



LAKE QUINSIGAMOND COMMISSION

Worcester~Shrewsbury~Grafton

Meeting Minutes for June 24, 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. For this meeting, members of the public who wish to listen should dial **1 470-729-3205** and enter the following pin: **539 113 217 #** **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 Ken Polito, Officer Shawn Valliere, Bill Nelson, Jonathan Nickerson and Captain D'Andrea

Absent: (Vacant) Worcester

Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

1. Angela Snell read the treasurer report: Telegram ad for \$56.24 for refill of Lake back in April 2020, LQWA bacteria monitoring program for \$1,000 & \$4,790 for Masscor for printing 200 doc plates and last was a refund to QRA for all spring rowing events canceled due to Covid 19 for \$3,450 was made by Ken Polito and second by Shawn Valliere. Motion approved.

2. Commissioner's Reports:

Peter Collins: Lake Quinsigamond has been incredibly busy and active since the last time we met. Increased activity and would like to send our kudos to law enforcement on the lake trying to keep it as safe as possible.

Mike Paika: Concerned that people are violating rule 4 (no person shall annoy another person) seems that there is a DJ on the lake. You can clearly hear the music 100 of yards away. Mentioned that Lake Winnepesaukee, NH has an 80-85 decibels of noise not to be heard more than 100 feet away. Eagle was flying about and lots of boating activity.

Shawn Valliere: No one was out on the lake this past weekend due to staffing issues. They are working on trying to fill the boat the best they can and asked residents if you see something call it in to police. Discussion on Baha Cigarette boat that the Police have been dealing with the last 3 weekend and would like to discuss with the board about sending a no trespass order certified to the owner. Rule 29 & 30 this vessel is violating. Members of the board discussed the safety of others and the size of the vessel. Ken Polito made a motion that we banned the boat as described by Officer Valliere. Peter Collins would like to entertain a motion to have a special meeting. Mike Paika motioned that we schedule it for next month after a letter be issued to the violator for the hearing. Ken Polito maked a motion to send this person a letter with the rule and banning from the lake but to attend the hearing to hear the rules. Bill Nelson agrees with this. All were in favor.

Captain D'Andrea: Spoke about trying to step up when Shrewsbury and Environmental Police are short staffed. Worcester Police Boat is committed to Thursday and Friday.

Ken Polito: Would like to thank the law enforcement on the lake and asked the question about the buoy at Lake Park being moved from the swimming area, Peter Collins reported that it got away. It's at Quinsigamond Shores. Someone will be by to collect it and bring it back to Lake Park. Shawn Valliere has the Buoy at the Shrewsbury Police Boat house. Mr. Polito would like the board to ask the selectman to send a letter to the appropriate state agency to request that we take over full time ownership of those two ramps? To take over ownership and control of these ramps. Angela Snell stated that the ramps are owned by fishing and wildlife but the Town manages them. Ken Polito says that it would help with limiting and give more say in the rules. Ken Polito made a motion to have the Selectmen send a letter to transfer owner ship to town of Shrewsbury and Michael Paika second. All are in favor motion approved.

Amanda Amory: No report

Bill Nelson: Spoke in about rowing.

2. **Budget:** We have money right now for the weed treatment that we need to do, but we do not know what our budget is yet from the Town of Shrewsbury, town of Grafton or the City of Worcester just yet. The City of Worcester did give us some money to help with the weed treatments for last summer.
3. Update on Lake Management Plan:
 - i. **Invasive species Treatment:** weeds we can treat are south of route 20, spoke about what we treated last year and that it was very effective. We need to move on because we are having serous weed problems at other locations on the lake. Off old faith Road has a big crop of it, but we have an endangered species over that that is not allowing us to treat there. We need to treat here or it will create a choke on the flow. Would like to hire a diver to collect the different plants and do DNA test to verify what species they are. Mike Paika would like to make a motion to approve the divers. Peter Collins stated that we do not have an amount yet. Mike Paika stated that we should get the information to discuss it at another meeting. More to be discussed once there is accost and proposal.

4. Discuss Law enforcement on water: How can we help the team out on the Lake. We are taking in the budgets for the Towns and the retirements and promotions. Spoke about the noise issues and the rule breaking and how we need more law enforcement and how we can get more help for the Lake.
5. Discuss and possibly vote to support Shrewsbury Article 30, Community Preservation Act: The presentation was at a previous meeting and it was about being land from the Shrewsbury side. Ken Polito stated that this is strictly a Shrewsbury issue and the board shouldn't take this on. Bill Nelson stated that Grafton approved this years ago and it was helpful but does agree with Ken that this is a Shrewsbury issue. No motion.
6. Update from Jacquelyn Burmeister, Environmental Analyst, Lakes & Ponds, Worcester DPW & Parks had a presentation she shared about the water quality in Lake Quinsigamond and she was out today and the day before. The water is getting warmer just in the last month. We haven't gotten a lot of rain either. Lots of oxygen in the lake which is good for the fish. Most exciting thing she found today was the transparency was 18 feet, and the deepest she has been able to see down in the lake over the last 4 years she has been here. Due to the lack of rain this is why. There will be a survey about how fishing has changed in Worcester over time. If you are a fisher or know any fishers please take this survey. (can be found on Worcester's Website)
7. Update from Intern Gia Coleman, of Lake Quinsigamond Watershed Association with an update on water quality initiative. Gia introduced herself as she is new and is a graduate of Clark University and a local Worcester kid. She shared the 2020 progress report of the samplings on the lake for the water quality. Spoke about wanting to focus on quality data and what they would like to have as an end result. There are 10 sample location and she showed in the presentation where they are located.
8. The next meeting is Wednesday, July 29th, 2020 at 7:00pm and will be held virtually.
9. The meeting adjourned at 9:25pm

*Submitted by
Jessica Rebokis*