



City of Amesbury
Lakes and Waterways Commission
Meeting of May 22, 2014
Location: Health Center Cafe

MEETING MINUTES:

Commission members present: Chairman Bruce Georgian, Joe Spencer, Alex Pooler, Laura Pooler

Secretary: Ken Aspeslagh *City Engineer:* Peter Manor

The meeting began at 6:38 PM.

1. **Membership:** New member Joe Spencer. New to town. Has degree in environmental science and works for local engineering firm, which already works with DPW on certain projects. Introduced to group.
2. **Previous Meeting Minutes:** There was no April meeting due to lack of quorum. The meeting minutes from March were approved unanimously.
3. **Engineer's Report (Pete):**
 - a. CEI is starting storm drain work on Whitehall Rd. area (from the 319 grant we received last year.) Work will be around 101 Whitehall and Cynthia drive area. Pete will talk to Stephanie about Greenscapes funding that was the education part of the grant.
 - b. This winter, a sewer manhole on the sewage pipe under Lake Gardner had the cone shift due to ice movement. This caused 3 million gallons of water to go into the treatment plant. It was quickly fixed.
 - c. Lake Attitash is 4 inches higher than normal pool which causes complaints from Merrimac residents.
 - d. Pete continues to deal with beaver issues at Archbrook culvert.
 - e. **Watershed Mgt Plan update:**
 - i. At Lake Attitash, DPW would like to make all the lakes the same level so they wouldn't need all the different dams separating the different ponds. A potential problem is that Tuxbury pond is always at height of Powow River.
 - ii. We should prepare any other changes we want since Attitash people want to change it and will be present at the next meeting.
4. **Membership:** We now have Joe along with two other possible new members.
5. **Lower Millyard Project:**
 - a. **Decontamination:** EPA is doing sampling along river to see if cleanup needs to taken over by them. (EPA takes over cleanups if the PCB level is over a certain amount.) This could be problematic because the Brownfields grant has to be done before June. Joe asks if there is a project manager from EPA assigned. Pete doesn't know for sure.
 - b. **Other work:** Contracts are all signed and DPW demolition is starting. Bill Scott to be replacing Joe Fahey as head of Economic Development but will not necessarily be in charge of the Lower Millyard project (and reportedly doesn't want to be.) The LSP (licensed site professional) is John Higgins.
 - c. The state will finish the Riverwalk with bridge over Powow and continuation of trail to Mill St. Canoe Launch is still funded and a floating pier is being discussed.
6. **Beach Management Plan:**
 - a. Made some final edits and approval process will begin starting with DPW. Department of Public Works (Pete and Rob will review)
 - i. Then we will bring Mayor's Office and Con Com.
 - ii. Conservation Commission
 - iii. Mayor's Office
 - iv. Director of Youth Services
 - v. Office of Community Development (Nipun may want to see it. Or Bill Scott.)
 - b. There's a form the planning office we could use to get sign-off (based on subdivision form) that was used for canoe race. We will ask Bruce for Canoe race form.
7. **Beach Kiosk:** Ken showed graphic for new beach kiosk. Will send around to group. Pete says DPW could pay for sign as long as they don't have to do the work.
8. **Meadowbrook Pond:** 340 acres on the south side are for sale for \$3.5 million. Is it a watershed? Rob thinks city should buy it to protect the waterways.

The meeting adjourned at 8:14 PM. The next meeting is June 26th, 2014.