

Lake Management Study Committee

Minutes of August 2, 2022

Meeting via Zoom

Members present: Laura Russell, Debbie Tatro, Dan Lewenberg, Ken Hyman, Colin Barbera.
Guests: Josh Philibert

Reports:

Lake Level Report: Josh – 9.98 ft on July 25, down to 9.77 Aug. 2. Outflow between 1 and 1.5 cfs. Can't shut it off but could decrease another 0.5 cfs. Water 80 F this morning, was as high as 88 F, but varies with time of flume visit. Gary: Good job Josh managing level.

Cyanobacteria: Josh saw flecks at Everwood: Microcystis and Dolichospermum I, like spaghetti. Leandra visited and spoke with camp director, would advise to take kids out if it progressed.

Cynaocasting: Debbie on predicting cyanobacteria blooms. Phycocyanin levels are very low in June, using EPA algorithm, predicted microcystin level. Identified Microcystis, Woronichinia.

Phosphorus testing: Under budget for testing because of dry inflows. Tried to add wetland near Community Center Drive, and 2-3 spots where water crosses under Massapoag Ave, all were dry. Josh: He can extend testing past October, into November and December maybe. Laura: Can attempt rain event testing if weather cooperates, and apply balance to next spring.

Total phosphorus in the lake from TRC is running high, almost twice the level that will promote algae growth, i.e. 0.025, and also higher than historical data on Phosphorus from past reports. From Josh's monthly testing, several inflows also running high, Laura showed high spots on a draft dashboard for the lake. CWMN results are delayed due to staff shortage at Deer Island. Sean McCanty will be doing Sucker Brook hot spot testing sometime this month.

Ken joined at 12:36 pm. Dan motion to approve July Meeting Minutes, Debbie seconded, all approved: Debbie, Ken, Dan, Laura.

Budget: Laura discussed we are under budget in CPC testing line because some inflows are dry, and have been no rain events for testing. Discussed with TRC and proposed two additional tasks this year, a grab sediment sample in the Deep Hole, an adding iron and ammonia to the 3rd round of lake tests from the CPC grant. Suggested double the allowance for consulting time to comment on the draft grant, so that it can include other requested time through June 30; that will come out of FY23 annual budget consulting line. We had asked Sean for advice on the additional Tasks 10 and 11, and he recommends doing them both. Colin joined at 12:55 pm.

Project Budget				
Task	Unit	Unit Cost	Estimated Quantity	Budget
Task 9. On-Call Services	Time and Materials	As Incurred	N/A	\$1,600
Task 10. Sediment Sampling	Sample	\$1,000	1	\$1,000
Task 11. Additional Water Quality Sampling	Ammonia + Iron Sample	\$120	5	\$600
Total				\$3,200

Notes: Task 9 included in FY23 Annual budget consulting line.

Sean McCanty's take: Good to do Tasks 10 and 11 if we can.

Tasks 10 and 11: Up to \$1,600, depending on number of sites for Ammonia and Iron.

Additional testing that can be considered this summer (in addition to 10 and 11):

12. Rain event testing per self-sealing collection kits, as suggested by Sean: \$1,000

13. E. coli speciation testing per Jonah Ventures, as suggested by Sean: \$1,300 (10 samples)

Vote on change order for Matt/TRC:

Options of adding Tasks 9, 10 and 11 to the TRC scope with the FY23 annual budget (9) and unspent CPC testing funding (10 and 11).

Motion: Dan, Ken second. Voted: 4-0-1, Debbie, Dan, Ken, Laura yes; Colin abstained.

Laura suggested two more testing options if the rain event surplus continues; using self-sealing collection kits, and E. coli testing to determine human/dog/goose. Motion to approve Task 12 and 13 as a contingency. Motion: Dan, Ken second. Voted: 5-0, Debbie, Dan, Ken, Colin, Laura

Ken has 2 posters up (Ten ways to protect the lake) and 1 poster ready (NepRWA one based on adaptation of their recent mailer). Others to consider: 1) Reprint Denizens of the lake, 2) History, 3) GIS, NepRWA, and Depth chart maps showing lake and watershed, 4) Cyanobacteria. Debbie can draft description for a watershed map poster. Laura said DPW can help provide GIS maps, she can send a depth chart map. Debbie moved to authorize Ken to fill up all the kiosks, Dan second. Voted: 5-0, Debbie, Dan, Ken, Colin, Laura

Laura outlined goals for 604b grant, phone calls to date, proposed tasks from TRC and NepRWA, we have a call on Friday to coordinate and get joint feedback.

- Additional water quality indicators, specialized testing for problem areas.
- Identify non-point pollution sources, phosphorus loading.
- Identify BMPs for reducing runoff of excess nutrients.
- Update Watershed-Based Plan for Lake Massapoag, including recommendations.

A watershed-based plan enables town to apply for 319 grant for BMPs. Colin left about 1:15.

Vote to proceed with the 604b grant, with edits recommended by TRC and NepRWA, and request support from Select Board, other town boards, DPW, and stakeholder groups.

Motion: Dan, Ken second. Voted 4-0, Debbie, Dan, Ken, Laura.

Laura: Boat and beach passes down 2/3 showing confidence in the lake is down.

Gary: Numbers skewed because they were high due to COVID.

Gary, Rec Dept updates:

- A resident had to wait 20 minutes to put in a boat and wants a wider ramp. Can put in 2 boats at a time if you know what you are doing.
- Will be having a preliminary discussion of dredging and upgrade of ramp. Laura comment: So much sand has moved down the beach with rain runoff from parking lots, need beach redesign to restore erosion control.
- Rock barrier working? put in to keep sand from flume house.
- How can we get more use of the lake, open up to non-residents?
- Dog runs the geese out, but they are not affected by people, they don't leave.
- BOH overstepped. Dogs can walk on the sidewalk at the lake after beach hours.

DASH: Aug 29 – Sept 7. Laura: We didn't vote specifically on where to do DASH so there is leeway in where they do the 8 days of DASH, will look at areas and density in both coves.

Next Meeting: Will poll members re dates of Sept 6, 8, 13 and 15.

Meeting adjourned.