

ROGERS LAKE AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF June 10, 2020

A meeting of the Rogers Lake Authority (RLA) was convened at 7:30 PM on June 10, 2020. The following members were present: Dennis Overfield, Dick Smith, Jenell Janes, Robert Recor, Mark Hastings and Toni Philips. The minutes were recorded by Nicole Krol.

Seven local attendees joined the meeting.

The meeting of the Rogers Lake Authority was called to order at 7:33 pm by Dennis Overfield.

The minutes from May were read aloud. A motion to accept the minutes from May was made by Jenell, Bob second, motion passed unanimously.

Lake Patrol

Lake patrol is going well. A couple of issues with lake patrol professionalism were discussed. First, no dogs on the patrol boat. Second, lake patrol always needs to wear a shirt. It is important for lake patrol to be able to stop and educate boaters and jet skiers. Bringing awareness of lake rules and safety is vital. Dick will talk to lake patrol and remind them of the job description. A suggestion was made to have RLA board members ride on the patrol boat with staff to help them understand the proper way to monitor and stop boaters and jet skiers when needed. RLA cannot remove boaters or jet skiers from the lake but they can take a photo or video of infractions and report to DEEP. There is a form on the RLA website where residents can report information, photos, and infractions.

The boat recorder has a new cable to capture interactions between lake patrol and boaters. Incidents happening on the lake need to be reported right away for DEEP to respond. Suggestion made: have RLA remind the fishing tournament boats they need to stay within the horsepower limit of the lake. There have not been any tournament boats out yet this year.

Weeds

SWCA is contracted to do the water quality test and weed study, it is planned to be done on or around June 15th. Before new weed treatment applications can take place, a whole lake weed study will be done. Study done in June, with a report by August.

Budget

The board reviewed the current budget. The new budget will begin on July 1st.

Old Business

The dam sluiceway operation procedure is progressing. More rain events are needed to see exactly how to coordinate the sluiceway operation and how to monitor the flow of the water going through the sluiceway. The fish ladder is still open. Dennis and Mark met with the owner at upper mill pond to discuss the water flow from the lake to his property. The goal of the dam sluiceway operation procedure is to establish policy and practice.

Reminder: The lake drawdown will be 14 inches, estimated to start September 15. The full 14-inch drawdown should occur around September 22. The lake will be allowed to fill back up starting October 22.

The RLA newsletter went out and was well received. Dennis has received feed back from a few jet skiers, so the newsletter is being read.

2287 alewives have come back into the lake, 5,400 fish were stocked this season. Many of the alewives are returning to the lake.

New Business

Candace Fuchs, President of the Old Lyme Rowing Association, gave an update on the boat house and crew activities that typically take place through the season. There is not a specific date for the boat house and rowing activities to resume, it may happen by June 22nd, the decision comes from the Region 18 Superintendent. Safety measures are in place for when rowing activities can resume. Candace recommends the public not call 911 if there is a flipped rower on the lake, there are launch safety boats monitoring the single person row boats. Once rowing resumes there will be two morning sessions from 6-10am and evening rowers from 6-8pm. All rowers will be in single boats unless they live in the same household. There is a total of 12 singles and 5 wider boats. The rowing association falls within the outdoor recreation phase of reopening.

The starter on the boat will need to be replaced.

Signage on the lake: Dennis submitted three requests for signage, DEEP gave approval for the sign in the cove. He received size requirements and verbiage for the sign. RLA is still waiting for final approval on the sign. Three signposts were acquired as well. There are two more signs in the works one for the sand bar and a sign for jet skis.

Pattagansett Lake has a lake authority who is interested in learning about weed treatment, RLA is happy to share info and welcomed them to a meeting.

Safety enforcement is important on the lake. Board members proposed RLA buy air horns to alert the patrol boat there may be an issue. Jenell made a motion to buy 10 air horns for use on the lake by board members and the patrol boat, Toni second, Dick and Bob opposed, motion passed.

There are jet skis and boats anchoring and swimming in the channels which may need to be addressed.

Discussion took place about having a police officer ride in the patrol boat to issue tickets to offenders.

A motion to adjourn was made by Jenell, Dick second, motion passed by unanimous vote. The meeting ended at 9:06PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole Krol, Secretary for RLA, Nicole-krol@att.net

The next meeting of the Rogers Lake Association will be on July 8, 2020 7:30PM at the Rogers Lake West Shores Clubhouse.