



# Sherwood Forest Lake District Prudential Committee Meeting



Date Saturday, July 7, 2012

Time: 10:00 AM

Location: Becket Town Hall

557 Main Street, Becket, MA 01223

## MEETING MINUTES (DRAFT)

Committee Members present: Howard G. Lerner (Chair), Stuart R. Eldred (Vice Chair), William F. Maier, Stanley C. Taylor (Alternate) William J Osborn III and Dennis B. Guerri also present  
Clerk/Treasurer Robert T. Ronzio.

Committee Members absent: Lucy A. Ferriss and Joseph P. DeCarolis.

Public Present: None

The meeting is opened at 10:02 AM.

Location: Becket Town Hall, 557 Main Street, Becket, MA 01223

**Introduction** - Mr. Lerner calls the meeting to order at 10:02 AM and announces that parliamentary procedural rules previously adopted will regulate and conduct of the meeting in accordance with the provisions of the Open Meeting Law, other pertinent Massachusetts general laws, the by-laws of the district and local customs and traditions. Mr. Lerner asks if anyone would like to have the entire rules and regulations read aloud. Hearing no response, Mr. Lerner dispenses with the remainder of the reading, noting that everyone present acknowledged that they were familiar with the procedural provisions outlined above. Mr. Lerner asks if there is anyone present who is planning on recording the meeting. Mr. Ronzio states that the meeting will be recorded for his brother. Mr. Lerner notes that there are agendas on the table for all present. He again states to all present that the aforementioned guidelines are being followed to insure that the district complies with the General Laws of the Commonwealth.

**Prudential Committee Members Comments and Announcements** - Mr. Lerner asks if anyone present has any comments or announcements, hearing none, he moves on.

**Prudential Committee to Review minutes of previous Meeting** - Mr. Lerner points out that has the meeting minutes from the prudential committee meeting held on June 9<sup>th</sup>, stating that Ms. Hunt had thought that the July meeting was going to be held on the second Saturday because the SFLD generally meets on the second Saturday of the month, however the July meeting was scheduled for the first Saturday. Mr. Ronzio states that he prepared the meeting minutes for June 30<sup>th</sup> meetings and that a draft copy for that meeting was emailed to the committee. Mr. Osborn makes a motion to approve the meeting minutes from June 30<sup>th</sup>, Mr. Lerner seconds motion; Unanimous Approval. Minutes are passed around for signatures. Mr. Lerner advises that they are going to change the order of the agenda a bit, advising that Mr. Maier has a doctor's appointment and may have to leave early.

**Lake Management / Aquatic Control/ Chemical Treatment/ Hand Pulling** - Mr. Maier states that Lancelot was treated two weeks ago by Aquatic Controls Technology Inc. (ACT) for the nuisance invasive, vegetation and the lake should be in good shape for the summer swimming season. Mr. Lerner states that the lake was all chemically treated because of the magnitude of the problem. Mr. Maier explains that he had contacted Mercedes Gallagher regarding hand pulling and calculated that that method of treatment was going to cost \$2000-\$3000. Mr. Maier briefly explains again the two different treatment methodologies specifically discussing how long each would take to implement and how long the

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treatment would last. Mr. Maier further explains that while hand pulling was not used this year due to the magnitude of the infestation he will make sure that the Conservation Commission is notified that the district had taken hand pulling into serious consideration. Mr. Maier reminds committee members that it needs to carefully look at the overall cost of the treatment program and be prudent regarding how the funds are allocated and spent. Mr. Maier recommends that the committee advise Conservation of what the district has accomplished to date, because keeping them informed goes a long way in building and establishing trust in the district. Mr. Maier reads aloud an email that was received from ACT. Committee members briefly discuss. Mr. Eldred makes a motion to spend the allotted \$3,500, Bill Osborne seconds motion; Unanimous Approval.

Committee members discuss getting access to Nottingham Lake for its treatment. Mr. Ronzio reminds committee members that they need to get permission from the property owners since there is no public access to the water, and while this could be a problem, he is working out a solution with a lakefront proprietor.

**Big Robin** - Mr. Lerner advises that this is on hold for now.

**Beach and Boat Management** - Mr. Rosenthal, the Beach and Boat Management superintendent, address the committee stating that six (6) new District signs that have been put up at the beaches, two more will be erected once the post are ready and that there are two (2) spares. Mr. Rosenthal reports that the police were on duty for the fourth of July. He reports that all went very well and he received a number of positive comments from those who use the beach on a regular basis. Mr. Rosenthal advises that a certified letter had been sent to Bonney Rigg Camp Ground informing them to notify campers about the district's private beaches, he confirmed that Bill Elovirta, the Becket Police Chief, reviewed the letter and is in support of the Lake District. Mr. Ronzio read aloud an unsigned response the district received from someone in the campground. The statement claimed that at least three (3) campers own property in Sherwood Forest. The committee then briefly discussed the anonymous letter.

Committee members briefly discuss the sand that was delivered to the various beaches. Mr. Rosenthal states that he has had many compliments from the residents about the new sand on the beaches. He advises that most residents seem to be pleased.

Mr. Ronzio presents some research that he has done on how other towns and the state handles beach access using beach-parking stickers; he distributes a handout for committee members to review. Committee members decide to table the discussion of parking permits for the beaches until everyone has had an opportunity to review the documents.

**Dock Permits and safety concerns** - Mr. Rosenthal states that he is only aware of two (2) docks that became loose and floated into the lake. Mr. Lerner states that he was aware of some that came loose during Tropical Storm Irene. A discussion followed regarding the possibility of stickering docks like boats since they do become free and as a result be a potential hazard to navigation. Mr. Rosenthal says he has enough boat stickers and could issue them if the committee decided to do this.

**Dam Management**- Mr. Lerner asks Mr. Eldred to update the committee. Mr. Eldred reports that all easements need to be filed at the registry of deeds as a condition set forth by the conservation commission. Therefore, until these easements are in place, things are on hold. Mr. Lerner explains that he has asked Morris Root, the district's engineer, to keep things moving as much as possible. Mr. Lerner states that one abutter is still holding up the project because of his unwillingness to agree to the conditions. Mr. Lerner states that he has advised the district's attorney to keep negotiation as progress is

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being made, but to also be ready to take whatever legal steps are necessary if we get to an impasse. Mr. Lerner states that if everything were to fall into place perfectly, the district would most likely be looking at the first week in September to begin construction.

**Forster Permanent Easement** - Mr. Lerner reads aloud a statement he received from attorney Goodman regarding the Forster easement. Mr. Osborn makes a motion to give Mr. Lerner the authority to act on the behalf of the district to secure the Forster easement as set forth in the letter, Maier seconds motion; unanimous Approval.

**SFNA Permanent Easement** - Mr. Lerner further reads part II of the document from Ms. Goodman, referencing the SFNA permanent equipment storage easement. Mr. Osborn asks if getting this easement this is going to cost the district any money. Mr. Lerner states that it will not except for the registry of deeds recording fees. Mr. Eldred makes a motion to give Mr. Lerner the authority to secure the SFNA easement on the behalf of the district, as stated in attorney Goodman letter, Mr. Osborn seconds motion; Unanimous Approval.

Mr. Lerner asks prudential committee approval to move ahead with Lancelot Dam phase I assessment, stating that at this point, even though the district do not have a document from the office of Dam Safety regarding the condition of that dam it will eventually be necessary. Mr. Lerner also states that he would like the ability to move ahead with Big Robin project without having to come back to a committee, as he believes that will just hold things up further. Mr. Eldred makes a motion to give Mr. Lerner the authority to move ahead with Big Robin and Lancelot, Mr. Maier seconds motion; Unanimous Approval.

**Nottingham Spillway Appraisal /Beaver Pipe Solution** - Mr. Ronzio reported that Mike Callahan from Beaver Solutions Inc. rearranged his schedule and completed the work right away knowing that the situation was classified as an emergency by the Becket Board of Health. Mr. Ronzio stated that all aspects of the project went very well and the affected homeowners was so thrilled that they wrote a very positive letter to the Becket town administrator. This letter was forward to the district.

**Website Postings** -Mr. Lerner reports that Ms. Ferriss is on top of the website at this time.

**Opt-Out Request Update** - Mr. Ronzio reports that the three (3) proprietors who submitted Opt-Out requests and were approved at the Annual District Meeting filed the required paperwork at the registry of deeds. They are now officially excluded from the district and the Assessors office has been notified. Mr. Ronzio advises that of the 1302 proprietors in Sherwood Forest only eight (8) have opted-out since the district was created.

**Any Other Business To Come Before The Committee** - Mr. Ronzio presents the legal services agreement document that has been prepared by attorney Goodman. The committee members again discuss the superb work her firm has provided to the district and sign the document.

Mr. Eldred informs the committee that their by-laws require the Lake District be audited annually. Committee members discuss the importance of an audit and the possible costs to be incurred. Mr. Ronzio advises that to date an audit has not been scheduled at this time.

Mr. Lerner advises that the police detail that was scheduled for the Fourth of July is going to cost \$52.50 an hour as opposed to the expected \$35.00; this is attributed to the holiday rate. He explains that the

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officer on duty could have asked for \$70.00 per hour but was agreeable to settle, due to the fact that he had previously agreed on the lesser amount.

Mr. Ronzio informs the committee that the State Ethics testing is being updated. He also states that all committee members have been provided the latest information on the Open meeting Law. He asks that all members fill out the receipt document, as it is an annual requirement. He explains that this is the state ethics requirement is completed every two-years. Mr. Ronzio further informs committee members that all pertinent information is on line. Committee members present date, sign and return the required documents.

Mr. Ronzio explains to the committee members that Sherwood Forest Road & Maintenance District tax bills contained some errors. He briefly explains the nature of those errors. Mr. Ronzio further states that these errors was not made by either the town assessor or tax collector but where the result of a vendor mistake.

**Review Correspondence** - None.

**Warrant** - None to be presented.

**Adjournment** - Mr. Eldred made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:56 AM, Mr. Osborn seconded, Unanimous Approval.

**Schedule** - Next meeting Saturday, August 11, 2012 at 10:00 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_  
Robert T. Ronzio  
Clerk & Treasurer  
Sherwood Forest Lake District

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Howard G. Lerner Chair

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Stuart R. Eldred (Vice Chair)

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William F. Maier

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William J. Osborn III

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Dennis B. Guerri

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