LAKE MASPENOCK WEED MANAGEMENT CITIZENS INPUT GROUP

HOPKINTON MA 10748

OCTOBER 16, 2018 MINUTES – REVISED AND APPROVED

**In attendance**

John Westerling,  Dept. of Public Works

Cynthia Esthimer, Chair

Eric Sonnet

Jeff Barnes, Conservation Commission

Jamie Goncalves

Drew Logan, Secretary

Joe Baldiga, public guest

**Absent**

David Mitchell, Limnologist & Aquatic biologist from Abt Associates, consultant to John Westerling

* The meeting was called to order at 6:31 pm by Cynthia Esthimer, Chair.
* Minutes from the September 26, 2018 were approved with no changes.
* Ms Esthimer set the topic of the meeting to focus on the extended drawdown of the lake
* The Spindel Island residence has expressed concern about impact to their water supply during extended drawdowns due to their shallow well.
* Mr Westerling contacted the Spindels after they had contacted the ConComm to express concerns.    They explained to Mr Westerling that they have lost access to their water during previous extended drawdowns as well as normal drawdowns.   During the previous 2 extended drawdowns they had another location where they could stay but this year they do not.    For these reasons, they objected to the extended drawdown this year
* Mr Logan commented that this is counter to what was understood by the LMPA.  It was the LMPA’s understanding that they had not lost water in the past.    As the co-applicant on the Order of Conditions for the extended drawdowns, the LMPA recently reiterated the request for the extended drawdown to the ConComm.
* Mr Barnes stated that he reviewed the LMPA request with Town Counsel and Don MacAdam, Environmental Specialist.    The ConComm will most likely not approve the extended drawdown if there is risk of losing water for any residents.   Given this new information relayed by Mr Westerling, Mr Logan and Mr Goncalves, Officers of the LMPA, agreed that the extended drawdown should not be executed this year.
* To the group’s knowledge, no other homes around the lake have had their water supply impacted.  The LMPA, DPW and ConComm have not been contacted by anyone other than the Spindels since the initial drawdown.
* The discussion turned to what could be done moving forward
* Mr Sonnet submitted a motion and it carried that the DPW shall contact the Hopkinton Board of Health and request an inspection of the Spindel shallow well as well as septic system.   The rationale given was that after inspection, the CIG will better understand the options for mitigation(s).    Deepening the well was discussed.
* The group confirmed the residence in question was in the Town of Hopkinton, contrary to earlier understanding.  The address is 0 Spindel Island and the deed is under Robert and Eleanor Spindel.
* Given the most recent weed survey, associated recommendations from the consultant and the inability to pursue the extended drawdown, the group discussed approaches for determining alternative treatments in the spring to address the problematic weed growth.
* At the next meeting, it was proposed that the group look at all options with expectation that available funds will be in the $45-$50k range.
* Spot treatment of herbicides in problem areas, focused in the north basin, was discussed as one reasonable option.
* Meeting was adjourned at 7:14 so several members of the CIG could attend the meeting of the Conservation Commission where this topic was on the agenda.