

**Lake Mansfield Improvement Task Force**  
**Minutes of June 20, 2023 meeting**

This meeting was called to order at 5:10 PM, via audio/video teleconference as noted on the agenda.

Present: Dale Abrams, Andy Didio, Brandee Nelson, Cindy Schoenfeld, Christine Ward.

Members absent: Leigh Davis, Bill Meier

Also present: Chris Rembold, Assistant Town Manager / Director of Planning & Community Development

Schoenfeld served as Chair for this meeting.

Administrative Business

Schoenfeld moved to approve the minutes of May 18, 2023; Ward seconded.

Roll call vote: Didio-aye, Schoenfeld-aye, Ward-aye, Nelson-aye, Abrams-aye. Passed 5-0.

Updates & Areas of Concern for discussion

- a. Ward and Abrams updated the Task Force about volunteer opportunities and efforts. The latest work was in the forest trail system, with work at the Christian Hill Road trail entrance. The entrance was overgrown. Blown down trees were moved out the path. She gave thanks to Brad and Kate Roblin who are volunteering for Lake Mansfield Alliance. Ward said June programs include trail walks, reptile and amphibian walk, and birding for kids, in July. She noted all events are posted on the Lake Mansfield Alliance website and are posted on Facebook. She discussed erosion (a sink hole) on the lake edge near Whale Rock and said she's asked DPW to that and a number of other items.
- b. Phragmites – There seems to be small stands in the little part of the pond near the outlet. Didio said he'd get in touch with the Conservation Commission about this. Abrams said he thought Native Habitat Restoration helped with this issue in the past.
- c. Geese – this has not been an issue so far this summer
- d. Spongy moths. – this seems to be a decrease compared to previous years.
- e. Water chestnut. – Abrams said a few volunteers have collected only two gallons so this is much less than in previous years. He thinks the previous years' efforts have paid off. He said they'll continue to monitor to remove it before it seeds.

Lake Mansfield Comprehensive Project:

Rembold said he has asked the design team to update the colored plans and renderings, so that posters and signs can be produced. The signs will be posted around the lake to keep people up to date about the design and upcoming construction. He said they signs will be translated into Spanish also.

Rembold said if construction contracts can be signed in the fall and work begins in late 2023, the design team is optimistic that most of the work could be done by June 2024. He said that way the summer season would not be impacted. But final paving would wait until fall 2024 as would final plantings.

Abrams and Ward commented that the proposed landscape plan could be improved with more native plants. Abrams said he will send information that could help improve the plant selection.

There was a discussion about bench placement on the new recreation path as part of the project. Rembold said lake neighbors have raised concerns about benches along the shoreline. He said he is working with the neighbors to secure public easements in this area, and that a condition of the easement might be that no fixed benches are installed there.

Nelson reminded that there are underground electric lines near the parking area and these need to be located

and accounted for on the plans.

Community Meeting

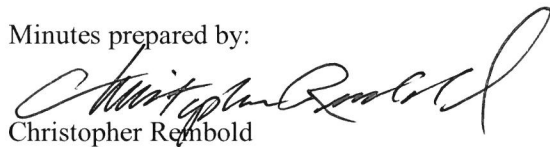
The Task Force discussed updating the public at the August 27 event at Lake Mansfield and a community meeting. Ward noted that a presentation to the Selectboard in September would be important to refresh the public about where we are, and what will be done.

Citizens Speak: None

Next Meeting: July 18

Adjourn: the meeting adjourned at 5:47 PM

Minutes prepared by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christopher Rembold", is written over the printed name.

Christopher Rembold