

Please be advised that by Order of the Governor – Order suspending certain provisions of the open Meeting law, G.L. c.30A,20 which limits public access- Please feel free to view meeting via cable television as this meeting is broadcast live or via live stream. Instructions are on the town’s website. You can also access the meeting by audio by calling 1-617-758-8793. Questions can be sent via email to questions@ludlow.mas.us before or during the meeting and answer will be provided

Pond Management Committee
July 14,2021
6:30 pm Town Hall Conference Rm 1

Agenda

- I. Call to Order
- II. Approval of June 23, 2021 Minutes
- III. Guest Jake Olivera to attend
- IV. Update on Pond ownership
- V. Update on Pond Assessment
- VI. Adjournment

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Minutes from June 23,2021

Attendees: Elaine Hodgman, Julie Markiewicz, Tricia Kwasiborksi Jessica Viera , Julie Breault, and Janis Santos

Guest Attendee: Jake Olivera

Unable to attend: Tony Vital, Lou and Nataline Tulik, Anna Vital, Jettie McCullough

- I. **Call to Order**
Meeting began at 6:40 pm
- II. **Approval of May 26th Minutes**
Tricia reviewed the May 26th Meeting Minutes
 - a. Julie made a motion to accept the minutes; Elaine seconded the motion; all approved
- III. **Update on Pond ownership**
Jake updated the committee that if a pond is over 25 acres, the state owns it
Under 25 acres – still researching who owns what
 - a. Haviland – Ramp is owned by DCR; Beach is owned by state
- IV. **Haviland Pond Issues**
Judy updated committee on discussion with Debbie from recreation committee
 - a. Will not put a sign up _use at own risk” due to town liability, keeping facilities and trash open
 - b. There are signs that say no fishing on the ramp – when she sees people at the beach or on the ramp, she calls Ludlow Police

- c. Debbie was not aware of put up the fence on the island but was put up to deter people from going on the island and drinking and drugs. **Julie** will call DPW to see if the fence can be removed.

V. Gather list of issues/pictures

- a. Jessica is still waiting for issues/pictures. Please send to Jessica (413-575-4838) – she will consolidate a list and pictures for future presentation to selectmen

VI. Solitude Assessment

- a. Lou was unable to get information from DPW
- b. Judy will call Solitude to see if they are working with someone in Ludlow about the ponds and when/if assessment is being done and which ponds are included
- c. Judy reviewed notes from conversation with resource (Sean Anderson) who has used Solitude in the past (notes at end)

New Business

I. Jake Olivera Update:

- a. Jake suggested we look at other town websites for Pond committees- who has done this and who is doing it well. He will also ask the DCR for any information.
 - i. Jake will see what Belchertown is doing
 - ii. Julie to find out what Lee did
- b. Harris Brook and Alden Pond may be under state jurisdiction due to having damns.
- c. Jake offered his office for assistant with grant writing/research if needed
- d. Department of Fish & Wildlife might be able to assist
- e. Discussion on funding:
 - i. Federal funds are available for communities – would need to discuss with selectmen/Ellie to determine if can be used. Must use the funds by 2024
 - ii. State funds – can be used for environmental – will need to research

II. Jessica will draft a post to the Facebook Ludlow Community Forum to update community on what is happening (what our mission is, what are we working on, pictures, community support needed) – will share with the committee before posting.

VII. Adjournment

7:35 pm - Judy made a motion to adjourn, Julie seconded the motion

Next meeting scheduled for **July 28,2021 at 6:30 pm – Town Hall**

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Conversation with Sean Anderson (413-519-3829) /Judy Breault – June 2021 (willing to come in speak at a meeting if desired)

- 1) Very familiar with Solitude Lake Management – used the same company for his pond in Windsor, NH (?)
 - a) CEO is Jay Pananos from Longmeadow – very good
 - b) Solitude Steps:
 - i) The Assessment
 - ii) Provide a “Pond Management Plan”
 - iii) Includes a water quality report (shows things like if there is septic leakage, salt (winter plowing) phosphorous/nitrogen levels (fertilizer/grass clippings)
 - iv) Weed identification (Asian Milfoil)
 - (1) Only grows in 3-4 feet of water
 - (2) Ducks & Geese spread it
 - (a) Spot treating (like roundup)
 - (b) Hand pulling (not effective if a lot – only spreads it)
 - (c) Harvester – machine to pull the weeds
- 2) Pond Ownership is important – if State owns – that is good
 - a) Need to get a State Permit to treat then it goes to conservation committee to approve
 - b) If state owns ponds, they are responsible for water quality
- 3) Haviland Pond – if it is a “swimmable” lake, department of public health report – must be tested weekly – advise us to get the report from last year
- 4) Could create “Pond Association” and register it as a 501 C3 and collect “dues” (\$5.00 or similar) and then use that to treat ponds. (can be a long process but an option if no state funding)

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