

**LAKE WYOLA ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**-Draft Minutes-**

February 19, 2022 at 9:00 AM  
Via Zoom

Members present: Catherine Hilton, Dave Green, John Gorey, Mary David, Eric Stocker, Walter Tibbetts, and Mark Rivers

Guest: Mike Stotz

1. The minutes from the September 18, 2021, meeting were approved.
2. Committee Membership

The committee unanimously voted to nominate Art Keene for membership in the committee, filling the vacancy created by Tracy McNaughton's resignation. Art will represent the Lake Wyola Association Board of Directors. His nomination will be forwarded to the Select Board for approval.

3. Storm Water Runoff and Watershed Erosion Mitigation

**MVP Action Grant Application**

Dave participated in the MVP planning meeting and he co-authored a MVP Action Grant Application requesting \$150,000 for consultant services to provide expertise and guidance on:

- 1) conducting a field inventory of culverts and bridges,
- 2) assessing green infrastructure opportunities for storm water management,
- 3) assessing wells that provide water for key municipal facilities,
- 4) evaluating the impacts of road treatments on private drinking water wells,
- 5) assessing storm water management options for the miles of unpaved roads, and
- 6) establishing a regulatory review process for future developments.

In addition, a consultant will also be sought to assess options for stand pipes or underground storage tanks for water supply for firefighting, and to conduct a detailed vulnerability and risk assessment of surface water supplies use for firefighting.

Town staff and town volunteer committees will also undertake several discrete water-related activities. These include continuing the Town's well monitoring program and initiating discussions between pertinent committees, private land owners, and the state regarding watershed issues at Lake Wyola.

A copy of the grant application will be sent to the committee.

Future LWAC agendas will include updates as they become available.

**Watershed-Based Plan and Potential 319 Grant funding**

The Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG) is working with the Town of Shutesbury and the Lake Wyola Advisory Committee on a plan for the Lake Wyola watershed that documents existing conditions and identifies potential locations for storm water management and water quality improvement projects.

Mark and Eric met with FRCOG'S Tamsin Flanders and Allison Gage on January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022, and walked around the lake to tour the areas with the greatest problems. They will be developing a Watershed-Based Plan that will be submitted to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection's 319 Program. With an

approved plan, Shutesbury will be eligible for grant funding for water-quality and storm water management/flood resilience projects.

An initial draft of the Water-Based Plan will be circulated to the LWAC membership for review and comments.

As part of the Lake Wyola storm water assessment process, Dave has been requesting a copy of Ames Haven culvert designs to determine if the culvert is contributing to runoff over the roads on the west side of the lake. Walter suggested that Dave contact Tim Hunting to see if he has a copy of the design.

#### 4. Update on Locks Pond Road Culvert Replacement

Work on the replacement has been postponed until a “low flow” period; probably late summer of 2022.

#### 5. Dam Inspection

The biennial dam inspection occurred in the Fall of 2021 and the town is awaiting the inspection report. However, the report is expected to note that there is no substantive deterioration since the 2019 inspection. Minor repairs that are needed include: 1) mortaring around the rocks and spillway, 2) leaking in outflow pipe between the original stone sluiceway and the plastic pipe that was inserted into the sluiceway when the dam was rebuilt, and 3) relocation of the seepage weir.

The Mass. Office of Dam Safety has recently add a requirement to the inspection reports which includes listing potential hazards in the area of the dam. The one potential hazard that will be noted is related to the potential fall hazard associated with the 10 foot drop on the back side of the dam. This concern has been noted on many occasions and the current plan is to leave dam as is. Once the final report is released, town council can decide if additional actions are needed.

#### 6. Dam Maintenance

The inlet pipe to the primary drain valve is protected by a “trash rack” which prevents large material from getting caught in the valve. When the rack becomes clogged, Walter need to dive down to clean it. To reduce the clogging frequency, Walter plans to remove the rack and increase the size of the holes to a 4 inch spacing.

#### 7. Update on the Randall Road Boat Ramp and Land Management Agreement

On October 26, 2021, Eric, Mary, Mark, John, and Miriam DeFant from ConCom met with Douglas Cameron, Director/Chief Engineer, Department of Fish and Game, Office of Fishing and Boating Access, at the Randall Road Boat ramp. The purpose of the meeting was to evaluate the feasibility of improving the parking lot and boat ramp and to get a better understanding of the project's potential scope.

The project has not progressed due to confusion about whether the state could make boat ramp improvements even though the land was originally acquired via an “Article 97” land grant. In fact, many boat ramps on state waterways are built on Article 97 land, as is the current Randall Road ramp. This project will be put on hold until there is a greater consensus on the need to restore the boat ramp.

#### 8. Goose Management

Mark will apply for the 2022 Canada Goose Egg/Nest Addling permit.

The town sent a letter to the Department of Agriculture requesting a meeting with town officials and Mark (representing LWAC) to discuss plans (if any) for the future of culling on the lake.

The meeting ended at 9:50

The next meeting is scheduled for March 19, 2022.