

**LAKE WYOLA ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**- Approved Minutes-**

May 20, 2023, at 9:00 AM  
Hybrid Meeting

Members present: Catherine Hilton Mary David, John Gorey, Eric Stocker, Howard Kinder, Art Keene, and Mark Rivers

Guests: John Kinder, Tom Seifert, and Frank McGinn

1. The minutes from the April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023, meeting were approved.

**2. Dam Inspection, Maintenance, and Repairs**

Morris Root completed the 2023 inspection in May 12. The Dam is still in good condition but the problems that were previously reported have not been repaired. Also, he pointed out ice damage to the concrete structure and provided a document (attached) with additional details.

Becky is working on the RFP for a replacement Dam Safety Engineer and should have it completed soon. Morris provided a list of recommended engineering companies.

Eric pointed out that the town still needs to resolve the access issue. Technically, no one can work on the dam because there is no way to access the dam without going over private property. Mark and Eric will follow up with Becky

**3. FRCOG Watershed-Based Plan**

FRCOG completed an initial draft of the Watershed-Based Plan and sent it to ConCom and LWAC for review. Our comments were sent to them May 12, 2023

A review meeting with the Select Board is scheduled for June 6<sup>th</sup>, after which newest draft will be available on the town website.

FRCOG is looking for comments from the entire community. Mary noted that there is no clear way to contact everyone to let them know about the plan. We discussed communications options including hard copy mailings and e-mail distribution via the LWA and "Town Announce."

**4. Boating Safety Signage at the Boat Ramp**

The sign is installed but due to the high-water table, it is only 1.5 deep. Mark will contact the highway department to see if they could dig it deeper.

The meeting ended at 9:35

The next meeting is scheduled for June 17, 2023.

Memo to: Becky Torres, Town Administrator, Town of Shutesbury  
Mark Rivers, Chair, Lake Wyola Advisory Committee, Shutesbury  
From: Morris J. Root, P. E., Root Engineering  
Date: May 5, 2023

Subject: Lake Wyola winter drawdown benefit to the Lake Wyola Dam structure

A two-foot drawdown of the Lake Wyola water level brings the water/ice contact down to a shoreline of stone on a slope away from the vertical concrete face of the dam as seen below.



Lake Wyola Dam - November 22, 2016

Maintaining water/ice at this level mitigates damage to concrete and extends its service life. The damage to the concrete during winter months can result from either of two mechanisms: 1. Cyclical freeze-thaw and subsequent deterioration of the concrete surface; and 2. thrust of ice on the lake surface. Freeze-thaw action is of greater concern with older portions of concrete. These areas are the face of the gatehouse foundation, the spillway, and concrete facing seen in the photo foreground. Ice thrust force would be based on a guideline value of 5,000 pounds per square foot. Climatological data and physical constraints of the lake would be considered to estimate ice depth and ice movement to provide a site-specific estimate for ice thrust force.

Maintaining a drawdown reduces the amount of freeze-thaw damage to the concrete surfaces and abates potential for ice thrust damage to the structure.