

**Amston Lake District**  
**Board of Directors Regular Meeting**  
**MINUTES**  
**September 18th, 2013 7:00 p.m.**  
**ALA Clubhouse, 16 Wood Acres Road, Amston, 06231**  
[www.AmstonLake.org](http://www.AmstonLake.org)

- A. Roll Call of Officers and Directors  
Present: Dave O'Brien, Frank Hoisl, Mark Paul, Lou Lenti, Dave Moorcroft, Dave Martin, Sherri-Ann Martin, Ray DeCormier
- Absent: Steve Cormier
- B. Call to Order  
The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.
- C. Recognition of Guests, Residents and Property Owners' Petitions  
Beth Fitzgibbons, West Woodland Drive, Lebanon  
Why are boats required to be removed from the beaches and ROWs every year?  
L. Lenti explained that landscape maintenance and boat rack maintenance are performed over the winter and cannot be done with the boats still there
- Why is there one boat on Lollipop with tall weed growth around it? F. Hoisl stated that the owner told him he was out of the country; Beth stated that is not true and the boat should be removed by the Board this year; F. Hoisl agreed to investigate
- D. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes  
Dave Moorcroft made a motion to accept the minutes of August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2013 as presented; Mark Paul seconded the motion. All approved unanimously.
- E. Receive and Act Upon Clerk's Report – S. Martin
1. 15 Ryan Terrace Lebanon – resident complained a while ago that she believed the tree at the end of her driveway, and on ALD property, is dead. Upon review, she is correct. There is a clump of three trees and the one closest to the road has no leaves and lots of ugly broken branches. Dave Moorcroft will get bids on removing the necessary trees.
  2. Oakland ROW: ROW maintenance removed some brush between the home called "King's Way" and the Oakland ROW – I recommend we plant three forsythia to fill the gap. Claire Lenti agreed.
  3. Boat Trailer Storage – two small adjacent properties on West Island Beach Rd. can be used to store about 5 boat trailers during the boating season. This area needs to be cleared of very low brush and a few of the small trees need to be removed to allow vehicle access. Also, the lots are mostly flat but a spot needs to be leveled and possibly some rock dumped to aid in accessing the lot. Trailers can be locked to existing larger trees. This is for trailer storage only and only in the on season. Winter boat and trailer storage remains with the residents. Need bids. Dave Moorcroft to handle this.
  4. Lebanon Planning and Zoning Appeals Meeting to be held on September 19<sup>th</sup> at Lebanon Town Hall regarding a permit for a hot tub that has requested a setback variance of less than 25 feet and the hot tub is not connected to the sanitary sewer system we just paid \$6.8 million to install. S. Martin will attend the meeting on behalf of the Board and respectfully request that the hot tub installation be denied. We do not want any water being added to the lake from any source except storm water runoff which we are working to control. Water from a hot tub is alien to the environment and not natural. Also, the water in the tub is considered wastewater as it is used for bathing. All agreed that allowing the water to enter the lake is unacceptable – no hot tub, Jacuzzi, pool, etc should dump its water into Amston Lake.
  5. 2014 Meeting Date List has been sent to all. The 2014 Regular Meeting dates continue to be the third Wednesday of the month. This list of dates will be filed with the Town of Hebron as

required under FOI.

6. Bass Lake Road and the Ladd Property: Dave Moorcroft and Sherri-Ann Martin met to review the site. There is an orange stake marking the construction entrance for their house and the silt fence is clearly set along the wetlands line of ALD property. The Ladd's have taken the liberty of constructing a construction road through ALD property to facilitate the building of their home. The soil has been completely compressed and the soil structure destroyed. All vegetation has been removed and is down to what appears to be clay. The smallest of the (5) hardwood trees removed was 21" in diameter. We need to replace these trees with new ones that grow naturally in the area. In addition, I believe we will have topsoil and seeding requirements to remediate the damage; and, there is still debris from the old house in the dirt dumped for the construction entrance; Joanne Ladd stated that the debris had been removed the night before this meeting. She also agreed to have the silt fence moved to their property line as soon as possible. The Board agreed to set a Special Meeting Date for Saturday, September 21<sup>st</sup>, at 1:00 pm at the ALD and Ladd properties to agree on required remediation going forward.

F. Presentation of Correspondence and Communication – See attached list

G. Receive President's Report – D. O'Brien – no report

H. Receive Treasurer's Report – R. DeCormier – see attached

I. Receive Tax Collector's Report

Dave O'Brien read Brian Swanson's report into the record; S. Martin/Clerk is required by Freedom of Information to receive the prior month's Tax Collection Report by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the next month; to date, I have not received either report via email of by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month.

Total tax due issue with the June 26, 2013 list totaling \$194,260.58 and the QDS Database totaling \$190,832.57 for taxes due for fiscal year 2013/14. The difference is \$3,428. Fortunately, Brian Swanson has been able to collect \$11,000 of back taxes we did not expect so the shortfall is covered.

J. Receive Lake Management Reports/Review Goals & Objectives

D. Martin – water clarity was fantastic this year. The last reading was 5.8 meters;

L. Lenti – DEEP would like to come do a fish survey for us on October 7, 2013; The Board agreed and Lou will contact the DEEP to do the survey on that evening.

D. Martin mentioned that a resident is unhappy that he cannot have chickens on the lake because the Town of Hebron allows it. He wanted people to understand just how dirty chickens are and that they would be a huge detriment to the lake water quality. The Town of Lebanon and our ordinances prohibit chickens. Town of Hebron Zoning needs to be researched.

D. Moorcroft and L. Lenti are concerned about the number of boats with motors that are being carried and launched from the beaches and ROWs. Milfoil and other invasive weeds from another lake can tangle on the motors and be transported into our lake. "Hitch hiker" signage would be helpful to tell people to check.

Ames Road issue – kids are partying on the rock at the end of the street and through the last property there. It is costing the ALD about \$100 – 150 per month to clean up the garbage that is being thrown into the lake from the rock. D. O'Brien to contact owner and ask to put up a chain or something to limit access and No Trespassing signs. Then, we can call police for trespassers.

K. Consider and Act Upon Standing and Special Committees' Reports

1. Security – F. Hoisl – security hours go down to 5 hours per weekend for the winter; gates to beaches are now open 24 hours per day and 7 days per week. Jeff Cusser/Security lives on the

lake and will address ice fishermen issues. Will want him to act as he sees people so will be paid on that basis.

2. Dam – D. Moorcroft – Will start lowering the dam down 10 - 12” for winter ice protection on November 1<sup>st</sup>. The spillway surface is pitted and unattractive but wants to wait until spring to see how it looks after another winter. May need to be coated to protect it from additional erosion.
3. Storm Drains – D. O'Brien – the vortechnic unit is installed and he will write a letter of thanks to the Town of Hebron for their assistance and installation. Next areas to tackle: H16 and H6. On Lebanon side, per D. Martin, need to add sump storm drains at ends of pipes which come out from W. Woodland Rd. and runs to Lollipop Beach to stop wash out of parking lot and soil from running from lot into lake
4. Lebanon Sewer Project D. Martin – (60) homes are connected and (100) are in queue as a result of invitation to connect; Lebanon WPCA is working on submitting orders to connect by summer of next year without a consequence; the construction firms supplying the services are booked through October and cannot get all done right away.
5. Drinking Water - S. Martin – nothing to report
6. Boats & Rafts – L. Lenti – need to build (3) more boat racks by end of October and need to apply wood preservative to all boat racks to maintain them. Will be looking for volunteers to help with this. D. Martin will contact BSA regarding removal of the docks and ramps to their winter locations. Board agreed that holding back 10% of awarded business to BSA will satisfy our need to return the overpayment to them to the budget account.
7. Weeds and Algae – M. Paul – the state has increased their testing requirements for lily pad treatments to about double what they were last time. Since we just got the permit, it is too late to even get the water testing done since treatment would need to be done before the end of October. Postpone until next year since regrowth has been minimal. Will start process in January of 2014 for treatment in fall of 2014 to assure we have enough time to complete all required testing and treatment ACT will be asked to provide a timeline of activities needed. D. Martin to ask George Knocklein about treating.
8. Communications – R. DeCormier – wants someone to own putting signs up and down for the Board; F. Hoisl agreed to take on the Security team.; existing inventory of signs to be provided and signage calendar to be created.

F. Hoisl has ideas for types of articles to send out by month. He will share with Board and we will discuss next meeting.

9. Ordinances – M. Paul – After voting, if approved, a summary of all ordinances will be written and published in the newspapers. Thirty days after publication, the ordinances go into effect. The changes to be made to the ordinances to complete them as follows:
  1. Typos – no material effect just misspellings identified by D. Moorcroft
  2. Definition of “contaminant” has been expanded to include hot tub, Jacuzzi and pool waters. These waters are not natural to the lake and are used for bathing purposes so should be treated as wastewater and should drain into sewer systems
  3. Minimum amount of tax bill for split payment changed from \$100 to \$200 per request of Brian Swanson – all agreed this will effect very few small property owners.

Mark Paul made a motion to approve the ALD ordinances with the three changes listed above and after publication of a summary of the ordinances in local newspapers as required by statute, the ordinances go into effect (30) days after printing. D. Moorcroft seconded the motion. All approved unanimously.

10. Lebanon Roads – D. O'Brien – (3) snowplowing proposals have been received and (1) more is to come from BSA. Steve Cormier will have them for our review at our October meeting. Trying to establish a contract with a minimum retainer and additional charges to be made based on per inch accumulations – or some other creative way of controlling these costs more.

FYI – S. Martin was driving on Ryan Terrace and noted that a drain pipe which runs under and/or parallel to the road on the left right before the dirt ends and switches to pavement is sticking up on a strange angle – think it is broken

11. ROW Updates and Maintenance – Claire Lenti  
Elsmere ROW : Getting (6) bids for repairs including French drains; going to work on Oakland and Cove ROWs too; these bids will be available for review at the October meeting

12. Calendar and Tasks – R. DeCormier – need to add ALA events to calendar so can order additional porta-potties as one on the Main Beach is not enough for the size of crowds that turn out

Dave Martin: Barley straw – per the vendor, we do not have to remove this from the lake. The insides of the bales are still useful and if they are in the water when spring comes, we actually are one step ahead; was installed so no stakes sticking out so they are not unsafe; we will leave them in this year and see the results

- L. Act on Remaining Items of Agenda....Old Business  
Nothing to discuss

- M. New Business.....Discussion and Possible Action

1. Ray DeCormier thinks we should increase our payment to Anita Connor for the financial audit she performs for us this year since it is done so well and on little compensation for the amount it takes to write the report

Mark Paul made a motion to increase the compensation for our annual audit from \$600 to \$650 for the next two years. R. DeCormier seconded the motion. All approved unanimously.

2. Ray DeCormier made a motion to give Lynn Mika \$100 in compensation for all the work she did on the newsletter this year and last year. Mark Paul seconded the motion. All approved unanimously.

- N. Prepare Agenda for Next Meeting

1. Add Discuss Pass Distribution Process – R. DeCormier to provide plan for changes desired
2. ACT treatment discussion of lake map and identification of treatment areas for 2014

- O. Adjournment

Dave Moorcroft made a motion to adjourn. Dave Martin seconded the motion. All approved unanimously at 10:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Sherri-Ann Martin, Clerk  
Amston Lake Tax District