

## GARDNER LAKE AUTHORITY

270 Hartford Road  
Salem, CT 06240

Meeting Minutes of November 18, 2021  
(Scheduled for the third Thursday due to Veteran's Day on the second Thursday)  
Salem Town Hall

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

### Attendees

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

Excused: Mike Magliano  
A quorum was noted.

Guests: Major Brian Newman, DEEP; Captain Vinny Mazzotta, DEEP; and State Representative Holly Cheeseman

**2021 CT DEEP Patrol Report**, presented by Major Newman and Captain Mazzotta.

Major Newman introduced Captain Mazzotta to GLA members. Due to a delay in the agreement signing process, DEEP's presence began on June 19. The season included at least one day of rain on holiday weekends and several weekends through the season, which kept incidents down. DEEP's goal to reduce problems by their EnCon presence at the beach had a ripple effect to the water. EnCon officers have adopted a new practice of Education, Engagement and Enforcement, taking a proactive approach to education first, rather than a reactive approach.

Organizers of fishing tournaments are being encouraged to educate tournament participants about the importance of cleaning their boats of aquatic plants between waterbodies to prevent the spread of invasive plants. Reported violators can now be banned from participation in upcoming tournament(s). It was noted that jet skis are also responsible for the transport of invasive plants.

Based on call analysis, the busiest times of need were Saturdays and Sundays, with Sundays most in need. Staffing was present at the boat launch checking licenses, etc. "on the ground." Additional seasonal help was added this year, with the hope of additional seasonal help next year.

Rep. Cheeseman recommended that when organizations apply for tournament fishing permits, a copy of regulations for that waterbody should be included with the permit as part of each package and distributed to each participant.

### Minutes

The minutes of the October 14, 2021 meeting were presented for approval. One correction was noted as follows: under the 2021 Aquatic Macrophyte Survey section, paragraph three, sentence two should read: *If the loss of dissolved oxygen...* . Chris Rios made a motion to approve the minutes as amended; seconded by Scott Soderberg. The motion passed unanimously.

### Attachments

- Treasurer's Report from 9/18/2021 to 10/15/2021.
- 2021 Annual Report
- 2022 Meeting Dates

### Correspondence & Communication

- **Salem payment – second installment:** Received in the amount of \$2,000.

- **Email from Jean Pillo**, Dated 10/18/21, regarding an upcoming 3-part symposium, being offered by Western CT State University, on lake water quality issues. Three separate topics are being offered virtually on October 18, November 15 and December 13.
- **UConn CESE Invoice**: The final 2021 invoice for 10/18 sampling analysis will be in the amount of \$103.36. Kate Johnson made a motion to pre-approve payment upon confirmed receipt of the invoice; seconded by Scott Soderberg. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Invoice Summary from GZA – ECS**: Submitted by Stephan Roy in the amount of \$7,880 (approved contract amount) for this year's water quality monitoring services. Chris Rios made a motion to pre-approve payment upon confirmed receipt of the invoice; seconded by Jim Miller. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Email to Mike Lambert, DEEP**: Dated 11/11/21, regarding adjustment to the 2020-2021 drawdown invoice; shortened drawdown periods creating adverse conditions for management of aquatic invasive plants; a request for a meeting at the dam site; and noting that our last two drawdowns did not reach the requested 3 feet.
- **Email to Sgt. Chris Dwyer, DEEP**: Dated 11/1/21, requesting the patrol invoice and the 2021 patrol report by 11/18/21. The email was sent to Sgt. Dwyer while Major Newman was out of the office.
- **Email from Major Newman**: Dated 11/15/21, informing GLA that he will be attending the November meeting to address some of GLA's concerns and to provide the requested documentation.
- **Email from Rep. Holly Cheeseman**: Dated 11/16/21, noting that she is planning to attend the November meeting.
- **Email from Mike Lambert, DEEP**: Dated 11/18/21, noting that April 11 and April 17 charges have been removed from our drawdown invoice, and noting that the State is standardizing their process for reporting each dam monitoring date. Also included was a copy of the agency drawdown policy. It was reported that Fisheries has been working hard to educate tournament organizers to ensure that their procedures are consistent with stopping the spread of invasives, and that educational information is provided with each tournament permit issued, including the State's Clean, Drain, Dry procedures. Boating Education Assistants (BEAs) were on site every weekend between Memorial Day and Labor Day. They conducted 1,258 Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Inspections.
- **Email to Mike Lambert**: Dated 11/18/21, with response to the revised drawdown invoice, and again requesting a meeting at the dam. Also included were concerns about the current high-water level, noting that the annual drawdown is traditionally completed by Thanksgiving; and that we are striving - and paying - for a 3 foot drawdown.
- **Revised Drawdown Invoice for 2020-2021**: Chris Rios made a motion to approve payment of the revised drawdown invoice in the amount of \$1,795.28; seconded by Bill Wrobel. The motion passed unanimously.
- **2021 Patrol Invoice**: Kate Johnson made a motion to approve payment of the patrol invoice in the amount of \$3,138.26; seconded by Chris Rios. The motion passed unanimously.

### Treasurer's Report

Scott Soderberg presented the November Treasurer's Report (September 18, 2021 to October 15, 2021) for approval. Bill Wrobel made a motion to approve the report as presented; seconded by Chris Rios. The motion passed unanimously.

### Committee Business

- **Law Enforcement Patrol**: Noted above.
- **Water Quality Sampling**: Concluded for the season.

Old Business – None.

### New Business

- **2021 Annual Report**: Chris Rios made a motion to approve the 2021 Annual Report as presented; seconded by Scott Soderberg. The motion passed unanimously.
- **2022 Meeting Dates**: Bill Wrobel made a motion to approve the 2022 Meeting Dates as presented; seconded by Kate Johnson. The motion passed unanimously.

- **2022 Budget:** Chris Rios made a motion to approve the 2022 Budget in the amount of \$26,750; seconded by Jim Miller. The motion passed unanimously.
- **2022 CFL Membership Dues:** Kate Johnson made a motion to pre-approve the 2022 CFL dues in the amount of \$150 upon receipt of the official request from CFL; seconded by Jim Miller. The motion passed unanimously.

**Other Business** – None.

**Public Comment**

An email received from Sue Coffee, dated 11/18/21, was shared with GLA members regarding the State's role in monitoring invasive weeds that might be brought to Gardner Lake by the many fishing tournaments that travel from waterbody to waterbody. Of grave concern is keeping hydrilla from spreading from the CT River to Gardner Lake.

**Next Meeting Date**

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, March 10, 2022, at the Bozrah Senior Center beginning at 7:00 pm.

**Adjournment**

Chris Rios made a motion to adjourn at 10:20 p.m.; seconded by Kate Johnson. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Kate Johnson,  
Secretary