



Amesbury Lakes and Waterways Commission
2009 Meeting Minutes

**Town of Amesbury
Lakes and Waterways Commission
Meeting of December 16, 2009
Amesbury Health Center**

MINUTES:

Present: Greg Roy, Jay Knapp, Bill Rudolph, Cindy Roberts, Bruce Georgian

The meeting began at 6:30 PM. Jay Knapp and Bill Rudolph motioned to approve the November 19, 2009 meeting minutes.

A. Engineers Report

1. Lake Gardner swale was installed but not controlling runoff. It appears that high groundwater is contributing to beach erosion. An alternative solution might be necessary.
2. All surface waters are open to winter draw down levels.
3. Clark's pond has a boat stuck at the dam. Jay mentioned that he will tie it off for the owner to retrieve it.
4. The next Tuxbury Pond meeting with the S. Hampton Planning Board is December 21, 2009. There are many on-site environmental violations which will need to be rectified.

B. Lake Gardner

1. The Weed Assessment Grant has been awarded. The Public Works Department is working with a consultant to define the scope and will notify the Commission when work will proceed.

C. Watershed Management Plan

1. It's becoming more critical to get going on the Watershed Management Plan update. To facilitate this update, it was proposed that the Commission update one chapter at a time over the next few meetings.

D. 8 Towns on the Bay (Bill Rudolph)

- a. They are pursuing a zero discharge agreement for towns on the North Shore, including Amesbury and several other Towns on the Merrimac. This will prohibit boats from dumping wastewater into the river and ocean along these towns.



Amesbury Lakes and Waterways Commission
2009 Meeting Minutes

E. Next Meeting

Wednesday January 20, 2010



Amesbury Lakes and Waterways Commission
2009 Meeting Minutes

**Town of Amesbury
Lakes and Waterways Commission
Meeting of November 19, 2009
Amesbury Health Center**

MINUTES:

Present: Greg Roy, Peter Manor, Jay Knapp, Bill Rudolph, Mark Sydlowski, Lucas Georgian

The meeting began at 6:35 PM. Jay Knapp approved, Bill Rudolph second the motion and the minutes are approved.

A. Engineers Report

1. Ponds are set at winter drawdown elevations at this time. Recent rains have varied the levels at this time.
2. Water treatment plant went out to bid. Estimate of 9 million dollars for project.
3. The EPA wants the towns to clean catch basins twice per year, and provide street cleaning three times per year.
4. The EPA also wants 25% of the outfalls to be sampled each year.

B. Tuxbury Campground

1. South Hampton Planning board is making the campground do a hydro-geologic study prior to any progress with plans. Study is to determine where the water supply is coming from.

C. Lake Gardner

1. The Weed Assessment Grant has been awarded. The scope of work has also been defined.
2. The anticipated results will be:
 - i. Total assessment of Lake Gardner
 - ii. Action plan for the lake
 - iii. Recommendations to reduce weeds.

- D. Study of Lake Gardner up to Tuxbury Pond could be a springtime project.



Amesbury Lakes and Waterways Commission
2009 Meeting Minutes

- E. The drawdown of Lake Gardner to lower levels than the present will need to wait until next year. Most likely after the Water Shed Management plan is complete.



F. **Satellite Imaging**

1. Greg presented the group with photos from a firm that focuses on satellite imaging of lakes and waterways with a high phosphorous count.
2. The group thought the images were quite impressive, and were interested in potential past photographs of specific bodies of water in Amesbury.
3. Greg had provided the name and website of the firm that specializes in this type of photography.

G. **8 Towns on the Bay (Bill Rudolph)**

- b. Potential wind power off the coast of Salisbury
- c. Invasive species in Gloucester Harbor (most common) Other areas much less inhabited.
- d. Cape Cod Water Restoration Project: focuses on restoring marshes. 8 Towns on the Bay may look at this concept for its own area.
- e. Newbury will start in January a dredging of sand project to firm up the beaches along its coast.
- f. North of Gloucester is clean of invasive species.
- g. In Worcester MA, there is a “Coalition of Lakes & Ponds Meeting”.

H **Next Meeting**

Wednesday December 16, 2009

It was agreed that all future meetings would be held on Wednesday evenings.



Amesbury Lakes and Waterways Commission
2009 Meeting Minutes

**Town of Amesbury
Lakes and Waterways Commission
Meeting of August 27, 2009
Amesbury Health Center**

MINUTES:

Present: Greg Roy, Peter Manor, Rob Desmaris, Jay Knapp, Bill Rudolph, Karen Crago-Slater, Mark Sydlowski.

The meeting began at 6:35 PM. Mark Sydlowski and Karen Crago-Slater have motioned (1st and 2nd) as written. Minutes were approved. The Lakes & Waterways Committee has agreed to change the night in which the meetings take place from Thursday to a Tuesday night.

A. Engineers Report

1. Will take time on the drawdown for next year.
2. Can draw down Lake Gardner for this winter to kill off weeds.
3. Greg Roy will call Fish & Wildlife to advise them of the Lake Gardner drawdown.
4. Will push for a lower level outlet for the Lake Gardner Dam.

B. Tuxbury Campground

1. DES, Pete Manor and Lee Knapp (Board of Health of South Hampton) went to the site.
2. There are definite environmental issues present at the site.
3. Sewage and illegal dumping issues.

C. Lake Gardener (Karen Crago-Slater)

1. Erosion of Lake Gardner Beach is a concern.
2. Possibility to plant grass on the upper slope to deter erosion.
3. Possibility to add a swale, then grass, then sand to the lake. This may eliminate the wash out of the sand.

D. 8 Towns on the Bay (Bill Rudolph)

- h. Bill attended last meeting / BBQ
- i. The group has been monitoring from Gloucester to Salisbury.
- j. Gloucester Harbor is quite invasive.
- k. North Shore is clean.

F. Next Meeting:

Tuesday September 22, 2009.



Amesbury Lakes and Waterways Commission
2009 Meeting Minutes

**Town of Amesbury
Lakes and Waterways Commission
Meeting of June 25, 2009
Amesbury Health Center**

MINUTES:

Present: Greg Roy, Pete Manor, Jay Knapp, Cindy Roberts, Bruce Georgian, Bill Rudolph, Mark Sydlowski. Steve Langlois of the Conservation Commission was a guest.

The meeting began at 6:35 PM. The vote to accept the meetings was voted on and accepted by the group.

A. Engineers Update (Pete Manor)

1. Water levels very high. NH is lowering their level, so we will get that overflow.
2. Gunderboom still being worked on. Should be ready soon.
3. Newton Road is still under appeal.
4. Meadow Brook Estates: no activity.
5. Peter's comments on Tuxbury Pond Campground have been drafted and submitted.
6. Pete attended the workshop at UNH for LID (Low Impact Development).

B. Lake Attitash: (Cindy Roberts)

1. Lake Attitash weed situation is very poor. Weeds are at a level normally seen in July or August.
2. The water quality is very poor. The real estate values will decline further if the lake continues in its downward spiral.
3. The lake should be lowered to 92.7 so that the weeds will freeze during the winter and hopefully not return the next season.

C. Sargents Farm

1. EPA is doing a thorough water study on Lake Attitash
2. Lake Attitash Committee just wants the Farm to manage the run off appropriately.
3. Hopefully the EPA can assist us in the effort with the Farm.
4. Cindy updated the L&W website recently



Amesbury Lakes and Waterways Commission
2009 Meeting Minutes

D. Lake Gardner Weed Assessment.

1. No news on the grant that was submitted by Bruce yet.
2. Attempting to get the map done.
3. Will start working on the swale in the immediate future (town).

E. Watershed Plan Management Update

1. No change at this point.
2. Need to establish the drawdown levels to input into the plan.

F. 8 Towns and the Bay: (Bill Rudolph)

1. Study on invasive marine growth.
2. Bill attended a meeting in Gloucester.
3. Will be monitoring specific species at specific locations.
4. Study includes Salisbury to Rockport / Gloucester.

G. On-Going Business:

Funds still sitting in a fund for L&W?

H. Next Meeting

July 23rd, 2009



Amesbury Lakes and Waterways Commission
2009 Meeting Minutes

**Town of Amesbury
Lakes and Waterways Commission
Meeting of May 21 2009
Amesbury Health Center**

MINUTES:

Present: Rob Desmarais, Bruce Georgian, Bill Rudolph, Karen Crago-Slater, Mark Sydlowski and Cindy Roberts

The meeting began at 6:35 PM. The vote to accept the meetings was accepted by Bruce Georgian and Cindy Roberts.

D. Engineers Update (Rob Desmarais)

1. There is a lot of water in the system. Letting the water naturally lower itself. There have been no complaints thus far.
2. Did pull the Gunderboom today. It does not look overly poor. Repairs are being made at this time.
3. The Newton Road weir is under appeal.
4. **Meadow Brook Estates:** had a site walk for ANRAD, and the ConCom reviewed the applicant's proposal.
5. **Tuxbury Pond Campground, South Hampton:**
 - i. John Vigliotti did draft and send a letter of concern.
 - ii. Another planning board meeting June 1 (South Hampton)
 - iii. Water sampling close to campground and away from it to determine chemical picture of pond?

E. Lake Attitash (Cindy Roberts)

1. DAR and DEP are saying they do not want to get involved with Sargent Farm.
2. L&WW / Lake Attitash Committee just want to make sure the farm is being managed the way it should be.
3. Lake Attitash Committee meeting is Thursday May 28th.



Amesbury Lakes and Waterways Commission
2009 Meeting Minutes

4. Hilary Snook (EPA) is doing a water study on Lake Attitash and is the guest speaker at the Lake Attitash meeting next week. He will be doing fish studies and water testing.
5. Boat Ramp at Lake Attitash signage will be looked at as well as the Merrimack River ramp.
6. Sent email to Pete Manor regarding the possibility of installing a water spigot at the Merrimack River Ramp. Boaters could rinse off their boats, and flush the engines as opposed to putting in at Lake Attitash and doing the same thing. Trying to eliminate weed transfer.

F. Weed Program For Lake Gardner

1. The grant encompassed most bodies of water in Amesbury.
2. Grant was just submitted to DEP.
3. Should hear in July.

G. Watershed Management Plan

No change since last meeting.

H. 8 Towns on the Bay (Bill Rudolph)

1. 8 Towns and the Bay would like to develop a plan if there were to be an oil spill in any major body of water.
2. A workshop at UNH featuring low impact development and a luncheon to discuss this type of drainage.

I. Lake Gardner Event

Canoe Race at Lake Gardner during Amesbury Days!

J. On-Going Business:

Funds still sitting in a fund for L&WW?

K. Next Meeting

June 19th



Amesbury Lakes and Waterways Commission
2009 Meeting Minutes

**Town of Amesbury
Lakes and Waterways Commission
Meeting of April 23 2009
Amesbury Health Center**

MINUTES:

Present: Greg Roy, Peter Manor, Karen Crago-Slater, Cindy Roberts, Bill Rudolph, Mark Sydlowski, Bruce Georgian, John Vigliotti, Mark Branch of South Hampton.

The meeting began at 6:35 PM. Mark Sydlowski and Karen Crago-Slater have motioned (1st and 2nd) as written. Minutes were approved.

A. Expansion of Tuxbury Pond Campground

1. Tuxbury Pond is a body of water located in NH.
2. The campground is looking to expand almost two fold.
3. May 4th there is a public hearing in South Hampton.
4. Major concerns regarding the proposed septic systems and how they would leach. Concern is that leaching would ultimately end up going into the pond, thus stimulating further the growth of weeds and potentially contaminating Amesbury's drinking water.
5. Existing septic system of the campground is already in place. The new system (for the new portion of the campground) is under review and the public hearing is May 4th.
6. John Vigliotti will draft a letter on behalf of the Amesbury L&WW Commission, to the Town of South Hampton (cc to Mayor Keezer, cc to the DES of the State of NH, outlining our concerns.
7. The major concern of the Amesbury L&WW Commission on this topic is that the "**original**" campground could very well be leaching raw sewage into Tuxbury Pond, part of Amesbury's drinking water supply. The proposed system for the expansion is also a concern due to potential leach ate.
8. Campground needs a storm water permit NPDES.

B. Engineers Report

1. All bodies of water are at acceptable levels.
2. Meeting is May 11th for the Meadow Brook development.
3. Treatment plant is still on hold. Waiting for funds from the Federal stimulus package to aid in the cost of expansion / improvements.

C. Weed Program for Lake Gardner

1. Commission (Karen) is looking to apply for a 604B grant to assess where all the nutrients are coming from and how to develop a plan for



Amesbury Lakes and Waterways Commission
2009 Meeting Minutes

remediation. Once we have the study done (Bruce G.) you can then proceed to the next grant to solve the problem.

2. Bruce and Karen see this as a 2 phase process. Phase one is the study, Phase 2 is the actual remediation.
3. CEI (a consulting firm) would write the grant for us (pro bono), but want to be contracted with to provide the ultimate remediation service in the end.
4. Amesbury L&WW looking to pursue a drawdown in October to a depth of 5' so it becomes a natural stream for the winter months. This would allow the sides to be exposed so that the weeds would freeze and die.

D. Lake Attitash (Cindy Roberts)

1. **Boat Ramps** at both the Merrimack River and Lake Attitash will be visited by Cindy and an associate to determine what type of signage would be appropriate to deter the flushing of boats from one body of water to the other.
2. **The Gunderboom:** will be taken down and looked at to see if it can be repaired. The estimated cost is \$25,000.00 to repair this item.
3. **Lake Attitash Annual Meeting is May 28th.**

E. 8 Towns on the Bay (Bill Rudolph)

1. Focus on eradicating weeds and storm water run off.
2. EPA Phase II storm water permits.

F. Next Meeting:

Scheduled for May 21st, 2009



Amesbury Lakes and Waterways Commission
2009 Meeting Minutes

**Town of Amesbury
Lakes and Waterways Commission
Meeting of Feb 19 2009
Amesbury Health Center**

MINUTES:

Present: Greg Roy, Peter Manor, Bill Rudolph, Karen Crago-Slater, Cindy Roberts,
Bruce Georgian

The meeting began at 6:35 PM.

The minutes from December 4, 2008 were approved (Karen 1st, Bill 2nd the motion) as written.

Pete Manor provided the engineers update, which included the following. The conservation commission is having a site visit to review the Newton Road Dam replacement on February 21, 2009. This project is part of the upgrade to the water treatment plant, which has been put on hold because of funding limitations. Repair to the Lake Gardner dam has been put on hold until the contractor is able to perform the work. All lakes are at levels expected for this time of year. Pete drafted a letter to the Mayor, which provided an update on Sargent Farm and ongoing efforts to control the composting operation on this site.

Cindy has been looking into the repair and replacement of the gunderboom on the Back River. The manufacturer has quoted \$4,000 for site inspection and \$22,000 for full replacement. The LAA is meeting on March 26th.

Bruce and Karen attended a weed control conference and provided an update on what was learned. Specifically, they had documentation recommending winter draw downs of lakes. In addition, they provided guidance documents on obtaining 319 grants, provided by Mass DEP. The Town is eligible for this grant money and L&W will begin the grant writing process.

The commission discussed winter draw downs and agreed that a trial draw down of Lake Gardner should occur in October of 2009. An assessment for the success of this draw down will be made. Fisheries and Wildlife has jurisdiction over draw downs. Karen has tabulated the summary of the weed assessment and Pete Manor has bathometrics of the Lake. The intent would be to plot the weeds, by species, on the bathometric plan.

Bill Rudolph provided a summary of 8 Towns and a Bay. He has officially been nominated by the Mayor to this organization. They have been trying to identify a project for Amesbury and might pursue a water quality study of the Powow River. Greg mentioned the Army Corps study which identifies the Powow River as a pollution source. This should help in justifying the need for this funding.



Amesbury Lakes and Waterways Commission
2009 Meeting Minutes

The meeting came to a close at 8:10 PM (Bruce 1st and Cindy 2nd)

Scheduled for March 19, 2009 @ 6:30 PM