

AMSTON LAKE DISTRICT

Board of Directors Regular Meeting Minutes

March 19, 2025 7:00 P.M.

Zoom and ALA Clubhouse, 16 Wood Acres Rd, Amston, CT

A. **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m.

B. **Roll Call of Officers and Directors**

Present: F. Hoisl, B. Pelegano, L. Bowen, J. Caines, J. Arpin, K. Patterson, T. Nixon, K. Rustico.

Absent: J. Greenfield.

C. **Recognition of Guests, Residents, and Property Owners**

Nobody in attendance asked to be recognized.

D. **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**

Motion to approve the minutes from the February 19, 2025 regular board meeting (K. Patterson/T. Nixon) passed unanimously.

E. **Presentation of Correspondence**

K. Patterson: Resident wanted to check with the board before contacting the resident that owns the dock on/near Francis ROW to see if they would allow them to use it this summer. The Francis ROW was surveyed last summer and it was determined that an abutter's cement pad and a ramp to the dock sit partially on the ALD property. Discussion ensued. B. Pelegano stated that the District must notify the dock's owner that the dock is on ALD property and it should rightfully be removed from the property.

B. Pelegano: 1. Last month a resident on Andrews Street, Lebanon stated that his propane company wouldn't make a delivery to him, as snow from District plowing was blocking access to his propane tank. Rather than calling our snow removal contractor, B. Pelegano shoveled the snow himself. 2. A Lebanon resident reported that someone had trimmed branches and limbs on Woodland Road and left them alongside the road. Upon investigation, B. Pelegano said it looked like pine branches that had fallen in one of the wind events. Neighbor and board member T. Nixon will walk the road to see what needs to be done.

F: Hoisl: Resident contacted him about sponsoring a bench on ALD property. **J. Caines:** He authorized the work that Eversource tree contractor Lewis Tree Service had requested last month, including a possible application of an herbicide, as the location is quite far from the water.

F. **Old Business – Discussion and Possible Action**

1. Lebanon PZC Regulation Review Subcommittee: F. Hoisl said most of the subcommittee meeting minutes had to do with impervious coverage and distance of the home from the lake, but nothing was decided. The concerns stem from a homeowner on another Lebanon lake.
2. Lollipop Docks: J. Caines stated that a new configuration might include the purchase of two new sections at a cost of \$4,000 each, and would push the docks out even further from the shore. He will have more information at next month's meeting. It's possible that it would be a budget item for next year.
3. Ordinance Updates: 1. K. Patterson reported that the proposed updates have been posted online and an email blast will be sent March 20 to alert residents of the updates and the informational meeting on April 12. 2. A resident asked if the ALD was going to require them to register their older, small sailboat that the state does not require to be registered. We will follow the state's regulations, and will accept the registration for their trailer as proof of ownership.

G. **Task List**

F. Hoisl went over the task list, highlighting upcoming tasks: checking for repairs that need to be done on

ALD properties, annual meeting plans, sign repair/replacement for the beaches and ROWs, newsletter planning, repositioning of the sunken island markers before the season, culvert cleanings if necessary, and replacing the weir boards later in March or early April.

H. Receive President's Report

President F. Hoisl reminded the directors that he is still waiting for one committee's input so that he and Treasurer J. Caines can work on the 2025-26 budget. He'd like to have a budget approved by the board at the April monthly board meeting.

I. Receive Treasurer's and Tax Collector's Reports

1. The February tax collector's report had not yet been received. 2. Treasurer J. Caines went over the monthly and year-to-date financials, which are updated each month on the website. The District has had an overall net inflow of \$64,900 year to date. The District has collected 83 – 87% of current taxes, and he expects those percentages to increase in the spring as residents must pay their outstanding balances to receive their lake passes.

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

1. Lebanon Roads: 1. B. Pelegano reported that they are planning on ordering four speed limit signs for the two roads that seem to get the most complaints about speeders. 2. He is going to drive all the roads soon with our contractor to see what repairs need to be made – the goal is to use thicker process and get a higher amount of base on the roads. 3. The repairs made to the Ryan Terrace slope are holding up very well, but the area on top where the new house was built is in bad repair. The committee is investigating as to whether, in the course of the new home construction, damage was done to some pipes that we had laid in the road.
2. Long-Term Financial Planning: 1. Chair K. Patterson had nothing new to report.
3. Lake Health: 1. Chair J. Arpin reported that they are reviewing the final reports from GZA. 2. They have received a proposal from GZA for the upcoming fiscal year, and are looking at other companies as well. 3. J. Arpin inspected the new lake wall at 209 Deepwood, Hebron – the majority of the construction has been completed. 4. J. Arpin and L. Parlin recently attended the CAES invasive plants workshop and posted some educational information on the Lake Health web page. 5. Three of the committee members will be taking over the beach water testing when F. Hoisl leaves the board in July. 6. Motion to approve adding Kate Murphy, 7 Francis Road, Hebron to the Lake Health Committee (J. Arpin/K. Patterson) approved unanimously.
4. Weeds: 1. Chair F. Hoisl stated that there was nothing new to report since their last meeting.
5. Dams: 1. Chair F. Hoisl will contact the contractor who has previously worked on the Duck Pond dam again, regarding an estimate for possible repairs. Any work, including tree work around the dam, would have to be put into next year's budget. 2. F. Hoisl asked the directors to consider volunteering for the Dam Committee. The Emergency Action Plan will have to be revisited in October.
6. Beaches and ROWs: 1. Co-chair T. Nixon reported that the contractor is beginning to work on the Oakland ROW plunge pool, and will also remove a large tree stump that has surfaced in the sand there. 2. Between the fall cleanup and the stewards continuing to keep the beaches and ROWs tidy, they will probably not need a spring cleanup day. 3. The porta-potties will be delivered May 1. 4. The shed that is over the line of the Elsmere ROW has still not been moved. 5. K. Patterson reported that half of ALD residents have already registered for their lake passes. The first pickup date, which is traditionally the busiest, is April 5. It will be staffed by Beaches and ROWs members, Lake Health

members, ALA members, and the ALD tax collector. 6. J. Caines noticed tire truck grooves recently in the beach parking lots and asked when was the last time the parking lots were reworked. Both J. Arpin and J. Matra (president of the ALA and familiar with the ALA clubhouse parking lot) said that all the lots will smooth out after the spring thaw. F. Hoisl said it's worth thinking about a schedule for resurfacing in the future.

7. Boats/Beach Pass Checkers: Chair F. Hoisl reported that J. Greenfield will be taking over this committee, with assistance from K. Rustico. Almost all the checkers from last year will be returning, and a few new people have expressed interest in becoming checkers. Their first meeting will be on April 6 at 11 a.m.
8. Communications: 1. L. Bowen reported that the lake pass portion of the website was updated for 2025 and that several email blasts were sent out over the past few weeks, mostly having to do with the 2025 lake pass procedures. She thanked K. Patterson and resident D. Ciarfella for their help with creating the "unique links." K. Patterson reported that 92% of the people that registered so far have used their unique link. 2. The proposed updated ordinances have been posted to the website, and a blast will be sent out alerting residents to the informational meeting that will be held via Zoom on April 12.

K. New Business – Discussion and Possible Action

1. Benthic Mat Request 430 Deepwood, Lebanon: Motion to approve the property owner's written request to install two (2) 10' X 40' benthic mats in the lake in front of this address, as has been approved in previous years; mats to be installed early April and removed in early August (J. Arpin/T. Nixon), passed unanimously.

L. Prepare Agenda for Next Meeting

Keep budget discussion, docks, and ordinance updates on the agenda for April.

M. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn (K. Patterson/T. Nixon) passed unanimously at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,
Liz Bowen, Clerk
Amston Lake District

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