Sherwood Forest Lake District

Prudential Committee Meeting

Date Saturday, September 8, 2018

Time: 10:00 AM

Location: Becket Town Hall

557 Main Street, Becket, MA 01223

DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

Committee Members present: Dr. Howard G. Lerner (Chair), Stanley C. Taylor (Vice Chair), Vernice D. Cowell, Joan Goldberg, Nancy J. Fishell, Peter Giano, and William J. Osborn III and, Clerk/Treasurer Robert T. Ronzio.

Committee Members absent: William F. Maier

Public Present: Gil Beaudoin

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

**Introduction** - Dr. Lerner opened the meeting with a call to order at 10:11 AM and announced that parliamentary procedural rules previously adopted will regulate the conduct of the meeting in accordance with the provisions of the Open Meeting Law (OML), other pertinent Massachusetts general laws, the by-laws of the district and local customs and traditions. Mr. Taylor made a motion to dispense with the reading of the Open Meeting Law, Ms. Fishell seconded, hearing no opposition, Dr. Lerner dispensed with the reading. Dr. Lerner asked if anyone present planned to record the meeting. Dr. Lerner stated that he was aware that the district clerk would record the meeting for Mr. Ronzio’s brother. Dr. Lerner noted that there were agendas on the table for all present. He again stated that the aforementioned guidelines are being followed to insure that the district complied with the General Laws of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Ronzio distributed copies of the agendas to those in attendance.

1. **Prudential Committee Members Comments and Announcements –** Dr. Lerner noted he would be reviewing warrant and budgetary items on the agenda first, explaining this information may have impact on other discussions and decisions during the meeting.

1. **Prudential Committee to review minutes of previous meetings-** Dr. Lerner stated that the minutes will be reviewed and approved at the end of the meeting as time allows.
2. **Dam Management**
3. **Lancelot Lake Dam Update –** Dr. Lerner stated that Tighe & Bond is hard at work responding to the DEP questions that have been raised about the dam and it impact on the surrounding wetlands at the water edge, on the downslope and along the toe of the dam. Mr. Ronzio reported that Melissa Coady the wetland biologist and her assistant spent the better part of one morning gathering wetland plant data, taking numerous soil samples throughout the area that will be impacted once the project begins. Mr. Ronzio noted that he was more work to be done once they return to the lab and write the report, which they believe, will be thoroughly scrutinized by Mr. Foulis at the DEP. He concluded that the DEP will then return to the site for an in depth site visit to confirm for themselves what wad reported.
4. **Lancelot Lake Maid Marion Ln Property Acquisition Update -** Mr. Ronzio reported that the district is waiting for Hill Engineering to finalize the boundary plan in concert with the deed that is being prepared by Attorney Goodman.
5. **Lancelot Dam - 94 Sir Galahad –** Mr. Ronzio stated that he drive by the property almost daily and the condition of the building seems to be imploding upon itself. He noted that the front sidewall has buckled outward toward the street and the roof rafters are starting to cave inward. He stated it was very dangerous and the district might held liable if some one was seriously hurt. Despite the fact that he posted the property with No Trespassing and Keep Out signs.
6. **Little Robin Woody Vegetation Removal (Set Boundary Stakes) -** Mr. Ronzio stated that the district should purchase eight (8) foot tall boundary stakes to clearly delineate the mowing boundaries for the dam. He stated this would clearly establish the boundaries to prevent any issues about what needs to be maintained by the contractor. Mr. Taylor made a motion to purchase boundary stakes for Big Robin, Little Robin, Fireside Beach, Boat Beach, Grassy Beach and North Beach as suggested by Mr. Ronzio and limit the purchase to no more than $300.00 dollars, Ms. Fishell seconded; Unanimous approval.
7. **Little Robin Dam Spillway Stop Logs -** Dr. Lerner stated that he has coordinated with Craig Tighe to get this completed next spring.
8. **Lake Management**
9. **Aquatic Weed Control Report –** Mr. Lerner statea that since Mr. Maier was absent this item would be discussed at the next month’s meeting
10. **Beach Water Testing- Housatonic Basin Sampling & Testing Report-** Dr. Lerner noted that this had been a good year for swimming and the testing and sampling done by Housatonic Basin were thoroughly done and the findings were reported in a timely manner.
11. **Lancelot Foam** - Ms. Cowell briefly stated that she and Ms. Fishell as concerned citizens drafted a letter to the Becket Fire Department asking them to explain what chemicals had been discharged into the Lake by the Becket Fire Department. She noted that she had sent the letter to the Fire Chief twelve (12) days ago and to date had not received any response. Mr. Ronzio reminded Ms. Cowell to send a copy of the letter to Attorney Goodman for a legal reasons.
12. **Beach and Boat Management**

**Beach and Dam Mowing –** Dr. Lerner reported that beach mowing and maintenance was finished for the season, but some additional maintenance was needed at some of the dams. He. Stated that Mr. Rosenthal would have Gary O’Brien take care of the missed areas. Mr. Ronzio stated that the filed on Sherwood Drive should be mowed, but it is not part of the mowing contract. Committee members briefly discussed and agreed that it was a good idea to have this done soon. Ms. Fishell made a motion have Dr. Lerner get three verbal quotes and have the low bidder mow the Castle property, Mr. Giano seconded; Unanimous approval.

1. **Proposed Dog Beach** – Should Grassy Beach become a dog beach? Dr. Lerner stated that it has been proposed by several proprietors that the Committee discuss the possibility of opening up the beach to dogs. Mr. Ronzio stated that this is not a good idea as it goes against the Town’s ordinance that prohibit dog on beaches within the town. Mr. Ronzio suggests that maybe a dog park could be created and suggests that the Castle property as a viable location. Committee members unanimously agree that they must follow town bylaw and not allow dogs to enter the beaches. No committee member was willing to make a motion allowing dogs on any beach with the community so the idea was not rejected. Dr. Lerner sated he would inform the proprietors of the committees decision.
2. **Woody Vegetation Removal (Set Boundary Stakes) –** Mr. Ronzio stated that he and Dr. Lerner would be willing to place boundary stakes marking the location where vegetation needed to be trimmed at various beach and dam sites.
3. **Beach & Dam Signage Plan** – Dr. Lerner stated that this project is in progress and Mr. Giano should have some signs ready for the committee at next month’s meeting..
4. **SFLD Vehicle/Guest Pass Registration** **Parking Sticker -** Dr. Lerner stated that he is working on this with Mr. Maier and since Mr. Maier is absent this discussion will be continued until next month. Ms. Cowell noted that she has not yet drafted the notice about these new vehicle stickers but will do so right away as it to be included in the January tax bill.
5. **Website & Reporting Monthly Activity** - Ms. Cowell presented her report. She stated that there has been some correspondence as well as higher than normal number of visitors. There were three hundred ninety-seven (397) hits for the month. Prudential Committee members discussed the two (2) emails and suggested Ms. Cowell forward them to the Town’s Building Inspector. Committee members then discussed numerous properties that have various building violations to include individuals that are using campers and camping on their properties, which they believe is in violation of town bylaws. Mr. Osborne made a motion that the Lake District draft a letter to the Building Inspector asking him to take notice of such violations and make sure that these properties are brought into compliance, Ms. Fischell seconded; Unanimous approval.
6. **Opt-Out Requests -** Mr. Ronzio stated that there were no Opt-Out requests submitted to the district.
7. **Property Acquisitions/Donations –**
8. **Houle, Diane – 0 Maid Marion Lane -** Mr. Ronzio reported that this project is moving at a snails pace. He stated that the district’s attorney, Ms. Goodman indicated that it would take time to sort thing out because Ms. Houle’s co-owner passed and her will was not probated.
9. **Town of Becket 94 Sir Galahad Drive (former Tom Property) -** Ms. Fishell asked what is happening with this property and why is there a hold-up on its demolition. She stated the house is falling down and it is impossible to keep kids and people out of the structure. Mr. Ronzio stated that he agreed that this should be taken care of soon and this coming spring would be a good time to get it done. Dr. Lerner asked Mr. Ronzio if he knew where the Conservation Commission’s stood on this project. Mr. Ronzio stated that he had spoken with the Conservation Agent and she was in agreement that something should be done soon. She recommended that the district ask for an Emergency Order because of the decrepit condition of the structure.
10. **Gordon Property - 0 Woodsmen’s Path –** Mr. Ronzio stated that Mrs. Gordon called back to inform him that she has decided finally to donate the property to the district.
11. **Dubbrin Property - 0 Alan A Dale -** Mr. Ronzio nothing new to report.
12. **Any Other Business to come before the Committee –** Dr. Lerner announced that the district needed to exercise the low-level outlets soon. Mr. Ronzio suggested that they do this sometime in October. Mr. Giano asked that he be notified when this was scheduled because he would like to be there. If he could make it he would meet them at the appointed time and place on the dam.
13. **Public Input-** Previously addressed.
14. **Review Correspondence –**Mr. Ronzio presented all correspondence received. Correspondence is read and reviewed.
15. **Warrants #2 FY2019 -** Dr. Lerner presented the warrant as prepared. The committee reviewed the invoices. Mr. Giano made a motion to approve the warrant as presented, Ms. Cowell seconded; Unanimous approval. Mr. Ronzio reviewed the district’s bank statement and financials, bringing the committee up to date on all current expenditures.
16. **Adjournment –** Ms. Fishell made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Giano seconded. Unanimously approved. The meeting is adjourned at 11:46 AM.

**Schedule:** Next meeting Saturday, October 13, 2019 at 10:00 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Robert T. Ronzio

Clerk & Treasurer

Sherwood Forest Lake District

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Dr. Howard G. Lerner (Chair)

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Stanley C. Taylor (Vice Chair)

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Nancy J. Fishell

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Vernice D. Cowell

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William F. Maier

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Peter Giano

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William J. Osborn III

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Joan M. Goldberg