

TOWN OF WAYLAND – MINUTES

NAME OF BOARD/COMM: Wayland Surface Water Quality Committee
FILED BY: Thomas Klem, Chair
DATE AND TIME OF MEETING: Monday October 16, 2023
PLACE OF MEETING: Remote

Note: In compliance with the March 12, 2020 Massachusetts Office of the Governor's Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 20, this meeting of the SWQC was livestreamed on local broadcast on the WayCAM Government Channel and open to the public to view and participate via Zoom. Public Comment was available by in-person attendance and by telephone and Zoom during the time designated for Public Comment. All votes were taken by roll call.

Attendance: Thomas Klem (chair), Carole Plumb, Tom Largy, Jack Carr, Norm Marowitz (joined 7:20pm)

All votes approved by roll call of individual members

1. Call to Order TK motioned to start 7:03pm. Roll call by each member - 4 present
2. Public Comment – none present
3. Approve minutes from 11Sep23 meeting: TK motion to approve 9/11 MOM, TL second. Approved 4-0 by roll call vote.
4. Heard Pond: water chestnut update; Notice of Intent for herbicide application next season.
 - TL reports that Heard pond was a disaster with 696 plants last season and 37,000 plants in current season. Unknown why this occurred but it did occur in 2016 similarly. Not sure why this happens. this was a high water season for Heard. Likely the explosion in growth due to seeds dropped in prior season from plants that were not harvested in time. Hand pulling is not effective in this situation. The harvester was not available as an option and may have been of limited use given the shallow depths where the plants were most abundant.
 - Due to above, herbicide treatment is the recommended course of action to get water chestnut levels back to numbers that can be managed by hand pulling in subsequent seasons. TL cited a number of previous Orders of Conditions (OOC) on Heard Pond that have allowed for herbicide use in past, but are now expired. Notice of Intent /Amended OOC exist. The hope is that SWQ can re-approve and amend the existing OOC for use of Clearcast, which specializes in treatment of floating plants like water chestnut. If this isn't possible, then a Notice of Intent will need to be filed with the Conservation Commission and a new OOC established. Timing of Clearcast use critical – needs to be applied when plants have germinated, but not yet dropped seeds, late July – early August.
 - Harvester may have some use, in theory, depending on when available might also be helpful at getting an early start to water chestnut harvesting. Would need to be used prior to need on Dudley Pond for tape grass harvesting. Coordination with Dept. Public Works (DPW), as they would transport the harvester to Heard Pond and wash afterward to minimize any transport of water chestnut plants over to Dudley.
 - TL makes motion for that SWQC approve invoices on Heard Pond as they are received but pay no more than \$21,900 for harvesting (the full contract value). TK seconded, all members voted in favor by roll call vote 5-0.
5. Dudley Pond: Tape grass management update; conveyor purchase options

- Harvester is operating again and using the adjustable blade to harvest plants at the base. One of the operators, local resident Allison LaClaire, indicates that this blade is providing much better results – making a clear cut difference. This is the last week of harvester operations on the pond for this season.
- Purchase of a conveyor to work in conjunction with the harvester will provide better efficiency of operations. The Committee is working with the Dudley Pond Association, DPW and Town are considering financial options to make the purchase feasible.

6. Lake Cochituate: Notices of Intent with respect to weed management; water chemistry testing and cyanobacteria monitoring; Town of Wayland MS4 compliance.

- CP visually observed what appeared to be cyanobacteria. Upon closer examination it was determined to be brown algae. SWQC agrees that no action to be taken now.
- JC: Has call into Tom Flannery DCR Aquatic Biologist Director to inquire what NOI are open, expiration date. Also looking to determine what DCR tests for on Lake Cochituate and what locations testing is performed.
- Not specifically related to Lake Cochituate, TL shares his historical perspective indicating that there exist quite a bit of reference data for Dudley pond (i.e., the seasonal water chemistry data that has been accumulated over the past 10 years or so), and the same could be done for Lake Cochituate.
- MS4 Compliance: The Maguire road outfall has been repaired; next on the DPW's list is the outfall on Edgewood Rd., but this is low on the list of priorities. Currently, MS4 compliance is self-reported by Towns to the State so there is no auditing plan.

7. Topics not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance, if any.

8. Adjourn – TK motions to close meeting at 8:22pm. Next meeting 13 November 2023. In favor, 5-0 by roll call vote.