

LAKE WARAMAUG AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF 4/1/2016 MEETING

Present: Ed Berner, Gary Davis, Ed Matthews, Dean Sarjeant, Kevin Brady, Bill Hopkins, Steve Sordi, Sandy Papsin.

Minutes: Minutes of the November 2015 Meeting were reviewed. Dean made a motion to accept and approve as presented, this was seconded by Kevin. Approved. Ed Berner asked if the long handled mirror for boat inspections had been purchased as discussed in November, and Steve noted that he will speak with Hank about it.

Treasury: Gary noted the balance on hand, no bills over the winter months. Bill made a motion to accept and approve as presented, this was seconded by Sandy. Approved.

Equipment Review: Steve discussed at great length the usage of the airboat over the winter thanks in great part to the installation of the new rolling ramp system that was installed by Kevin. The LWA formally thanked Kevin for the work involved in planning for and acquiring the materials needed as well as for the installation. This was a project where Kevin and Steve worked together to implement. Both were again thanked for a job well done.

Training was extensive over the winter and will continue on weekends with Scott and Pat being at or near the Lake from 9 – 2, providing a flexible training/ drill schedule for the team that is currently in place. Team exists of 14 members who have trained on the airboat. Steve is looking into a long term training schedule for the team at this point. Ed Berner was most appreciative of Steve and to Dean for the work they did to get the program to this point. Steve is very pleased with the quality of the crew he has in place and will continue to coordinate with the Washington Volunteer Fire Department.

Steve noted that the battery for the airboat is kept on a tender, and that a battery pak is also available. The gas used for operation is expensive as it is “racing fuel”, but the engine requires a fuel without ethanol, and with a high (100) octane. The airboat essentially has a helicopter engine that is 2 cycle. It has been serviced and is in very good condition.

The new winch for the airboat is mounted to the garage wall for handling boat movement on the new rail system. This provides easy access from storage to lake, and then from lake to garage afterwards. The boat moves along rollers on the rail system. The rails will be removed for the summer and stored in the garage.

Ed Matthews questioned the SOP for communication among team members, and Steve explained they all have radios. Should a 911 be called in, it would first go thru LCD to WFD and if the problem is on the lake, the team and the airboat would be deployed.

Gary questioned the fatality that occurred on the Lake last year. Steve is expecting the full report soon, but he was leaning toward the fact that it was a combination of a medical event / alcohol / no PFD's. The DEEP continues to handle this.

The police boat is also in good shape. Docks will be installed in the water next week in preparation for activity with regattas. Inspections will continue for invasive species. Stickers and documentation will continue to be provided to those who pass.

Steve is in need of a new dry suit bringing for rescue operations bringing our total to three. Steve will continue with the same staff as last year for inspections.

Regattas: There is a new crew coach at the Gunnery that Steve has been in contact with. One change this season and going forward is that no races will leave from the Gunnery boathouse anymore. Steve will be working with new staff at most of the schools in the area, as well as personnel at the State Park. He is confident of their cooperation. Gary questioned the # of races planned. There are several small races, and three large ones. Some of the schools have expanded their programs. Ed Matthews asked when the lane lines would be installed at the north end of the lake and it will be done April 23rd or 24th. When they are removed, the SLOW NO WAKE BUOYS would be installed. Steve will ensure that they are located correctly

New Business: Steve indicated that he would like to thank and recognize the emergency airboat rescue team members with a dinner at the end of each year. He was thinking that perhaps team jackets could be presented to them. All agreed that this is a good idea and the Lake Authority will be happy to assist with this recognition.

Meeting Adjourned. Next regular meeting will be held in November, date to be determined.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sandy Papsin

Lake Waramaug Authority Secretary

