

LAKE WYOLA ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes

July 19, 2025, at 9:00 AM
Via Zoom and at the Town Hall

Members present: Catherine Hilton, John Gorey, Howard Kinder, Walter Tibbetts, and Tom Siefert
Members remote: David Green, Bob Douglas, Mark Rivers and Eric Stocker
Members absent: Art Keene, Terry Smith
Guests: Nathan Murphy

1. Public Comment

Nathan Murphy commented that he hopes that all members are treated with respect and wishes the committee the best of luck with the two new members. Mark Rivers noted that he completely agrees.

2. Approval of the Minutes

A motion was made to approve the minutes from the May 17, 2025, meeting. David Green motioned, and Eric Stocker seconded.

LWAC vote			
	Yes	No	Abstain
Bob Douglas			x
David Green	x		
John Gorey	x		
Catherine Hilton	x		
Art Keene			
Howard Kinder	x		
Mark Rivers	x		
Tom Siefert	x		
Terry Smith			
Eric Stocker	x		
Walter Tibbetts	x		

3. Committee Membership.

The Select Board appointed two new members to the committee: represents the Planning Board and Bob Douglas representing the Conservation Commission. Tom Siefert motioned to have Mark Rivers serve as committee chair. Dave Green seconded.

LWAC vote			
	Yes	No	Abstain
Bob Douglas	x		
David Green	x		
John Gorey	x		
Catherine Hilton	x		
Art Keene			
Howard Kinder	x		
Mark Rivers	x		
Tom Siefert	x		
Terry Smith			
Eric Stocker	x		
Walter Tibbetts	x		

Tom was questioning if there were too many representatives from the Lake Wyola Association on the committee. Our original charter defined the membership to include a minimum of 3 members

and a maximum of 5 members from the Lake Wyola Association. Mark Rivers will contact the Select Board to ask their opinion and if needed to remove the 5-person limit. It was pointed out that the question is currently moot as there are not more than five LWAC members on the committee in any capacity.

The committee does not currently have a member from the Emergency Management Team. Mark Rivers will contact the EMT and ask if someone from their team would be willing to serve on LWAC. Alternatively, Walter would be willing to serve as a liaison between LWAC and the EMT.

4. Wildfire Prevention

The FireWise training was conducted on Saturday June 21. The recorded presentation links were sent to members of LWA and Mark sent the links to Chief Czerwonka recommending that the links also be included on the Town and LWA websites.

The presentation can be viewed at this link: <https://youtu.be/f3CBSOMe4cQ>

We are expecting a follow-up contact from Alex Belote, Fire Program Director, Mass. Department of Conservation and Recreation with instructions for signing up for a home inspection.

The fire chief is working with Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency to develop an evacuation plan for the lake region.

5. Lake Wyola Stormwater Erosion Task Force

Tom Siefert reported that on Sunday, August 10th, from 11:00 to 12:30 at the association hall there will be a presentation about the watershed dynamics that lead to stormwater erosion and sediment in the lake and what you can do about it. A copy of the flyer is attached.

Also, a webinar will be held on Tuesday evening, August 12th, 7 to 8 p.m. The Stormwater Task Force and the FRCOG will co-present on the Lake Wyola Watershed, how we got to the point of needing a task force to tackle erosion, how to approach improving stormwater erosion and water quality for the long-term and at the watershed scale, and what you can do. Q & A will follow.

6. Update on Dam Repair and Maintenance Activities

The biennial Phase I dam inspection was performed on May 20, 2025 and we expect to receive report by July 30. Howard Kinder noted that the GZA inspection engineer is recommending that the leakage weir be relocated closer to the base of the dam.

The trash rack has not been cleaned. Mark sent a note to Hayley Bolton (Town Administrator) and Brennan Mailloux (Assistant Town Administrator) on June 6; explaining what the trash rack is and the need to clean it. Walter will follow up with Hayley, Brennan, and the Select Board.

Howard also noted that the water level gauge needs to be adjusted. Mark volunteered to help make the adjustments.

We have not heard back from the Office of Dam Safety regarding the Dam and Seawall grant. We were supposed to know in June.

7. Beaver Dam Activity at the Lakeview Road culvert

Eric Stocker will follow up with Hayley Bolton to determine if Beaver Solutions has been contacted to remove the beaver dam that was built at the road culvert.

8. Randall Road Boat Ramp

At our May meeting, Howard Kinder noted that the boat ramp needs road/ramp maintenance, and the adjacent brush needs to be trimmed. Mark sent a note to the Conservation Committee asking for their thoughts on corrective measures. Bob Douglas will follow up with ConCom.

David Green motioned to end the meeting at 9:50 AM and Eric Stocker seconded

LWAC vote			
	Yes	No	Abstain
Bob Douglas	x		
David Green	x		
John Gorey	x		
Catherine Hilton	x		
Art Keene			
Howard Kinder	x		
Mark Rivers	x		
Tom Siefert	x		
Terry Smith			
Eric Stocker	x		
Walter Tibbetts	x		

Next meeting is on August 16, 2025

BECOMING A WATERSHED ADVOCATE FOR LAKE WYOLA

Learn about the watershed dynamics that lead to stormwater erosion and sediment in the lake and what we can do about it

ENVIRONMENTAL CELEBRATION

SUNDAY, AUGUST 10 (RAIN OR SHINE)

11 AM - 12:30 PM

FOLLOWING THE 10AM WEED WATCHERS PADDLE

LAKE WYOLA ASSOCIATION HALL
6 SHORE DRIVE

HANDS ON ACTIVITIES
FOR ALL AGES

ICE CREAM!

FIELD WALK 11:45

WEBINAR

TUESDAY, AUGUST 12

7 - 8 PM

ZOOM REGISTRATION:
uniqo.de/b8NajE



BROUGHT TO YOU BY:



THE SHUTESBURY LAKE WYOLA
STORMWATER EROSION TASK FORCE
& THE LAKE WYOLA ASSOCIATION