

Town of Sharon Lake Management Committee
Minutes of 12/13/2021
Meeting Held via Zoom

Present: Noah Siegel, Chair, Stanley Rosen, Ken Hyman, Laura Henze Russell, David Blaszkowsky (joined at 8:15 pm),

Absent: Colin Barbera

Other Attendees: Eric Hooper, Gary Bluestein, Debbie Tatro

Noah Siegel called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm, and reviewed the agenda:

1. Call to order, approval to record and post
2. Adoption of minutes for October 13, 2021
3. Short Reports: Conservation Commission, Planning Board, Select Board, BOH, Rec Dept, DPW, phone meeting with SOLitude
4. For Action: Election of interim officers
5. For Action: Vote on proposed warrant article to expand Committee scope, membership and budget to recommend to Conservation Commission
6. Updates: Algae Reports, Water Quality Testing Programs, Town webpage
7. Next meeting date

Call to order

Noah welcomed Ken Hyman as a new member appointed by the Select Board, filling a term that expires December 2022. He also welcomed Debbie Tatro who is a new appointed by the Conservation Commission to succeed him next year, with a term that expires December 2024.

Approval of minutes

Noah moved re approve the minutes from the October 13, 2021 meeting. Laura seconded, and the motion passed: Noah yes, Laura yes, Ken yes, Stan yes. Laura also asked for permission to record and post the meeting; moved and seconded, and the motion passed: Noah yes, Laura yes, Ken yes, Stan yes.

Short reports

ConCom: Noah briefed on weed remediation plans and proposed warrant article. Colin couldn't attend tonight but talked with him and available to serve as chair.

Planning Board: Laura briefed in November; they are especially interested to hear if there is more that should be done regarding septic regulations around the lake. I asked them about potential jurisdiction on lawn fertilization; they advised that would be BOH.

Select Board: The Board is aware through Town Administrator Fred Turkington that the proposed warrant article is under consideration; he will apprise them after this meeting. Noah noted an opportunity for improvement which is better communication between each of us with the committees that appointed us.

Board of Health: Noah shared that Leandra is interested in continuing communication especially with regard to testing. Stan added that Article 7 strengthens septic requirements in sensitive areas around the lake. Laura added that Leandra's perspective is that she wants very good communication on public health matters, does not need to have a member on the committee. She is very enthused about a website to easily access beach and lake status information.

Recreation Advisory Board: Gary said Rec. Dept. posts beach status information on its Facebook page. Gary is sitting in as a nonvoting member until the warrant article expands the Committee's composition. Debbie noted at this time no lake information is on the Rec Dept. website. Gary mentioned idea of an email list.

DPW: Eric said he is not sure if he or Kevin Davis will attend more frequently; Kevin is BOH agent and responsible for the stormwater program. Need to figure out funding for him to attend. Have worked in the past on data collection in terms of collecting information on discharges and lake level. He had passed it on to ConCom but it fell through the cracks. DPW's role is to collect the data and turn it over to a variety of committees. DPW is not in the business of making recommendations to Select Board, but can if necessary.

Laura said good data on lake water level, discharge and temperature will be important to monitor and rebuild the expertise Lake Management had in the past. Laura noted another missing data point is phosphates or phosphorus levels, we need both special assessment and ongoing monitoring. Eric said it is not currently DPW role's to measure it, it is a matter of collecting and submitting for analysis. It requires an annual budget to do it, which we've never had. Gary said it may be time for that. Laura said we are starting to price additional phosphorus testing by G&L Labs, asking NepRWA to add additional testing sites in Sharon, and special study by SOLitude.

Ken asked about water temperature data. Eric has it intermittently back to 2008. Last year the data was not downloaded monthly, so it was overridden on the memory chip. The old gauge at the Flume House rotted away; there is a newer one in the flume channel downstream. DPW's newer equipment is Bluetooth, download from nearby. Laura suggested data come to our committee, we analyze and summarize and share with ConCom. Eric said important to share with all relevant committees.

There was discussion about the reporting structure and who ultimately manages the lake and town lands. Stan noted it works with all three committees in the charter, and does not only report to one.

Election of interim officers

David Blaszkowsky joined the meeting at 8:15 pm. There was discussion of the need for interim officers. Stan moved we elect interim officers to serve for no more than 90 days, and elect permanent officers after additional members are seated in 2022, Ken seconded. Voted: Noah yes, Laura yes, Ken yes, Stan yes, David abstain.

Stan nominated Colin Barbera as interim chair, Noah seconded. Voted: Noah yes, Laura yes, Ken yes, Stan yes, David yes.

Noah nominated Laura Russell as interim vice chair, Ken seconded. Voted: Noah yes, Laura yes, Ken yes, Stan yes, David yes.

Noah nominated Laura Russell as interim secretary, Stan seconded. Voted: Noah yes, Laura yes, Ken yes, Stan yes, David yes.

Proposed warrant article

There was discussion of the proposed warrant article and budget. Following discussion on several points, including a handful of questions and suggestions by Stan and David, the attached edited, revised article was proposed to forward to the relevant boards and committees for review, and review and input from Town Counsel, with further work on the budget as cost estimates are received.

Stan moved the budget be included and put forward for the Town's consideration, with the goal to spur discussion, Noah seconded. Voted: Noah yes, Laura yes, Ken yes, Stan yes, David abstain. Eric offered to ask his planner to see if there are any grants we might apply for. He would rather not rely on them, but if you don't ask, you won't get it.

Stan moved to approve the revised article, subject to circulating it to members for final review and wordsmithing; with feedback to be given to the chair and secretary. Laura seconded. Voted: Noah yes, Laura yes, Ken yes, Stan yes, David yes.

Updates

Laura reviewed and screen shared the new reports that Debbie and she prepared.

- 1) History of Algae Reports on Lake Massapoag, Summer & Fall 2021.
- 2) Chart and Maps of Water Quality Testing Programs (BOH, NepRWA, DPW).
- 3) Lake Massapoag E. Coli Results Town Swimming Areas 2017-2021
- 4) Lake Massapoag E. Coli Results Town Non-Swimming Areas 2017-2021

They will be posted: <https://www.townofsharon.net/lake-management-study-committee>

Set Next Meeting Date

We set two potential meeting dates: January 10th 7:30 pm and January 12th 7:30 pm, pending Colin's availability. [Update: The next meeting was confirmed for January 10th.]

Adjourn

Stan thanked Noah for his service; moved we adjourn at 10 pm, seconded, all agreed.