

In attendance:

Stacy Parsons (Chairing)

Jack Hickey

Dean Maynard

Joe Trybus

7:15 pm

Diane and Robert McCluskey

Darrin Harris, Hill Engineering

John Goerlach, Contractor

Request for Determination, 31 Narragansett Avenue

- Existing retaining wall in failure. Top section sliding forward and needs to be replaced
- Exactly the same footprint and height. Stairs will be shifted slightly to the north. No new resource area impacts.
- Reviewed sequence of work. Limit of work line to be established prior to start.
- Remove one section of block at a time and work across the existing wall. Constructed of versalock blocks. At end of work, jersey barriers to be removed.
- Temporary road with fabric and gravel. Straw waddle and silt fence will be placed at the edge of work. Road will be returned to lawn at the end of construction.
- Establishing footing at base of the wall per plan. The footing will be buried 1' below grade. The blocks will be stacked, tied back into the hill, and tapered back. Geofabric will be added behind the wall.
- On plan, note to cover exposed soils with tarp at end of day.
- Work expected to take 3-4 weeks as designed.
- Excavated material to be removed off site. Staging area will be on the neighbor's property across the street.
- Work during the annual drawdown.
- Unanimous approval. Issuing Negative Determination. Will send Determination to Hill Engineering.

Informational meeting with Lee Hauge, Harbormaster

- Review of water sampling at 4 different locations and total phosphate samples at 2 depths.
- Phosphorous samples above 20 are a concern for algae bloom. Numbers above 20 are unusual for Pontoosuc Lake. L. Hauge stated we are not learning much from the other sample sites. If there is a concern, it will most likely show up in the deep hole samples. Based on this data, L. Hauge is recommending to discontinue SE and SW Hole sites.
- Stormwater from roads is the greatest watershed issue facing the lake.
- Temperature and dissolved oxygen samples taken at 4 sites. If dissolved oxygen is below 6 parts per million, it is believed to be insufficient for trout to survive.
- L. Hauge stated that conditions in the deep hole seem to be indicative of the overall conditions in the lake based on samples taken at all four locations. J. Hickey commented on consistency of conditions across the sample sites in regards to temperature and dissolved oxygen.

- Discussed conditions in Pontoosuc Lake versus Onota Lake.
- Data from previous sampling and map of sample sites was not submitted or reviewed at this meeting.
- J. Hickey discussed data collection over the decade. Only change noted was the change in temperature. No significant change in dissolved oxygen noted.
- J. Trybus requested data from June before the lake began to warm. L. Hauge explained the turnover that happens in April and May based on temperature changes resulting in “oxygen everywhere” and uniform temperature. The same process happens around October.
- S. Parsons met with Rob VanDeKar, Pittsfield Conservation Agent. Recommended tabling any decisions regarding sampling until after a shared meeting with Pittsfield Conservation Commission members regarding Pontoosuc and Onota Lakes.
- Discussed work of Ken Wagner and permitting process around implementation of the herbicide treatment process for the lake. The herbicide treatment of the lake was chosen due to the high flush rate of the lake.
- J. Trybus informally surveyed resident feelings and knowledge regarding herbicides. Of the informal sample, many of those not living on the lake were opposed to the treatment. J. Hickey offered a meeting for those that had concerns or provide education about the herbicide treatment of the lake.
- D. Maynard asked if there were any samples taken to determine any chemical residues in the mud. J. Hickey believes that samples were taken in the lake 1990’s when Ken Wagner was doing his original study. Generally discussed possible options to fund soil testing and where those samples might be sent.

Other Business:

- Announced training on new Wetlands Protection Act Regulations enacted on 10/24/14 in Pittsfield on 12/10/14 at 6:30 pm at City Hall in Pittsfield.
- Received Vernal Pool Certification notice from NHESP for newly certified pool near 60 Ore Bed Road.
- Received ZBA decision for 1 Profile Street.
- Reviewed budget statements
- Received Forest Cutting Plan for Old Williamstown Road, Zionta property, and letter from DCR Forester Grima disapproving the plan.
- Received dues notice from MACC for FY 16 totaling \$183.00

Adjourned 8:15 pm

Next meeting: December 1st, starting at 7 pm