



Town of Groton Massachusetts Great Pond Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

September 12, 2019

Present Susan Horowitz, Alex Woodle, George Wheatley, Jim Luening

Absent Art Prest, Marshall Giguere, Remi Kaleta

Guest Lynda Moore

Meeting call to order

7:00 pm

Approval of Minutes

Wheatley made motion to approve minutes of June 20, 2019, seconded by Woodle, approved unanimously 3-0 with 1 abstention (Horowitz).

Financial Report

GPAC has full budget of \$2385.

Lost Lake/Knops Pond

Woodle raised concern of cyanobacteria. Resident saw blue green material and developed a rash on his body which he attributed to being in the water. A subsequent examination by Woodle by boat to survey a portion of the shoreline, only saw a few specimens of what looked like blue-green material, but no widespread contamination. A follow-up with Nashoba Associated Boards of Health Director assured me that a full scale cyanobacteria outbreak would turn lake pea green. Woodle contacted GLA president Harper suggesting that we hire SOLitude to conduct three tests. Woodle will follow up with Harper and SOLitude.

Woodle asked Wheatley if he would be willing to do a little research on cyanobacteria and Hazardous Algal Blooms (HAB). He said he would report next meeting.

Woodle made motion, seconded by Wheatley, to encumber up to \$1000 for cyanobacteria testing at LL/KP and if needed Duck Pond and Baddacook Pond. GPAC voted 4-0 in favor.

Luening discussed a meeting he and Woodle had with Town Manager about sustainable funding going forward for LL/KP, Baddacook, Whitney and Duck Ponds. Baddacook is finishing up a three year pilot program of harvesting and needs to have monies in place to sustain this program going forward. Previous conversations with Water Dept and Select Board supported a \$25,000 annual budget with \$10,000 from Water Dept and remainder from Town. We discussed a line item number that would also include monies for the other ponds for general maintenance to help keep them viable for recreation. An article needs to be prepared for Spring Town

Meeting. A CPC application will be filed this October for a whole lake treatment to preserve LL/KP and the article will provide monies to sustain spot treatments in subsequent years with GLA raising funds for future in lake treatments in interim years. The Outdoor Recreation Plan for the Town talks about protecting and preserving our water resources as a priority.

Woodle will talk with CPC prior to application and Luening will provide document examples to help in preparation of application. Woodle made motion, seconded by Horowitz, to go forward with CPC application. GPAC voted 4-0 for this motion.

Baddacook Pond

Luening detailed the events so far of third year of harvesting. There were operating problems with harvester that slowed down the schedule. Fortunately, one of our residents familiar with operation of this machine was able to solve the problem and harvesting resumed. Hydroraking has begun and consultant is racing against NHESP cut-off date of September 15th for cutting no closer than 50 feet from shore. The program should conclude by early October.

A motion to adjourn was made by Horowitz, seconded by Wheatley and voted unanimously 4-0 at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Alexander Woodle, Member