Tue. Aug 29, 9:30-10:30 am
- Discussed the next meeting which will be online or in-person, depending on if the legislature decides to extend remote meetings. If in-person, we need to get space at Town Hall or Community Center. In-person meeting to be held Monday April 10 at 7pm, otherwise it will be the virtual option on Tuesday April 11 at 12:00pm.
- **Vote:** At 1:25pm, Laura moved to adjourn, Gary seconded. Gary, Ken, Debbie, Dan and Laura all approved.