

AMSTON LAKE DISTRICT
Weed Committee Meeting Minutes
July 15, 2024 7:00 P.M.
Zoom

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

B. Roll Call

Present: F. Hoisl, B. Pelegano, T. Angelucci, B. Lederer, D. Keith, K. Rustico

Absent: J. Caines, J. Waleszczyk

C. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes (March 25)

- a. Meeting minutes approved as written. (Karen R/Duncan K)

D. Review of Cove Weed Status

a. Review responses from GZA

- a.i. Frank reported that GZA was going to be performing the scheduled plant survey of the entire lake on July 16. They will be setting up a grid system and collecting samples of the weeds with a “hook” and then inspecting the weeds and documenting what was found. A report will be made available towards the end of the year. Todd asked if they were going to include Lollipop cove in their survey and Frank indicated that he has asked Jeff A to make sure that GZA spent time in the cove as well as give an assessment of the accessibility issues to the shoreline near where the street hugs the lake. Barbara and Brandon also asked that the Duckpond be part of the survey as there are quite a few weeds within the duckpond. Could we also investigate performing Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting (DASH) or mechanical harvesting in that area to understand its impact. Would be a good testing ground with little impact to lake ecosystem. Frank explained that the Duck Pond serves very little purpose in the overall mechanics of the lake. It was created by a resident who raised ducks and was probably initially fed from mechanical runoff by the main dam through the weir system. It is typical that during the summer what water may be in the pond dries up based on lack of rainfall. In the fall we lower the lake water level by removing the weir boards in the main dam allowing water to flow into the Duck Pond. However, the concern that was raised was; if we do nothing to address the weeds concerns in the lake, specifically in cove areas would we eventually face a similar situation as we have with the Duck Pond in that it is entirely overgrown.

- a.i.1. This might also be a good question for CAES to address.

- a.i.2. Todd suggested we should develop and post an action plan to address weed issues within the coves.

- a.i.3. Barbara discussed that based on the input from GZA the lake is healthy and weeds are not impacting lake health. Maybe we need to address lake recreational activities which are being impacted by all the healthy weeds. Lake usage impacts should be where we as a committee could focus our attention.

- a.i.4. We need a balance between lake health activities and lake

usage activities.

- a.i.5. GZA looks at lake life cycle, Weed and Pond company address weed removals such as milfoil. CAES can help with lake usage
- a.i.6. Should weed committee members join in on the lake health Committee. Duncan is now a member of the Lake Health Committee.

b. Next Steps

- b.i. Ask CAES if they can come to the lake and review the following areas and address our concerns and provide some recommendations for next steps.
 - b.i.1. The area in the lake that is 40-80' from the bend in the road in Lollipop cove that makes that area inaccessible to boats/swimmers because of the undergrowth in the water.
 - b.i.2. The area around the lollipop boat dock that is choked with "weeds" making it difficult to navigate to and from the docks.
 - b.i.3. Should the Duck Pond be cleared of "weeds" to make the Duck Pond more effective in managing lake water overflow and prevent backup of the stream.
 - b.i.4. The Southwest cove "weed" growth which is making it difficult to navigate and swim. Review all the coves for similar situations.
 - b.i.5. The weeds along the Lollipop beach west side swimming area encroaching into the 'non-weed' area.

E. New Business

- a. Brandon referenced the location of the 2002 NEAR Aquatic Management report as the source of his information referenced in the March 25 committee meeting.
- b. It was noted that with all the information located on the Lake Health Committee link on the ALD web site it is very difficult to find "anything" within all the data. Frank took an action to ask Jeff A to set up a class for anyone interested in navigating all the data and reports the committee has posted.

F. Prepare agenda for Next Meeting

- a. Uncertain as to date for our next meeting at this time

G. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned 8:30. Brandon P. / Barbara L.

Respectfully submitted by,
Frank Hoisl
Committee Chair

Please refer to subsequent meeting minutes for approval of these minutes and any corrections