

GARDNER LAKE AUTHORITY

270 Hartford Road
Salem, CT 06240

Meeting Minutes of August 13, 2020
Salem Community Park

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Attendees

Bozrah: Henry Granger, Scott Soderberg
Montville: Bill Wrobel, Kate Johnson, Mike Magliano
Salem: Bob Neddo, Chris Rios

Excused: Tony Lasaracina

A quorum was noted.

Guests: State Representative Holly Cheeseman, Merle & Jill Johnson, Bill Schultz, Sue Coffee, Val Hornat and Barbara Magliano.

The July meeting was cancelled due to a lack of quorum.

Minutes

The minutes of the June 11, 2020 meeting were presented for approval. Chris Rios made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; seconded by Scott Soderberg. The motion passed unanimously.

Attachments

- Treasurer's Report from 5/16/2020 through 7/17/2020
- Client Monitoring Field Data Sheet, dated 6/14/2020
- Client Monitoring Field Data Sheet, dated 7/26/2020
- Client Monitoring Field Data Sheet, dated 8/12/2020

Correspondence & Communication

- **DEEP 2020 Patrol Contract:** In the amount of \$8,000.
- **Email from Dr. Robert Kortmann on Recent Fish Kill and Algae Bloom:** Dated 6/17/20, attributing the bluegill die-off to post-reproductive stress. This year's appearance and quantity increase of green filamentous algae is attributed to the mild winter, little ice-cover and early ice-out. Both events are naturally occurring.
- **DEEP 2020-2021 Drawdown Request:** Dated 6/18/20, signed and submitted. Kate will confirm that Robert Hannon has received it.
- **Email from Jean Pillo, ECCD, on BloomWatch:** Dated 6/23/20, inviting GLA to participate in a study to track algae blooms through a phone app known as BloomWatch, focusing on cyanotoxins.
- **UConn CESE Invoice:** Dated 6/30/20, was received in the amount of \$225.16 for lab analysis. Kate Johnson made a motion to approve the invoice for payment; seconded by Bill Wrobel. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Email from Katie Sandberg, Montville Town Clerk, on Meeting Requirements:** Dated 7/31/20, clarifying in-person and virtual meeting requirements for Montville.
- **GLA Welcome Email to Tony Lasaracina:** Dated 8/3/20, welcoming Salem's recently appointed GLA member. The email included GLA's 2020 operating budget, 2020 meeting dates, June Treasurer's Report and the June minutes.
- **Three Client Monitoring Field Data Sheets,** Dated 6/14/20, 7/26/20 and 8/12/20.

Treasurer's Report

Scott Soderberg presented the following reports for approval:

- 1) May 16, 2020 – June 17, 2020 Treasurer's Report: Bill Wrobel made a motion to approve the report; seconded by Chris Rios. The motion passed unanimously.
- 2) June 18, 2020 – July 17, 2020 Treasurer's Report: Chris Rios made a motion to approve the report; seconded by Bob Neddo. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Business

- A) Law Enforcement Patrol:** DEEP has been keeping their boat at Mike Socha's at the north end of the lake next to the dam. There was discussion about the infrequency of the patrols this year. It is reported that one officer is returning from medical leave. Bob checked with approximately eight residents along the Salem shoreline who all confirmed seeing very few patrols out. Members spoke with Holly Cheeseman about providing the Salem Board of Finance with a detailed description of the work that GLA accomplishes and the funding involved to keep Gardner Lake healthy and safe. It was noted that this year two officers have been seen on the patrol boat.
- B) Boating:** Bob Neddo has not heard of any program being offered this year at the GLVFC, only that courses are now available online. Sue Coffee reported that DEEP is going out to homes/smaller gatherings for the boater safety courses, but there is a greater cost involved.
- C) Water Quality Sampling:** Scott Soderberg reported that the lake is extremely clear this year. With regards to the recent cyanobacteria study that Scott participated in, he noted that cyanobacteria, also known as blue-green algae, is a commonly occurring algae in CT, but it can become toxic. Due to Covid-19, Uncas Health District has not been doing sampling at the campgrounds this year, although Laurel Lock was checked at the beginning of the season. Val Hornat reported that she saw a sign at the State Beach that the State was not testing the water there for bacteria.

Old Business – None.

New Business – None.

Other Business

- **Bozrah Payment:** We will send an invoice to Bozrah for this year's payment.

Public Comment

Val Hornat reported that she had seen several small dead fish of different species. Sue Coffee also saw some following a storm. Bill Schultz suggested that GLA secure a speaking engagement (become an agenda item) to present GLA's work to the Salem Board of Finance, along with additional concerned residents and citizens, and to share the impact we have on the health and well-being of the lake. This should occur as the Town of Salem begins to look at budgeting for their next fiscal year. So much is uncertain for towns right now with the pandemic and preparing for Phase III reopening. Holly Cheeseman noted that the East Lyme Children's Museum is opened and safe at 50% capacity for anyone wishing to visit.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, August 10, 2020 at the Bozrah Senior Center at 7:00 pm.

Adjournment

Chris Rios made a motion to adjourn at 8:03 p.m.; seconded by Bob Neddo. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Kate Johnson,
Secretary