

December 19, 2023, Meeting of the Hinsdale Lake Management Committee: Meeting Minutes

Town of Hinsdale, MA

In-Person Meeting at Town Hall with Remote Access via Zoom

Members Present at Town Hall: Monica Montferret (MM), Duane Bruce (DB), Matt Goggin (MG)

Members Present via Zoom: Heather Lee (HL), Cynthia Grippaldi (CG)

Public Present at Town Hall: Brian DiOrio ( BD)

Public Present via Zoom: Fred Wang , Eric Goidel, Siddharth Pannir, Paul Schwartz, Bob Graves

MM opened the meeting at 4:06pm. The minutes of the November meeting were unanimously approved by the member of the Committee.

After being introduced by Eric Goidel, Siddharth Pannir and Paul Schwartz gave a presentation (via Zoom) on the power generating technology of their company, GENH, and the potential for using this technology at Plunkett Lake. The presentation was well received, and Bob Graves (who joined the meeting via Zoom) suggested that Mr. Pannir and Mr. Schwartz meet, possibly in January, with the engineer the town has retained to redesign the Plunkett spillway to discuss how the spillway design would impact the use of the GENH power generating technology.

MM reported that Zebra Mussel DNA has been found in Onota Lake. It is her understanding that DEP will be more proactive in the coming year in attempting to stem the spread of Zebra Mussels.

MM reiterated that the Conservation Commission is handling the winter drawdown at Plunkett. The recent heavy rain has caused a considerable rise in the water level at both lakes. The Select Board created a committee within the Conservation Commission to help with the Plunkett drawdown. Craig Walton was appointed to this committee.

We reviewed the latest draft of the letter to Camp Romaca concerning power boats. We made some minor changes in the letter and agreed that it should be sent to Camp Emerson as well as Camp Romaca. DB said that he would incorporate the latest changes and send the final draft to MM for review before sending the letter to the camps. The letter will be copied to Bob Graves.

MM noted that the Planning Committee is discussing a number of zoning bylaws, including those relating to commercial summer camps.

MM noted that Solitude has not yet sent the town its year end report on the 2023 herbicide treatments of Plunkett and Ashmere.

Brian DiOrio expressed his interest in joining the Lake Management Committee, and the members of the Committee expressed their support for his membership. MM said she would present his name to the Select Board for appointment to the Lake Management Committee.

At 5:20pm the members of the Committee unanimously approved adjourning the meeting.

Duane Bruce, Secretary