

GARDNER LAKE AUTHORITY

270 Hartford Road
Salem, CT 06240

Meeting Minutes of May 13, 2021
Salem Community Park

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m.

Attendees

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

A quorum was noted.

Guests: Charlie Hebert, Valerie Gagnier, Sue Coffee, Barbara Magliano, Judy Gadbois, Bill Schultz, John Hummel, Gary Grenier.

Minutes

The minutes of the April 8, 2021 meeting were presented for approval. Mike Magliano made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; seconded by Chris Rios. The motion passed unanimously.

Attachments

- Treasurer's Report from 3/18/2021 through 4/16/2021.
- Client Field Monitoring Sheet, dated 4/28/21.

Correspondence & Communication

- **State Beach Marker Permit:** Dated 4/3/21. DEEP submitted their approved swim marker permit for the State Beach.
- **Email from Major Brian Newman, DEEP EnCon:** Dated 4/13/21. Major Newman sent rates for DEEP's water patrol.
- **Email from Joseph Danao (GLVFC):** Dated 4/22/21. Additional information was provided on the April 22 Marine Rescue Training Session held at the State Boat Launch.
- **Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Webinar:** Dated 4/22/21. Kate participated in a CT Conference of Municipalities (CCM) sponsored webinar regarding freedom of information at public meetings.
- **Client Monitoring Field Data Sheet:** Dated 4/28/21. Presented by Scott.
- **Email from DEEP's Major Brian Newman:** Dated 5/11/21. Major Newman responded to a GLA inquiry pertaining to the number of officers per patrol that we will be billed for, which will remain one patrol officer per visit. Last year, when two officers were billed (occurred on two different dates) for the same day, that was the result of a split shift – two different visits. Occasionally a second officer will be aboard, but will not be billed for.
- **Email from Rebekah White, CFL Treasurer:** Dated 5/12/21. Ms. White responded to our request for confirmation of our membership status, replying that GLA's membership dues are current, and paid through 2021.

Treasurer's Report

Scott Soderberg presented the May Treasurer's Report (March 18, 2021 to April 16, 2021) for approval. Bill Wrobel made a motion to approve the report; seconded by Chris Rios. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Business

- **Law Enforcement Patrol:** A vote by hand was taken to select either Montville Patrol or DEEP Patrol for the 2021 season. DEEP Patrol was unanimously selected, 7-0. We will invite Major Brian Newman and Sergeant Chris Dwyer, DEEP Encon officers, to attend the June meeting. We will work with DEEP to develop a contract for service from Memorial Day to Labor Day.
- **Water Quality Sampling:** Scott began sampling in April. He attempted to participate in a CT Federation of Lakes (CFL) sponsored training, but there were complications getting through online.

Scott will be submitting Gardner Lake transparency information online through a new app to DEEP and CFL. The app is designed for local lake volunteers to share water transparency data statewide. It was reported that the green algae seen early on in the last two years is beginning to materialize. It generally dissipates in June, and will be monitored. This year's water quality monitoring agreement with Dr. Kortmann will remain at the same rate as 2021. It has been reported that Ecosystem Consulting System is going through some corporate growth changes.

Old Business – None.

New Business – None.

Other Business

There was continuing discussion about the dam and winter drawdown levels. For two years DEEP's dam program has gone through significant staffing changes. GLA will look into water levels, gate size and the size of the culvert to see if water is flowing from the dam at the same rate as with the old gate. There are ongoing concerns about the annual drawdown's water levels not reaching even the minimum of three feet as requested. A reduction in drawdown levels has been taking place over the last couple of years, which raises concerns about DEEP's management, and even awareness by new dam staffing, of our 3-4 foot drawdown requests that we pay DEEP to manage, including early dam gate closures with no communication.

Public Comment

Fishing tournament participants have been seen fishing between private docks and monopolizing the lake. Additionally, when bass are spawning and are caught during the tournaments - frequently at the northern end of the lake – the larger bass are kept in live wells and brought to the boat launch at the south end of the lake to be weighed and measured. Then they are released right there at the southern end of the lake. DEEP has informed us that the mortality rate is low for these released fish. However, this practice leaves the nests vulnerable to predators with no adult fish to protect those nests. The State does not charge for tournament permits. Meanwhile, GLA is forced to pay for patrols, and residents must endure negligent behavior from some of the anglers at their own expense.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, June 10, 2021, at Maples Farm, Bozrah, beginning at 7:00 pm.

Adjournment

Chris Rios made a motion to adjourn at 7:55 p.m.; seconded by Mike Magliano. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Kate Johnson,
Secretary