

GARDNER LAKE AUTHORITY

270 Hartford Road
Salem, CT 06240

Meeting Minutes of August 8, 2019 Salem Town Hall

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by Henry Granger, Chair.

Attendees

Bozrah: Henry Granger, Scott Soderberg
Montville: Kate Johnson, Mike Magliano
Salem: Chris Rios, Suzanne Bennett

Excused: Bill Wrobel

Absent: Bob Neddo

Guests in attendance: State Representative Holly Cheeseman, State Senator Paul Formica, Peter Hornat, Sue Coffee, John Hummel, Matt Northrop, Lt. David Radford, Robert Marrero, Cindy Rosso, Barbara Magliano, Bill Bennett, Steve Banis.

Minutes

The minutes of the July 11, 2019 meeting were presented. Chris Rios made a motion to accept the July minutes; seconded by Mike Magliano. The motion was unanimously accepted.

Attachments

- Treasurer's Report through 7/17/2019.
- Client Monitoring Field Data Sheet 7/25/2019.

Administration, Correspondence & Communication

- **UConn CESE Invoice:** Dated 8/2/2019, in the amount of \$305.05 for lab analysis. Kate Johnson made a motion to pay the invoice; seconded by Mike Magliano. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Montville Payment:** In the amount of \$6,980 was received in full.
- **Bozrah Payment:** In the amount of \$2,326 was received in full.
- **Ecosystem Consulting Service Inc. Invoice:** Dated 7/9/2019, in the amount of \$945 for water quality monitoring 4/30-6/25. Suzanne Bennett made a motion to pay the invoice; seconded by Chris Rios. The motion passed unanimously.
- **2019-20 Annual Drawdown Letter:** Chris Rios made a motion to send the DEEP drawdown letter requesting a drawdown of 3-4 feet beginning by October 15; seconded by Mike Magliano. The motion passed unanimously. The letter will be sent certified, signature requested.
- **Val Hornat Phone Message:** Kate received a phone call on 7/29/2019 from Val Hornat checking to see if anyone had reported finding a missing Laurel Lock swim buoy, approximately 5-6 feet tall, which exposes around 3 feet above the water. There have been no reports. On a second note, Val has contacted DEEP to learn more about the flow through the dam when it is opened, and to learn if there are any changes to flow with the new gate. She is awaiting a reply.
- **Revised DEEP Patrol Contract:** The revised, signed contract, to a maximum amount of \$12,000 for the 2019 season, has been received.
- **Client Monitoring Field Data Sheet:** Dated 7/25/2019.
- **Phone Conversation with Ivonne Hall, DEEP Dam Safety:** Kate spoke with Ivonne on 8/6/2019 inquiring about any changes to the amount of flow through the dam during last year's drawdown. Ivonne explained that there was a change in staffing in Dam Safety, and the new Assistant Director of Dam Safety is Chuck Lee. Kate spoke with Chuck, and he has requested to be cc'd on the drawdown

letter to Robert Hannon. New dam staffing is not familiar with the Gardner Lake dam and will look into it.

Treasurer's Report

Presented by Scott Soderberg. Scott noted that the report shows a withdrawal from savings in the amount of \$1,000 which was deposited into checking. The checking account statement is printed a day later, so the deposit into checking will appear on next month's statement (and Treasurer's Report). Kate Johnson made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report from 6/18/2019 through 7/17/2019; seconded by Mike Magliano. The motion was unanimously approved.

Committee Business

- A) Law Enforcement Patrol:** Henry Granger received an email from DEEP's Captain Eric Lundin with patrol stats which included the boat launch and state park for the period June 1 to August 1.
- *178 calls for service.*
 - * 50 law enforcement actions:*
 - 37 infractions for boating/park/parking violations (24 boating citations, mostly personal watercraft without certificates/observers);*
 - *11 parking citations;*
 - *3 arrests: motor vehicle (misuse of plate/under suspension)/disorderly conduct/interfering with an officer;*
 - *10 warnings of all types.*
- B) Boating:** The Boater Safety Course has been completed for this season.
- C) Water Quality Sampling:** Scott reported that water quality conditions are typical for the current warm water temperatures. The cost for the green algae analysis was \$450 from the lake study line item.

Old Business None.

New Business

- **Jet Skis:** Banning jet skis on the lake does not appear to be an option. With improved law enforcement, there should be a reduction in safety issues from those the lake experienced this year - prior to the start of patrols.

Public Comment

Following are the comments and concerns made by guests in attendance regarding the state beach, boat launch and lake:

- Enforcement on the lake has made a big difference.
- Regarding littering on the beach, sightings of trash being dumped and left behind have been made on weekends. If possible, observers should try to get those license plate numbers or call DEEP at **860-424-3333**.
- Many cars coming in from out-of-state are not required to pay.
- DEEP should set up a booth to charge for out-of-state cars and for the inspection of boats coming in. Senator Formica considered the possibility if out-of-state cars were charged, would it cover the cost of a seasonal attendant.
- Interest in hiring a lifeguard for the beach.
- Education of the State's "Carry In, Carry Out" parks policy. A suggestion was proposed to engage children, and in turn engage the parents, by having a "mascot" talk to the children on the beach to teach them about carrying out their trash. The cost savings in the removal of dumpsters would help offset the cost of an attendant.
- Representative Holly Cheeseman spoke of the continuing case that Salem First Selectman Kevin Lyden has been making to DEEP to improve conditions.
- Gardner Lake is building a new reputation and people are listening.
- After bacteria issues reported at Hammonasset, it would be good to check [with CFL maybe] to see if there are reports of any dangerous bacteria in fresh water bodies in the state.

- Montville Police Lieutenant David Radford noted that they have had their boat out on the lake again, and that the reputation for enforcement is getting out to the public.
- Sue Coffee, founder of the Friends of Gardner Lake, along with Lexi Tavares, will follow up with DEEP Deputy Commissioner Susan Whalen regarding a letter they sent to her on 7/9/2019 outlining eight issues of concern for the State. These issues can be found on the Friends of Gardner Lake Facebook page. Sen. Formica recommended that letters going to DEEP would be well-served to be cc'd to the lake's legislators also.
- Interest in guidelines or regulations for fertilizers that could ultimately travel into the lake. Scott Soderberg explained that according to our limnologist Dr. Kortmann, the higher the phosphorus levels, the greater the risks to the lake.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, September 12, 2019 at the Bozrah Senior Center at 7:00 pm.

Adjournment

Mike Magliano made a motion to adjourn at 8:10 p.m.; seconded by Chris Rios. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kate Johnson". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored, rectangular background.

Kate Johnson,
Secretary