



## LAKE QUINSIGAMOND COMMISSION

Worcester~Shrewsbury~Grafton

### Meeting Minutes for May 27, 2020

Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the **Lake Quinsigamond Commission** will be conducted via remote participation to the greatest extent possible. All meetings and hearings listed in the agenda will be done so through remote participation. Specific information and the general guidelines for remote participation by members of the public and/or parties with a right and/or requirement to attend this meeting can be found on the town's website at, [www.shrewsburyma.gov/coronavirus](http://www.shrewsburyma.gov/coronavirus). For this meeting, members of the public who wish to listen should dial [1 617-675-4444] and enter the following pin: [162 086 543 6596#]. No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, but every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings in real time, via technological means. In the event that we are unable to do so, despite best efforts, we will post on the town's website an audio or video recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting.

**Present:** Peter Collins, Mike Paika, Amanda Amory, Captain D'Andrea, Ken Polito, Officer Shawn Valliere, Bill Nelson & Jonathan Nickerson

**Absent:** (Vacant) Worcester

Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

1. Motion to approve the minutes from February 2020 was made by Ken Polito and second by Bill Nelson. Motion approved.

### 2. Commissioner's Reports:

**Peter Collins:** The lake is back up and busy as he has ever seen it this time of the year. Spoke about the safety on the lake.

**Mike Paika:** 2 Eaglets were seen on camera and it's nice to have another eagle family. Lots of Canadian geese as well. Lots of boating and little to no masks being worn by people on the boats.

**Ken Polito:** Lake is very active. Lots of police activity on the lake between Shrewsbury, Worcester & Environmental PD.

**Jonathan Nickerson:** This is his first meeting and introduced himself. He has been a resident of Grafton for 6 years now. He is also involved in the Grafton Conservation Commission.

**Captain D'Andrea:** This is his first meeting and introduced himself to the group. He has been with Worcester PD for about 20 years. Worcester Police boat will be out on the lake all summer.

**Bill Nelson:** Spoke in regards to the rowing starting up again soon.

**3. Budget:** Peter doesn't have a firm budget for the commission for this meeting but said he should have it within the next week or so and will present it at the next meeting.

#### **4. Update of Lake Management Plan:**

- **Invasive Species Treatment:** This is what we are trying to figure out with the budget and what we are going to treat this year. Also welcome to other companies that are qualified to bid on this. The treatment we did last year worked really well and in hopes that it will be again this year. This year is more of a maintenance and maintain the areas we treated last year.
- **Safety Buoys:** We have a couple buoys that we have now that need replacing along with adding a few more as well. *Route 20 Bridge on Flint Pond*. Peter showed a map that shows that the Route 20 Bridge has a blind spot and the entrance to Flint Pond and Jet Ski's do not stop here even if you are in a boat under that bridge. This is very dangerous and needs to be marked. Having the Shrewsbury DPW approval of any help DPW can do with signage and then two buoys to the north and the south of the bridge was made by Mike Paika and second by Bill Nelson. Motion was approved by all. There is another area at *King's Point*, Peter spoke about the fatality that happened back in the 1970's. Boats go pretty fast through here and this is another area especially based on the increase of traffic now as well. Either 1 buoy in the middle in between or we put buoys a little to the north and a little to the south. We can move them in the fall for the races as they will be in the way but that can be worked out like the other areas of the lake are. Ken Polito mentioned that adding buoys could add more the congestion. Peter asked the question because they aren't going to slow down? Ken says no, they would just cause more of a hindrance. Peter wants to slow them down so there is no wake in this area. Bill Nelson mentioned that one to the north and one to the south would be better as the center would be in the way. Peter mentioned that on one side is state land so we could ask for permission to put a sign that says no wake and also ask the family on the other side that owns that land if we can there as well. Peter will table this for a future meeting to come up with something in regards to *King's Point*.

**5. Dragon Boat Races:** Sept 19<sup>th</sup> 2020 – would like to close down the lake for practice too (but not on the request). Bill Nelson has a concern in regards that due to the pandemic could it be canceled. Practice dates is September 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>. DCR is not issuing any permits at this time so we would need to wait until they come back online. Peter says he would like to hold off until DRC issues the permits. Mike Paika says that it takes some planning and we can issue a motion with the understanding of getting final approval from DRC. Bill Nelson stated that no more than 10 members in a boat and they have to be the same family due to the pandemic. This will be tabled until another meeting.

**6. Update from Jacquelyn Burmeister, Environmental Analyst, Lakes & Ponds, Worcester DPW & Parks:** In the future once we are able to have meetings in person again she will give a short presentation on the quality of Lake Quinsigamond. Hits about 7 spots in the Lake to collect samples 2 times a month. Spoke about the temperature of the lake and qualities. Said it was still fairly cold at this time but is warming up quickly. High levels of oxygen in the water which is great for the fish and wild life in the water. Started taking E.coli samples in the north area of the lake as well.

7. Update from the Barbara Kickham from the Lake Quinsigamond Watershed Association: requesting \$1,000 from the LQC for DEP Grant. City of Worcester will pick up the monitoring cost from July 1 thru September. But this Grant will be for E.coli sampling. She spoke in regards to the areas they will be testing. First week of sampling found that the worst bacteria was at **Coldmine** Brook. Vote on the request of the \$1,000 for the grant. Motion to approve the \$1,000 to the Lake Quinsigamond Water shed Association was made by Ken Polito and second by Bill Nelson. Motion approved. Introduced Gia Coleman and Gia thanks the Commission for the money. She grew up in Worcester and on Lake Quinsigamond. Very happy to be part of this.
8. The next meeting is Wednesday, June 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm and will be held remotely again.
9. The meeting adjourned at 8:30pm

*Submitted by  
Jessica Rebokis*