

# Lake Wyola Boating and Safety Review Committee

## Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: **October 10, 2024**

Meeting Location: Online via Zoom (virtual Town Hall)

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Attendance (P = present, Abs = absent)

### Committee Members:

Matt Borowiec (Chair), P	Christine Brassil, P	David Green, P
Amy Lehane, P	Judy Rimmel, P	Mark Rivers, Jr., P
Kathy Salvador, P	Tom Siefert, P	Alexandria Windcaller, Abs

### Ad hoc Committee Members:

Fire Department Representative, P (Leonard Czerwonka, Fire Chief)  
Police Department Representative, Abs

### Guests Present:

Leslie Bracebridge, Mike Stotz, Jennifer Wallace

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### 1. Open meeting

- Meeting called to order at 6:09 p.m.

### 2. Review agenda

- Borowiec read through the agenda aloud.

### 3. Comments from Chair on process and approach for the committee

- Borowiec presented a slideshow with ground rules for members: respect, listening, and staying on topic.
- Borowiec suggested the acronym UEER (Usage, Enforcement, Education, Recommendations) as a guide for the committee in assessing the Town's existing bylaws, as well as assessing new ideas generated by the committee.

### 4. Schedule next three meetings

- Dates and times of the next three meetings (all of them virtual, on Zoom) were set as follows.
  - Wednesday, October 23, 2024, at 6:30 PM
  - Wednesday, November 13, 2024, at 6:30 PM
  - Wednesday, December 4, 2024, at 6:30 PM

### 5. Update on committee's webpage and email / members' contact info

- Borowiec reported that the Committee will receive a webpage on the Town website as well as a Town email address. This webpage can be used as a landing page for the committee and its work. The names of the committee members will be on the webpage. Siefert will forward everyone a list of members' contact info once everyone has sent that in.

6. Public comment

- Jennifer Wallace asked the committee to consider giving public presentations and receiving public input before the committee brings recommendations to the Select Board.

7. Approval of minutes from September 25, 2024

- Motion by Green to approve the minutes of 9/25/2024. Motion seconded by Rimmel.

Vote:

Borowiec, aye	Brassil, aye	Green, aye	Lehane, aye
Rimmel, aye	Rivers, aye	Salvador, aye	Siefert, aye

- Motion passes (aye: eight, nay: zero, abstain: zero)

8. Begin reviewing and discussing the Town’s current Lake Wyola Bylaws

- Borowiec opened the floor to a discussion of the Town’s existing bylaws through a “UEER” lens.
- Topics that were discussed included the following.
  - The education that is needed to operate a boat safely and legally
  - The eligibility requirements for a boating license, as opposed to a driver’s license
  - Understanding the state laws and regulations about boating safety which underlie the Town’s bylaws
  - The ability to determine the speed of a boat accurately whether as an operator or an observer, and whether any signage or markers could assist with that determination
  - The speed necessary for a boat to achieve in order to tow a waterskier
  - The relationship between safe boating speeds and the number of vessels actually on the lake at a given point in time
  - Clarifying which authorities are responsible for enforcement of which violations on the lake (including differentiating the enforcement authority of Town police and other MA police)
  - Whether “boating to endanger” is addressed by the law
  - Inviting a member of the Department of Environmental Protection to address and assist our committee
  - Inviting a member of the public who is a family member of a victim of a boating collision on the lake to speak to the committee

9. Organizational items

- The Town Fire Department and Police Department will be included in future communications.

10. Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn at 7:00 p.m. by Rimmel. Motion seconded by Rivers.

Vote:

Borowiec, aye	Brassil, aye	Green, aye	Lehane, aye
Rimmel, aye	Rivers, aye	Salvador, aye	Siefert, aye

Motion passes (aye: eight, nay: zero, abstain: zero)

Meeting adjourns at 7:00 PM.

Documents used at meeting:

- Slide Show pdf link: ■ LWBSC - Slide Show used by Chair - October 10.2024  
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1c6087hRgqarSbg1uP5zM0WeB-1Qzk1m6/view?usp=sharing>

Copy of Zoom recording of this meeting at:  
Not available

Minutes Submitted by: Tom Siefert, Secretary