Town of Groton Massachusetts Great Pond Advisory Committee

Minutes



March 26, 2014

Present: Françoise Forbes, Susan Horowitz, Alex Woodle Jim Luening, Art Prest, Marshall Giguere

Not Present: Savas Danos, Tom Sangiolo, Cheney Harper

Meeting Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the February 19, 2014 GPAC meeting was made and seconded. The minutes were approved by all present.

Financial Report

Jim Luening reported that there was \$2,085 remaining in the current budget. Art Prest again suggested that since we were getting close to the end of the fiscal year that this money be applied to having an NOI prepared by ACT. This was discussed further later in the meeting.

Baddacook Pond Update

Jim Luening reviewed the plans for moving forward with plans to treat Baddacook Pond with Sonar. Jim indicated that there would be a "food fight" over how the \$400,000 in available funds would be allocated for various projects. Jim wants to invite experts to Water Commission meetings. Susan Horowitz said since there is no evidence of risk from Sonar that risk assessment isn't any good unless there was a proven danger to exposure to Sonar. She suggested that we need to identify an acceptable expert on risk assessment. There was a short discussion regarding claims about how long Sonar remains in a treated lake or pond. Art Prest indicated that the GLA plans to test Lost Lake for the presence of residual Sonar. Previous studies of the half-life of Sonar indicate that there should be no measurable levels of Sonar still in Lost Lake.

Boat Launch Monitoring Program

Alex Woodle has been trying to attract students from Groton Dunstable High School to be monitors at \$9.00 per hour. In addition to this "intern" approach Alex mentioned that Brooke Garger will be the program coordinator again this year and that she will enlist seniors for the Town of Groton Seniors Program.

Lost Lake & Knops Pond

Art Prest discussed the plans for water testing this summer including a test for the presence of residual Sonar. Alex also discussed the information in the March 2014 GLA "Lake Currents" newsletter about educating lake residents about solutions to storm water runoff and erosion control.

New Business

LLSAC: Art Prest discussed the status of the Lost Lake Sewer Advisory Committee and the possibility of a change of focus from sewers to watershed management.

Baddacook NOI: The pros and cons of developing an NOI for the treatment of Baddacook Pond now were discussed. The pros were that it would provide practice of presenting it to the Conservation Commission and other boards and committees thereby enlisting support even though the Water Commissioners may not support it. The cons were that it would not be approved without the Water Commissioners eventual support. Jim Luening will get a quote from ACT and it was decided that if the cost were less than \$1,500 that not additional vote by the GPAC would be necessary to move forward with the NOI development.

Lost Lake Watershed Committee: The proposed new name for what was the Lost Lake Sewer Committee will be meeting on Thursday February 20th and the focus will be on education programs about the watershed.

Weed Harvester: Jim Luening said that Bill Strickland was looking for additional people to operate the weed harvester on Baddacook Pond.