LAKE MASPENOCK WEED MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL ADVISORY GROUP

HOPKINTON MA 10748

August 11, 2016 MINUTES

In attendance;

Jaime Goncalves, Chairman

Cynthia Esthimer, Vice Chairman

Drew Logan, Secretary

David Mitchell, Consultant

John Westerling, Dept. of Public Works

Absent:

Jeff Barnes, Conservation Commission

Eric Sonnet, Parks & Rec. Dept

* The meeting was called to order at 7:02 by Chairman Jaime Goncalves.
* Minutes from 5/31 and lake survey day were not available for approval. Cynthia and Drew to bring to next meeting for approval.
* Proposal was made that the town of Hopkinton fund future water quality tests. LMPA will provide the manpower. A vote was taken and passed unanimously. Bills should be sent to:

Town of Hopkinton

Attn: John Westerling

PO Box 209

Hopkinton, MA 01748

* Recent lake survey discussion ensued
  + John W. to plot GIS coordinates of survey locations on a map
  + The committee will plan to survey the lake again in September or October
  + The extended drawdown seems to have had a positive effect this season. It is hopeful that we could get residual results into next season as well.
* A lake survey needs to be conducted this season per the Order of Conditions for the extended drawdown. We discussed using the survey done by our committee. David suggested instead that we hire Solitude (ex-ACT) so that we have the same format as last year and we can easily compare in order to demonstrate the effectiveness of the drawdown. A vote was taken and passed unanimously that we should hire Solitude to conduct the survey. The LMPA will coordinate with Solitude.
* Probable strategy to present to BOS
  + Conduct extended drawdown every 3 years, understanding they may not be successful due to conditions
  + Annually in the spring, most probably by Memorial Day, assess current weed conditions as well as previous year’s conditions.
    - Recommend annual treatment strategy (by zone & type of treatment)
  + Monitor
  + Final survey post-season with report out annually to BOS
* Funding strategy: request a predetermined amount each year at town meeting. $60k was discussed as a reasonable number. If funds are not needed, they will be returned to the town. However, there will be years when a portion or all of the funds may be needed.
* We discussed the requirements of a bid process for vendors to conduct work. Town requires 8 weeks for bids to go out. Alternatively, we can contract for various treatments by the square foot well in advance of the summer season. The analogy of snow plowing contracts was made by Jaime.
* David reminded us to not forget about the watershed management, public education and boat ramp monitoring portion of our plans
* Action steps prior to next meeting:
  + Jaime: ID the 9 zones and priorities as well as develop a descriptive name (in lieu of #’s) for each zone.
  + Drew: what were the priority treatments we discussed for each zone.
  + Cynthia: determine the relationship between the GIS monitoring coordinates and the zones identified.
  + David: determine “threshold triggers”, ie, what criteria do we use in order to decide whether to treat a specific zone.
* Upcoming Committee schedule
  + Meeting: August 23, 7:00 pm
  + Meeting: September 13, 7:00 pm
  + Sept – draft of management plan – David M to draft.
  + Oct 1 – Public Meeting
  + Oct – Selectman presentation of long term management & monitoring plans

Meeting adjourned at 8:31 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Drew Logan