

# Lake Massapoag Advisory Committee

Meeting of July 11, 2023

Minutes of Zoom Meeting

**Members present:** Laura Russell, Chair, Debbie Tatro, Vice Chair, Dan Lewenberg, Colin Barbera, Ken Hyman, Gary Bluestein

**Also:** Josh Philibert, Conservation; Jaime Pickles, Everwood Camp; Joe Onorato, Water & Wetlands

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion to approve minutes of previous meeting. Moved, Dan. Second, Laura. Voted 5-0-0 (Ken hadn't yet joined the call).

**Discuss treatments (2) in South Cove** in current summer season to address cyanobacteria concerns in light of issues last summer. Everwood to fund, LMAC to approve today, Select Board to approve.

Jaime Pickles: since summer '21, south cove has had several cyano blooms. Looking to work together on solutions. 2 endangered species limits available options: low dose alum, Eutrosorb filtration socks.

Joe Onorato: discussed Water & Wetlands business, 90% in Massachusetts. Worked in Sharon before in the lagoon. Alum = Aluminum Sulfate, will be buffered with Sodium Aluminate to limit pH & salinity swings, per Misty Ann's (NHESP) request. Treatment creates floc that pulls phosphorus out of the water column. Approved for use in drinking water applications, such as reservoirs or at the water plant. A split tanker will contain both Alum and the buffer, which is gravity fed to a Jon boat for application in s-shaped pattern at 4 mph. Ratio of 2 alum: 1 sodium aluminate. Trailing hoses behind the boat inject each separately (below surface). One day use restriction while treating to keep work area clear.

Discussion of logistics and timing, potential obstacles in the treatment area, location of tanker. Weekends not an option for Water & Wetlands also a busy time for town use. Start after 2 or 3 pm on a camp day? Joe confirmed yes. Eutrosorb socks could be installed prior, maybe next Friday. Target end of July for alum treatment. If cyano blooms before treatment, can't treat at that point.

Jaime expressed Everwood's interest in supporting and donating funding to cover this experimental pilot intervention.

**Motion** to approve up to two rounds of Eutrosorb filtration socks, first round funded by Everwood: Dan. Second: Gary. **Vote:** 6-0-0.

**Motion** to approve one round of low dose alum treatment in the south cove, funded by Everwood: Dan. Second: Gary. **Vote:** 6-0-0.

**Motion** to enter into contract with Water & Wetland on up to two rounds of Eutrosorb socks, 1 with an option for second: Gary. Second: Dan. Discussion of placement: Everwood funding first round at the lagoon. **Vote:** 6-0-0.

Discussion regarding contract for low dose alum treatment. Additional bid from Solitude. Scott Brody has worked with Solitude in the past. 2 Solitude references contacted. Also reference for Water & Wetlands contacted. As donor for this pilot treatment, Everwood has expressed interest in working with Water & Wetlands.

**Motion:** to enter into contract with Water & Wetlands for low dose alum treatment: Gary. Second: Dan. **Vote:** 6-0-0.

**Motion:** to enter into monitoring contract with TRC (to take before/after samples, measure pH at 15 min intervals and keep between 6-8 during alum treatment): Gary. Second: Dan. **Vote:** 6-0-0.

**Motion:** to recommend the Select Board accept donation of \$24,000 from Everwood for alum treatment, monitoring, and eutrosorb socks: Gary. Second: Dan. **Vote:** 6-0-0.

**Botanist Contract:** \$4,230 with option of \$1500 additional if needed. Relates to invasive weed removal, not alum/Everwood. To be paid with CPC funds.

**Motion** to approve botanist contract: Gary. Second: Dan. **Vote:** 6-0-0.

**Grant Discussion:** Congrats to Laura and Debbie on their hard work and progress in securing grant funding.

**Grant Steering Committee:** will need 18 months for 604b grant, a 3 person subcommittee to attend all meetings with Josh Philibert, Kevin Davis, reps from camps, SHS, MYC and SSC, NepRWA and TRC. Laura nominated Debbie. Debbie Nominated Laura. Discussion of availability for third spot: Ken could do on temp basis; LMAC will have a new Select Board member to be named in August.

**Motion:** nominate Laura, Debbie and Ken to grant steering committee (with others welcome to attend in accordance with OML): Gary. Second: Ken. **Voted:** 5-0-0 (Colin had left the call).

**Weeding Update:** 4 days hand pulling in lagoon, dense fanwort. 80% of lagoon done. Fletchers cove up to 13 day equivalents with budget room for 7 more days. More than half of Fletchers Cove is done. Plan to come back next week for 2 days. Removal rate in Fletchers Cove not as good.

Discussion of weeds in the swimming area.

**Motion:** allocate up to \$4,000 for weed removal at Memorial beach: Ken. Second: Gary. **Vote:** 5-0-0.

Discussion of Eutrosorb socks at Canoe River @ \$250 each.

**Motion:** allocate up to \$500 for two Eutrosorb socks at Canoe River: Gary. Second: Ken. **Vote:** 5-0-0.

**Lake Walks:** before Wednesday lake concerts, late July and August dates. Possibility of kayak tour?

**Sucker Brook:** Sample sent to NepRWA for a different test: Colilert. Agreed to freeze trays, send to Jonah Ventures to see what species. Want to test Wonderland and community center beach. Discussion of enterococci test as parallel alternative.

**Motion:** allocate up to \$1000 (10 tests @ \$100 each) for Jonah Ventures if needed on top of what was previously authorized last year: Laura. Second: Gary. **Vote:** 4-0-0 (Ken had left the call)

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday August 8

**Motion to Adjourn:** Gary. Second: Laura. **Vote:** 4-0-0.