



**City of Amesbury
Lakes and Waterways Commission
Meeting of April 18th, 2013
Amesbury Health Center Cafeteria**

MEETING MINUTES:

Commission members present: Chairman Bruce Georgian, Alex Pooler, Laura Pooler, Jay Knapp
Secretary: Ken Aspeslagh
City Engineer: Not present

The meeting began at 6:36 PM.

1. Previous Meeting Minutes:

The meeting minutes from Mar 21, 2013 were approved unanimously.

2. Other business: Jay has potential member who was not able to make it today.

3. Engineers Report: Not present

4. Lower Millyard:

a. City Council meeting update:

- i. Laura: Land along the river being donated by owner but it needs to be cleaned up. Agreement lets town walk away from agreement if there's a problem with it. Alex: Had good conversation with Mayor and Fahey at Carriage Museum Meeting. Property soil has been tested thoroughly to determine level of pollution and cost of remediation. City will pay half of cleanup costs. Canoe ramp/launch money is already secured and will happen even if Heritage Park does get green-lighted. Jay: State Department of fisheries will be handling it. Ken: We should find out exactly what they're planning to build for a launch

5. Bruce's meeting with Mayor:

- a. Asked how support of Millyard project will benefit our Lakes & Waterways. Mayor said because we get a waterfront park out of it.
- b. Talked about enrollment and issues with getting members (Can't use anyone from school system.) Mayor is talking about possibly shutting down some committees but likes L&W Committee.
- c. Jay: Where does boating excise tax go. Half should go back to waterways. It could go to maintaining of boat ramp. Bruce: We tried to figure this out before. 5 or 6 years ago there was a lot of money in the account and nobody knows where it goes. Bruce: We could ask for accounting of it.
- d. Alex: We could expand that system once a boat rental place goes in. Jay: Since we're taking state money, state will dictate fees and policies as they do in Cashman Park in Newburyport. We've purposely never taken state money for our Merrimac boat ramp because state would take control and dictate policy and we would lose the ability to restrict to Amesbury residents. You don't need to register non-motorized boats.
- e. Talked about Greenscapes presentation.
- f. Assessment document. Too big to email. Ken will send it via Dropbox.
- g. Talked to Mayor about needing representative from Clark's Pond.
- h. Mayor asked about muscle study. Bruce thinks muscles are a foregone conclusion and solution to muscles is unlikely to happen.
- i. Talked about weed issues and how it might affect the DAM triathlon.

6. Alex asked about status of Tuxbury dam water testing near campground. Not sure if that was

happening. Bruce will follow up with Pete about that. Alex: We should probably get a baseline before tourists start showing up at campground.

7. Assessment Document:

- a. Ken will **revise or refine the Purposes statements and write an execute summary.**
- b. Alex still working on info-graphic map.

8. Lake Statuses: LGIA is having canoe orienteering. Working on replacing signs at beach. We should get someone from Lake Attitash to let us know how the milfoil issues are going.

9. River Cleanup: Laura found out her work requires there to be a charity involved. “Serve with Liberty” week in June 17th –21st. Might be able to use LGIA. We should talk more about the cleanup at the next meeting.

10. Tour of water treatment facility: Alex: We should look into getting a tour of it. Other group members expressed interest.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM

The next meeting is May 16th.