

GARDNER LAKE AUTHORITY

270 Hartford Road
Salem, CT 06240

Meeting Minutes of July 12, 2018
Montville Public Safety Building

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by Henry Granger, Chair.

Attendees

Bozrah: Henry Granger, Jim McArdle, Scott Soderberg
Montville: Bill Wrobel, Kate Johnson, Mike Magliano
Salem: Bob Neddo

Absent: Anne Marie Rios
A quorum was noted.

Guests: Bill Schultz, Barbara Magliano, Annie Thompson, Valerie Breda Hornat, Pete Hornat, John Hummel, Gary Grenier, Suzanne Bennett

Minutes

The minutes of the June 14, 2018 meeting were presented for approval. Scott Soderberg made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; seconded by Mike Magliano. The motion passed unanimously.

Attachments

- Treasurer's Report through 6/15/2018
- Client Monitoring Field Data Sheet, dated 6/21/2018

Administration, Correspondence & Communication

- **2018-19 Drawdown Letter:** Was signed and submitted to DEEP requesting the standard 3-4' drawdown. Henry Granger received the signature card confirming receipt. First Selectman Kevin Lyden and Montville Mayor Ron McDaniel noted their request to drawdown only two feet.
- **Client Monitoring Field Data Sheet:** Dated 6/21/18.
- **Email from Eric Thomas, DEEP:** Dated 6/27/18, informing Kate that the state beach was closed due to indicator bacteria (cyanobacteria).
- **Email from Eric Thomas, DEEP:** Dated 6/27/18, noting the appearance of a watershed divide between Gardner and Oxoboxo watersheds. Eric will forward this information along for further evaluation.
- **Email from Chief Jim Savalle, Gardner Lake Volunteer Fire Co. (GLVFC):** Dated 6/28/18, confirming that the hydrant (both outlets) are not operational.
- **Email from Kate Johnson to Chief Savalle:** Dated 6/27/18, thanking Chief Savalle for his confirmation on the hydrant, sharing GLA's progress on researching watershed data between Gardner and Oxoboxo Lakes and inquiring what the concerns are for not doing a drawdown with regards to availability of water, as even during the drawdown there is ample supply of water for the area fire depts.
- **CFL June Monthly Update**
- **CFL July Special Monthly Update:** Noting that the week of July 15-21 is CT Lakes Awareness Week.
- **Email from Louise Tyszkiewicz, Administrative Assistant to Salem First Selectman Kevin Lyden:** Dated 7/10/18, announcing Salem's appointment of Anne Marie Rios to GLA, effective as of 7/3/18.
- **Email from Dr. Robert Kortmann, Ecosystem Consulting Service, Inc.:** reporting that Gardner Lake water levels would not experience any effects from the Oxoboxo Lake drawdown.

- **DEEP Patrol Draft Contract:** Henry Granger has worked with DEEP to develop a draft contract between DEEP and GLA to patrol Gardner Lake for review.
- **Fishing Tournaments:** Figures from the current DEEP permitted fishing tournament schedule on the lake include:
 1. Between 7/7 and 9/1, 16 tournaments are scheduled (subject to increase as the schedule continues to develop).
 2. These 16 tournaments include 393 anglers, 224 boats.
 3. Two tournaments scheduled on 8/8 include 50 boats.

There is concern about the sustainability of our native fish and fish habitat. When caught fish are brought to the boat launch for weigh-in and measuring, nests are left vulnerable to predators. There is also concern about how multiple captures of a fish affect its health and sustainability.
- **Selectman's Meeting 7/10/18:** Bob Neddo attended the meeting and shared the history of GLA, sharing photos of one year when the drawdown was not conducted, and the resulting spread of aquatic vegetation that clogged shorelines. Bob reported that two experts, Dr. Kortmann, limnologist, and Greg Bugbee of the CT Agriculture Experiment Station, confirm that the annual drawdown is managing the lake's aquatic plants, including the two invasive plants present. With Oxoboxo's drawdown being planned over the past couple of years, and the awareness of this project by the public, the local municipalities and the State, project management should be in order.

Treasurer's Report

Scott Soderberg presented the June Treasurer's Report (5/18/18-6/15/18) for approval. Jim McArdle made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented; seconded by Bill Wrobel. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Business

A) Law Enforcement Patrol:

- ❖ As Montville continues to work through patrol staffing issues, DEEP has provided a draft contract to patrol the lake. Kate Johnson made a motion to send a letter to Mayor Ron McDaniel to inform him of DEEP's assistance for this season; seconded by Bob Neddo. The motion passed unanimously. GLA will check with Montville next spring to see if patrols will be available on a regular basis
- ❖ Jim McArdle made a motion to approve the DEEP patrol contract for up to 42.5 hours of patrol at their discretion [with some emphasis on weekends]; seconded by Bob Neddo. The motion passed unanimously. Henry Granger will update, sign and submit the contract.
- ❖ Mike Magliano contacted the Coast Guard Auxiliary. They would be able to perform volunteer boat inspections at the launch, but would not be able to offer enforcement.

B) Boating: Bob Neddo informed the group that the second of three Boater Safety Course classes is under way this evening.

C) Water Quality Sampling: Scott Soderberg reported that the lake looks good this year and clarity is very good. At this time last year there was a drop in dissolved oxygen at the deep hole off Minnie Island. The state beach was closed on June 26 for cyanobacteria (blue green algae), and was reopened at the next sampling conducted by DEEP. On 7/9 a beach alert was issued for cyanobacteria.

Old Business

- **Oxoboxo Dam Repair:** Hydrology research between the two watersheds continues.

New Business

- **Boat Launch Hydrant:** In recent discussion with the Bozrah Fire Marshall, a possible solution to the 2018-19 winter water supply to the local fire depts. during the Oxoboxo drawdown could be to fix the boat launch hydrant in the fall once the Gardner Lake drawdown has taken place. GLA's understanding is that the GLVFC's permit application process for the extension of the hydrant pipe into

deeper water began 1-2 years ago, and that possible grant funding was under way as well. If DEEP, the Town of Salem, the GLVFC and our local legislators worked in partnership, getting the hydrant in operational order would provide all the water needed for public safety this winter.

Other Business

- **GLA Mission:** The GLA Mission was read to reaffirm our objectives:
The Gardner Lake Authority is established with the Towns of Bozrah, Montville and Salem to govern the body of water know as Gardner Lake. The Authority shall act as agent for the Towns, cooperating with the State Boating Commission in the enforcement of boating laws on Gardner Lake. The Authority shall also control and abate algae and aquatic weeds, and study and make recommendations concerning water management.

Public Comment

- John Hummel explained that the DEEP patrol has two people working east of the CT River.
- Bill Schultz inquired where enforcement should be on a day such as the 4th of July, on the lake or at the parking lot entrance – as the park can reach capacity early in the day. In the past, DEEP has provided a patrol report with their stats.
- Val Hornat saw the Montville Patrol on the lake on July 6, and recommended that a patrol later in the day would be more beneficial. Boating becomes very dangerous on the weekends, esp. later on in the afternoons. Val spoke with a DEEP waterfowl specialist who said that geese won't pollute the whole lake, the biggest problem is fertilizers and pesticides that run into the lake from stormwater runoff. Methods for goose control are being looked into.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, August 9, 2018 the Salem Town Hall, beginning at 7:00 pm.

Adjournment

Mike Magliano made a motion to adjourn at 8:35 p.m.; seconded by Bob Neddo. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Kate Johnson,
Secretary