

Lake Mansfield Improvement Task Force Meeting Minutes: Monday October 17 8:30 am
Location: 2nd Floor Meeting Room, Town Hall 334 Main Street, Great Barrington

Attending Task Force Members: Christine Ward, Ron Dlugosz, Joe Sokul, Jessica Dezieck, Amanda Sewall, conservation Agent, Suzanne Fowle Schroeder, Deb Phillips, Chris Rembold (ex-officio)

Unable to Attend: Nina Evans, Dale Abrams

1. The Task Force voted to accept the meeting minutes of 06.20.11 and 07.11.11 Meeting Minutes as Written.
2. Ethics Training: competed by Suzie Fowle and Ron Dlugosz, needs to be completed by rest of the committee.
3. Updates on Recreation Area Maintenance
 - Update from Joe Sokul, DPW Superintendent
 - i. Lake Mansfield Road/ improvement of Speed ^{hump} ~~Bump~~ at the Beach Area has been moved to April 2011.
 - ii. Repair of Porta-toilet enclosure. Vandals removed and burned portions of the stockade fence, to be repaired for next season.
 - iii. There was discussion of the continuing degradation of Lake Mansfield Road and the more consistent flooding at the outflow area and high water mark around the entire lake perimeter. Future engineering plans for Lake Mansfield Road will need to consider these challenges in any final designs.
 - iv. Weight Limits and Traffic Counts for Lake Mansfield Road. It was noted that heavy trucks are using the road. This was seen as an additional stress to the compromised road surface. Joe Sokul said he would submit a request to the board of Selectmen for the imposing of a weight limit on vehicles traveling Lake Mansfield Road. There was discussion as to current traffic load of the road. This year's traffic study will have some relevant information and will be available for the task force review at our November meeting.
 - v. Ron Dlugosz reminded the group of the existence of obsolete telephone poles which carry only two telephone lines (Beach Area and Floyd Residence). These lines should be moved to more up-to-date poles and the old poles should be removed. Ron had completed a survey of these poles previously.
 - vi. In his absence, Dale Abrams asked that appreciation be expressed concerning the excellent mowing in the Lake Mansfield Recreation area. Attention was given to the sensitive habitat areas the mowing guidelines were developed to protect.
 - vii. Jessica Dezieck expressed concern over the Harvesting of ^{cat tails} ~~Cat-Tails~~ at Lake Mansfield. This is illegal in the wetland area. Improved signage and Public Outreach was discussed and could include an article in the Lake Mansfield Alliance Newsletter and a special article to the record.

- Summer Swimming Season
 - i. Summer Season water testing ~ Season's Summary: Lake Mansfield Waters tested as healthy on every weekly test this swimming season. Specific Test results are available with Christine Ward or Health Agent: Mark Pruhenski.
 - ii. A Summer Report which includes summarizes for the Life Gaurds and Swimming Lessons at Lake Mansfield will be available at our next meeting.
- 4. Lake Assessment: Water Quality and Weed Growth
 - A request has been made for an updated Lake Study be included in the Conservation Commissions next year's budget.
- 5. Clean Water Grants ~ Updates from Chris Rembold, Town Planner
 - 604b Planning Grant for Knob Hill Storm Water Mitigation
 - i. Update on the coordinated planning on the Boat Launch Area: Chris Rembold reported on an August meeting with the MA Fishing and Boating Access and Mark Volk, Foresight Engineering to discuss the mitigations for the boat launch area and the coordination of work on the runoff mitigation for Knob Hill Road. Details on the Knob Hill Road Engineering will be available for our November meeting. MA fishing and Boating are interested in improving the boat launch area and would move forward in
 - 319 Nonpoint Source Pollution Grant for Castle Hill Storm Water Filtration ~ no discussion
- 6. Trail Work Shop Proposal ~ Winter Lumber Milling of Locust Reserve in coordination with Greenagers and Local Farmers and Great Barrington Trails and Greenways.
 - Consideration of using oxen and horse teams to move lumber to the Lake Mansfield Beach Area to be Milled at The Lake Mansfield Beach Area and used for the repair of bog bridging in the Pfeiffer Arboretum.
- 7. Updates from Conservation Commission, Planning Board, Parks Commission, Town Planner
 - Welcome to Levi Vigneron, student intern to Chris Rembold. Among his responsibilities, Levi will review past Lake Studies in order to support the Conservation Commissions request that a current study be included on the 2012 annual town budget.
- 8. Next Meeting: November 14th, 2011; Agenda Items to Include:
 - Weight Limits on Lake Mansfield Road
 - Steps towards removing unnecessary telephone poles
 - 2011 Report on Summer Activities at Lake Mansfield
 - Review of Traffic Study