

Lake Wyola Dam Study Committee
January 25, 2023
Virtual Meeting

Present: Eric Stocker, Mary David, Howard Kinder, John Kinder,
And guests Tom Seifert and Frank McGinnis

Actions Taken: Committee approved minutes from January 11th meeting

Discussions:

Revue of Field Notes from 1/17/23 Dam Site Visit:

As noted, Town Administrator Becky Torres along with Committee Members Eric Stocker, Howie Kinder, Kristin Burgess & Mary David convened for a site visit at the Dam to gain a more comprehensive perspective, so as to offer best recommendations for Select board consideration. Committee chairman Eric Stocker compiled and provided members with visit notes. These notes detailed recommended future actions to be taken so as to best address:

A. Public access to and safe usage of the Dam property:

Discussions included prohibiting unauthorized activities, installing restrictive gates, new signage, police involvement, and possible fines for trespassing.

B. Official access for operation and maintenance of the Dam:

Discussions included ensuring that access to the Dam for current and future operation and/or maintenance be arranged. Best agreement with the property owner (Ryan Zaharula) would depend on recommendations by Shutesbury Town Counsel.

Keeping in mind that this Selectboard Subcommittee was created to advise the Selectboard and ultimately the Annual Town Meeting on two issues,- Access related to the safe use of the Lake Wyola Dam for recreation, and recommendations for a permanent solution to the issue of access to the Dam for the Dam Keepers, authorized personnel, and repair equipment, the committee is unanimous in it's final recommendations.

It was decided that Eric Stocker would compile and provide a comprehensive list of the recommended actions to be taken for submission to the selectboard.