

GARDNER LAKE AUTHORITY

270 Hartford Road
Salem, CT 06240

Meeting Minutes of June 10, 2021
Maples Farm, Bozrah

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: Major Brian Newman, DEEP Environmental Control (EnCon); Sgt. Chris Dwyer, DEEP EnCon; Len Johnson, Eileen Smith, Peter Lodi, Barbara Magliano, Sue Coffee, Debra Geinherdt, Valerie Gagnieu,Carolynn Polaske, Kimberly Diamantini, Janet Schultz, Bill Schultz, Bob Neddo, Edwina Callaghan, Austin Polaske, Gary Grenier.

DEEP Patrol

Deep EnCon officers Major Brian Newman and Sgt. Chris Dwyer addressed the members and guests and shared their strategy for the 2021 season. Their goal in fielding observed and/or reported infractions is to identify the core of the problem(s) and to educate in hopes of resolving the issue(s) first. Major Newman reported that they will be looking to provide more enhanced enforcement, and is projecting that GLA funding will provide approximately 4 hours per week for the season running from Memorial Day to Labor Day.

In response to phoned-in complaints to DEEP dispatch, they ask that witnesses gather and provide as much information as possible regarding the reported offense including:

- nature of the violation;
- vessel registration number;
- where a water craft is launched from;
- description of the vessel;
- description of the driver;
- number of people aboard;
- when the offense took place; and
- photos are very helpful.

The DEEP Call Line number is **860-424-3333**. The more information provided, the better assistance it is to the EnCon officers.

DEEP enforcement will also be looking into the numerous reports of violations by the fishing tournaments, including the permitting process. DEEP Patrol will select and patrol one of the scheduled fishing tournaments, and GLA will be billed for that. There are six officers qualified to cover all state parks east of the CT River. Staffing is an issue for the State as state parks are being filled to capacity now during the warm weather months.

Issues addressed by the attendees were:

- ❖ the impersonation of a federal marshal;
- ❖ ongoing safety issues with jet skiers coming to the park;
- ❖ reckless operation of jet skis;
- ❖ many of the jet skis are coming to Gardner Lake from out-of-state;
- ❖ jet skiers clogging the kayak ramp area;
- ❖ trespassing on private property;
- ❖ fishing tournament participants violating personal spaces, including damages to resident boats; and
- ❖ the responsibility of DEEP to provide staffing to check incoming boats for invasive aquatic plant fragments, esp. for their fishing tournaments.

DEEP suggested that we work with local authorities to update our laws and regulations. Coventry Lake has instituted Quiet Hours for specific periods of time that allow no jet ski activity. However, enforcement of Quiet Hours would present challenges. All CT lakes are having the same problems, and the State is reviewing these statewide issues.

Minutes

The minutes of the May 13, 2021 meeting were presented for approval. Chris Rios made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; seconded by Mike Magliano. The motion passed unanimously.

Attachments

- Treasurer's Report from 4/17/2021 to 5/17/2021.
- Client Field Monitoring Data Sheet, dated 5/24/21.

Correspondence & Communication

- **Email to DEEP's Major Brian Newman and Sgt. Chris Dwyer:** Dated 5/14/21, notifying DEEP that the 2021 patrol contract has been awarded to them.
- **Email to Montville's Lt. David Radford:** Dated 5/14/21, notifying Montville that they were not selected for the 2021 patrol contract.
- **Emails Between DEEP and GLA:** Dated 5/18-5/19/21, establishing details of the patrol contract.
- **Client Monitoring Field Data Sheet:** Dated 5/21/21.
- **Emails between Scott Soderberg and Dr. Robert Kortmann:** Dated 5/24-5/25/21, regarding good transparency so far this season, uniform thermocline and the presence of filamentous green algae again this year.
- **Email from Milaflor Powe, DEEP Financial Management Division:** Dated 5/24/21. In response to our inquiry regarding the 2020-21 drawdown billing, M. Powe replied that the nine weeks we were billed for monitoring the dam after the premature closing date by DEEP (February 15) is in fact due and payable by GLA. We will research past dam closings and billings to see what we have previously been billed for.
- **Email from Katie Sandberg, Montville Town Clerk:** Dated 5/25/21. Notice was received to update our agendas to include remote access. After communication with Ms. Sandberg, it was determined that our current agenda suffices for GLA's meeting conditions.
- **Emails with DEEP's Major Newman and Sgt. Chris Dwyer:** Dated 5/20/21 and 6/4/21, inviting them to attend the June 10 GLA meeting.
- **UConn CESE Invoice:** Dated 6/10/21, in the amount of \$118.10 for water sample analysis. Mike Magliano made a motion to approve payment; seconded by Kate Johnson. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Scott Soderberg presented the June Treasurer's Report (April 17, 2021 to May 17, 2021) for approval. Kate Johnson made a motion to approve the report; seconded by Bill Wrobel. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Business

- **Law Enforcement Patrol:** Covered above by DEEP.
- **Water Quality Sampling:** Scott reported that sampling is underway. He has begun entering Gardner Lake data through CT's Lake Observers program, which is in collaboration with US EPA.

Old Business

- **2020-21 Drawdown Invoice:** Kate Johnson made a motion to table a vote on the drawdown invoice until further research is done; seconded by Bill Wrobel. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business – None.

Other Business

Mike Magliano reported that Uncas Health District is no longer providing free weekly lake water sampling of campgrounds. Campgrounds must now pay \$125/year to have their water tested.

Public Comment

Pros and cons of Quiet Hours for jet skis on the weekends were discussed.

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 8:50 p.m.; seconded by Mike Magliano. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Kate Johnson,
Secretary