

LAKE WYOLA ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Draft Minutes

March 16, 2024, at 9:00 AM
Via Zoom and at the Town Hall

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

Guests: Jennifer Wallace, Bob Douglas, Frank McGinn, and Tracy McNaughton

1. The minutes from the **February 17, 2024**, meeting were reviewed and approved.
2. Update on the 2024 Notice of Intent and 2025 Dam Inspections

The contract between the Town and GZA has been finalized and work has begun. GZA has submitted a NHESP Information Request to find out which protected species have been documented in the lake and to determine if the drawdown could be an issue. A response from NHESP is expected in the next 30 days. GZA has also started to review the existing documentation in support of coordination with the Waterways Program and Conservation Commission, and are also working on the Chapter 91 licensing requirements.

Needed repairs to the dam were documented in February LWAC minutes with an estimated cost of \$80,000. Walter volunteered to help complete the Capital Planning paperwork to have the funds added to future town budgets. It may be too late to have it added to the FY-25 budget, so it may need to wait until FY26.

Howard noted that the roof on the dam house is leaking badly. Frank McGinn volunteered to ask the Building Committee to look into what can be done.

Safety concerns related to swimming near the dam's intake valve:

Walter and Howard will be installing marker buoys around the intake valve to discourage swimming and fishing in the area. It was decided that no additional signage is needed at this time.

3. FRCOG Watershed-Based Plan

No updates were available.

4. Storm water runoff around the lake

Several members and guests discussed problems with storm water runoff issues and potholes on Shore Drive. Mary noted that there is a need to have some of the Shore drive culverts cleaned to prevent rainwater from flowing across the road. There is a need for regular maintenance on the culverts to prevent them from being filled in. We will ask the Lake Wyola Association to attend our next meeting and provide an update on their plans for this

year's road maintenance plan. Dave noted that there is a newly installed catch basin at the West property and that more of these need to be installed around the lake.

Jen Wallace proposed to add a discussion item to our April meeting which is to look into the possibility of a public-private partnership to help fund improvements around the lake to reduce stormwater runoff and silt contamination.

Bob Douglas noted that Shutesbury may be eligible for an MVP request. Dave noted that Shutesbury already applied for an MVP Grant but was denied. He agreed to send a copy of the application to the committee.

We will add MVP grants to a future LWAC agenda.

5. Committee Scope

Tracy would like to review the Committee's scope and membership at the next meeting.

The meeting ended at 10:14

The next meeting is scheduled for April 20, 2024.