

# Lake Massapoag Advisory Committee

Meeting of August 8, 2023

Minutes of Zoom Meeting

Attendees: Laura Henze Russell, Debbie Tatro, Dan Lewenberg, Eman Lasheen, Gary Bluestein, Colin Barbera, Ken Hyman. Guest: Josh Philibert

Dan is working on the July minutes. Laura volunteered to take the August minutes.

Laura welcomed new member Eman Lasheen, and members introduced themselves and briefly shared their backgrounds.

Members gave updates on Low-Dose Alum Treatment, EutroSORB filter socks, and weed pulling to date (hand pulling in Lagoon in June, Fletcher's Cove in July, and a day of V raking in eastern end of Memorial Beach swimming area).

Debbie gave background on proposed DASH weed mitigation in the South Cove; after the botanist survey of new endangered species Resupinate bladderwort is completed August 15 (rain date August 16) and submitted to DFW/NHESP, we hope to get approval to do a second year of DASH soon after Everwood Day Camp closes August 25th. Colin asked about spring vs. fall DASH mitigation; pros, cons and options were discussed. LMAC will solicit three bids.

## VOTES:

Motion for LMAC to authorize a contract of up to \$20,000 for approximately 8 days of DASH in the South Cove; with the option of adding two more days up to \$5,000. This option could provide additional time in the South Cove if needed, or if fanwort is found in the Memorial Beach swimming area allow for early intervention there. Laura moved, Dan second. Votes: Dan yes, Debbie yes, Gary yes, Ken yes, Colin no, Laura yes.

Motion for LMAC to authorize spending up to \$1,300 for sequencing high E. coli samples for type of bacteria, and potentially help to identify sources. This is included in our budget, but we need to authorize the expenditure. Debbie moved, Colin second. Votes: Dan yes, Debbie yes, Gary yes, Ken yes, Colin yes, Laura yes.

Motion for LMAC to elect 3 members to serve on the MVP grant steering committee. We are proposing a shared steering committee for the grants. Following discussion, members nominated Laura Henze Russell, Debbie Tatro, and Eman Lasheen. Laura moved, Gary second. Votes: Dan yes, Debbie yes, Gary yes, Ken yes, Colin yes, Laura yes. Other members are welcome on the Advisory groups, which include Education, and Science. They can observe Steering Committee meetings without vote per Open Meeting laws.

Motion for LMAC to authorize up to \$9,900 for retaining contract help with administrative matters such as Steering Committee minutes, payment processing, and grant reporting. The level of activity has grown significantly for this all-volunteer committee and support is needed for management of the grants, prepare for success, and build future opportunities to fund and implement the watershed-based plan with strong participation. There is \$3,000 in the MVP grant budgeted for grant reporting, and in light of these grants, there are additional monies now available in the FY24 budget, totaling \$9,900 for FY24. Gary moved, Debbie second. Votes: Dan yes, Debbie yes, Gary yes, Ken yes, Eman yes, Laura yes. We also discussed posting for help with the Adult Center for the Property Tax Work Off Program volunteers, and planning for regular ongoing staffing needs in FY25.

#### DISCUSSIONS:

Laura reported that Dan, Debbie and she were working on aligning the budgets and scopes of the grants, in consultation with the funders, and consistent with our budget and CPA resources.

Laura presented a worksheet showing proposed options for the various testing components during FY24 and FY25, including frequency and lists of sites to be further refined, following a planning session with Debbie. Members made some suggestions and were invited to email additional feedback.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Josh noted the Town's new Communications Specialist, we have begun using her services.

Laura noted the first Lake Walk August 2<sup>nd</sup> was well attended, members are welcome to join August 9<sup>th</sup> and/or 16<sup>th</sup>, 6:15-7:00 pm. The Men's Club rescheduled our presentation to Oct. 31.

#### NEXT MEETING DATE:

Given the Labor Day holiday, LMAC's next meeting will be Tuesday Sept. 12<sup>th</sup>, 12-1:30 pm.

#### ADJOURNMENT:

Ken moved to adjourn at 1:30 pm, Gary second, and all members voted yes: Dan, Debbie, Gary, Ken, Eman, and Laura.