

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
**MAY 19, 2003**  
**REGULAR SESSION MINUTES**  
**"APPROVED"**

**Present:** Dann Chamberlin, Chairman; Tom Hartnett, Clerk; Peter S. Cunningham, Member and Maria Casey, Administrative Secretary.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 P.M.

Mr. Chamberlin read all of the pertinent information regarding Memorial Day and to be posted on the website. Mr. Chamberlin also reminded all citizens of Groton to "Get out and vote" on Tuesday, May 20<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Cunningham stated that this meeting was somewhat historic meeting as there have only been 3 Selectmensince the creation some 300 years ago and that the next meeting would be May 27<sup>th</sup> with 5 Selectmen.

Mr. Chamberlin reiterated the following taken from the minutes of May 12, 2003, in order to be broadcast on cable TV. "John Diezemann and Stephen Marranzini from the Lost Lake Association were in attendance. Mr. Diezemann noted that Mr. Marranzini and Lee Lyman from Lycott Associates looked at the lake and noted milfoil problems near town beach and Groton ridge heights portion of Lost Lake. Mr. Lyman recommended that the diquat be reapplied in these areas this year, but it could wait until next year. Mr. Chamberlin asked if you would need less diquat if you did the treatment this year. Mr. Diezemann said if they waited a year the milfoil could spread further than the 25 acres where they would like to treat. Mr. Diezemann noted that the current order of conditions from the Conservation Commission is currently in effect. Ms. Kitchen recommended that Mr. Diezemann notify the Conservation Commission of their planned treatment (scheduled for around May 29), and follow any other conditions in the order. Mr. Diezemann said he will notify the abutters and put up signs as they did last year. Mr. Diezemann noted that there is Cabamba in another area, which they will deal with later as it requires a different treatment. Mr. Cunningham made a motion to authorize the aquacide treatment for 25.4± acres of Lost Lake in a manner consistent with the order of conditions. Seconded by Mr. Hartnett, voted unanimously. Mr. Diezemann noted that they will drop the level of the lake about 10 feet, similar to the level when they conducted the treatment last year."

## **APPOINTMENTS**

### **Plane Sense - Chris Forbes**

The Board of Selectmen (BOS) met with Plane Sense. Mr. Forbes stated that Plane Sense is an organization interested in reasonable ways to reduce noise caused by small airplanes, flight schools and aerobatic flying form flights originating at airports location within flight proximity of their homes. They believe the noise generated by such recreation and practice flight has become intrusive and interferes, unreasonably with the use and enjoyment of their private and public properties. They are seeking the BOS assistance to work with the F.A.A. in order to distribute the noise generated by flight schools and aerobatic flight instruction more evenly and to find new or alternative air space.

The founder of Plane Sense, Melanie Campbell of 296 Boston Road, spoke as well. Ms. Campbell stated that she met with Representative Meehan's aide, Bernadette Vadja, and they have been helpful to a point; however, in dealing with the F.A.A., they would like Representative Meehan personally to assist. Ms. Campbell further stated that the F.A.A. did state that the intensity and number of flights are disproportionate as compared to other areas. Sometimes these flights last all day without cessation and it's very unnerving and intolerable for the affected residents. She stated that the F.A.A. will be visiting in a few weeks in order to be able to listen to the amount and duration of noise. Plane Sense is requesting the BOS to attend. They also ask if the BOS would send a letter to Representative Meehan, attend upcoming quarterly meetings with the F.A.A., flight schools and Mass Aeronautics and/or write to the flight schools.

Mr. Chamberlin and Mr. Hartnett were in full support of this endeavor and would lend their support. Mr. Cunningham stated that we are growing as a community, Groton will see more traffic. He stated that there is some distinction in the noise levels depending on the aircraft. He felt that the helicopters noise was more intrusive and had heard of the group started in Ayer called "Stop the Noise."

Ms. Peggy Flynn, 312 Nashua Road, stated that she too has been terribly impacted. The duration figure of 60 to 80% noise without cessation is accurate. She is concerned that the amount of flights will increase because businesses are in a growth mode. She introduced Mr. Burgoyne of Townsend who is part of "Stop the Noise." He stated that the F.A.A. has the authority to stop aerobatics. He also recommended that Groton needs local noise ordinances as well. In 2001, Stopthe Noise did attempt to negotiate with all of the affiliated groups to no avail.

Mr. Forbes stated that Plane Sense is interested in a more reasonable approach to this issue. They are not affiliated with Stop the Noise. Representative Hargraves was in attendance as well and recommended we involve the Townsend Board of Selectmen because Representative Olver, who represents Townsend and Pepperell, has dealt with this issue before and could potentially impart important information. Mr. Cunningham stated that we do not have the authority but should copy Senators Kerry and Kennedy on the letter in dealing with the F.A.A. Mr. Brunett of Sheple Lane stated this weekend in particular the duration and cessation was 95 - 100%. He feels this noise is negatively affecting the quality of life of the residents in the affected areas of Groton. Ms. Flynn stated that the Town of Chelmsford recently adopted a noise ordinance.

### **Recycling Committee - Tessa David - PAYT (Pay As You Throw) Agreement**

Tessa David was in attendance for this portion. She stated that the agreement between the Town and the retailers is that their names are being printed on the PAYT bags in lieu of keeping inventory and distributing these bags to the public and that the retailer is willing to maintain inventory for one year. Ms. David stated that the retail locations are ideal for covering all the areas of Groton. The bags will also be available at the Transfer Station and the Board of Health. The PAYT begins July 1<sup>st</sup> as adopted by the Town. The bags are available in 32-gallon bags for \$1 and 15 gallon bags for 60 cents each. *Mr. Cunningham moved to authorize the Chair to sign the agreement between the Town of Groton and Moison AceHardware dated May 9, 2003 and moved to authorize the Chair to sign the agreement between the Town of Groton and Sherwin Bros. Market dated May 9, 2003 and moved to authorize the Chair to sign the agreement between the Town of Groton and Groton General Store dated May 9, 2003 and moved to authorize the Chair to sign the agreement between the Town of Groton and Donelan's dated May 9, 2003. Seconded by Mr. Hartnett. Unanimous vote.*

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

#### **Animal Inspector Appointment - Bruce Dubey**

*Mr. Cunningham moved to nominate Bruce Dubey as Inspector of Animals, term to expire April 30, 2004. Seconded by Mr. Hartnett. Unanimous vote.*

#### **Regular Session Minutes of April 14<sup>th</sup>, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, April 28<sup>th</sup>, May 12<sup>th</sup>**

*Mr. Cunningham moved to approve the Regular Session Minutes of April 14, 2003. Seconded by Mr. Hartnett. Unanimous vote.*

*Mr. Cunningham moved to approve the Regular Session Minutes of April 22, 2003. Seconded by Mr. Hartnett. Unanimous vote.*

*Mr. Cunningham moved to approve the Regular Session Minutes of April 28, 2003. Seconded by Mr. Hartnett. Unanimous vote.*

*Mr. Cunningham moved to approve the Regular Session Minutes of May 12, 2003. Seconded by Mr. Hartnett. Unanimous vote.*

#### **Review/Approve Executive Session Minutes**

*Mr. Cunningham moved to approve and not release the Executive Session Minutes of March 31, 2003. Seconded by Mr. Hartnett. Unanimous vote.*

*Mr. Cunningham moved to approve the Executive Session Minutes of April 7, 2003, Session 1. Seconded by Mr. Hartnett. Unanimous vote.*

*Mr. Cunningham moved to approve the Executive Session Minutes of April 7, 2003, Session 2. Seconded by Mr. Hartnett. Unanimous vote.*

*Mr. Cunningham moved to approve the Executive Session Minutes of April 14, 2003. Seconded by Mr. Hartnett. Unanimous vote.*

*Mr. Cunningham moved to approve the Executive Session Minutes of April 22, 2003. Seconded by Mr. Hartnett. Unanimous vote.*

*Mr. Cunningham moved to release the Executive Session Minutes of April 22, 2003. Seconded by Mr. Hartnett. Unanimous vote.*

*Mr. Cunningham moved to release the Executive Session Minutes of April 14, 2003. Seconded by Mr. Hartnett. Unanimous vote.*

*Mr. Cunningham moved to release the Executive Session Minutes of April 7, 2003, Session 1. Seconded by Mr. Hartnett.*

*Unanimous vote.*

*Mr. Cunningham moved to release the Executive Session Minutes of April 7, 2003, Session 2. Seconded by Mr. Hartnett. Unanimous vote.*

*Mr. Cunningham moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Hartnett. Unanimous vote.*

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Thomas D. Hartnett, Clerk

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Respectfully submitted,  
Maria Casey  
Administrative Secretary

Date Approved: May 27, 2003