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Pond Management Committee
August 11, 2021
6:30 pm Town Hall Conference Rm 1

Agenda

- I. Call to Order
- II. Approval of July 28, 2021 Minutes
- III. Update on Solitude Lake Management
- IV. Guest Erica Larner – Belchertown Lake Committee
- V. Adjournment

Minutes from August 11, 2021

Attendees: Elaine Hodgman, Julie Markiewicz, Tricia Kwasiborksi Jessica Viera , Julie Breault, Lou Tulik, Jettie McCullough

Guest Attendee: Erica Larner

Unable to attend: Tony Vital, Natalina Tulik, Anna Vital, Janis Santos

- I. **Call to Order**
Meeting began at 6:30 pm
- II. **Approval of July 28th Minutes**
 - a. Judy made a motion to accept the minutes; Elaine seconded the motion; all approved
- III. **Update on Solitude Lake Managment**
 - a. Judy did not speak with Penny or Angela – Judy will follow up before next meeting
- IV. **Erica Larner – Belchertown Lake Committee**
 - a. First step is to find ownership of ponds – Erica offered to help with “unofficial” title search. Start an “official request” through the town clerk
 - b. The geese problem is a problem everywhere
 - i. Migratory geese are protected species
 - ii. Nesting Resident geese – they are the ones that lay eggs and protect their nests – they are not “protected” and you can gain a permit to shoot them
 - c. Discussion on weeds and algae reduction
 - i. Reduce the nutrients that go into the waterways (storm runoff, fertilizers, pet feces
 - ii. Test nitrate/phosphate levels – if you can cut these levels, it is very effective

- iii. Blue Green Algae – it is a sianotoxin and very toxic to humans and pets – looks like “paint” on the water with swirls
1. To treat - need to stop the contaminants (storm runoff, nutrients from fertilizers, feces)
- iv. Quabbin Water Quality does water testing – less than \$100 to test
- v. Discussion about Solitude – Erica states they are very good and will work with town on a plan
- vi. Way to get started – If town wants to make us an “official” committee – liaison with Conservation Committee - it opens up a lot of grant opportunities
- vii. Use the fall to gather your data, present to selectman and be part of budget planning (typically in February)
- viii. Discussion on contaminants going into Harris Brook/Pond (Ludlow Fire/police grass clippings, Town of Ludlow Transfer Station – brush and grass clippings, storm run off)

V. **Adjournment**

7:40 pm - Judy made a motion to adjourn, Tricia seconded the motion

Next meeting scheduled for **August 25, 2021 at 6:30 pm – Town Hall**