

**Lake Mansfield Improvement Task Force**  
**Minutes of Monday, March 12, 2018 meeting**

Present: Bill Cooke (Selectboard), Peter Franck (Citizen at large), Brandee Nelson (Planning Board), Christine Ward (Citizen at large), Chris Wiltshire (for Ilana Siegal, Parks Commission)

Absent: Dale Abrams (Lake Mansfield Alliance), Gaetan Lachance (Conservation Commission)

Staff Present: Chris Rembold and Sean Van Deusen

Acting Chairperson Cooke called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM at Town Hall.

1. Administrative Business

Ward moved to approve the minutes of February 12, 2018, Nelson seconded, all were in favor.

2. Updates from Task Force representatives

Ward said the next GBLC newsletter will focus on Lake Mansfield issues. It will be mailed in mid-April and Lake Mansfield Celebration Day will be Sunday April 29. It will be a day of clean up, community volunteering, and learning about Lake Mansfield.

Ward said she may be working with Van Deusen and the Parks Commission to plant a pollinator friendly garden at the beach / park area.

Van Deusen updated the committee about patching or paving the road. At the last meeting there were questions about cost and how durable it would be. He said a thick overlay would be in \$70,000 range and would last a couple of years. He said it is not a long term solution. The Committee thought a paving overlay might make sense if the Town's decision about a comprehensive fix was a ways in the future.

There were comments expressed including that car speeds could be increased because of smooth pavement, the amount of investment for a short term fix, and a suggestion to consider paving only one lane and the other could be closed. Van Deusen said he cannot leave potholes intentionally as speed control device. He said lack of proper maintenance creates an unsafe road.

There was consensus that in the near term paving around the outlet pipe would be good in order to shape the road to get water to drain off of it. Currently water sits on the road and freezes. Van Deusen said it could be possible to do this if he has money left over this spring and summer from other road projects.

Cooke indicated he would invite the Selectboard to hear more about this. He suggested he and Van Deusen make sure the Selectboard know about the short term issues. There was also a suggestion to invite the entire Selectboard to the next Task Force meeting.

Franck said that we need to be clear this is not a long term solution. We are still working towards a permanent design. He added that he is most concerned with pedestrian safety, and if in the short term a rough road slows down cars then that could be a good thing.

3. Lake Mansfield Improvement Planning

A. i. Knob Hill Road: Rembold said the engineers will finalize easements in time for town meeting. He said they cannot work specifically on the grant yet because the grant contract is not complete with the DEP.


ii. Boat Launch: Rembold said the boat launch designs will be developed over the next month and he will send them to the Task Force. The work will have to get a Conservation Commission permit.

iii. Forest Trails: nothing new to report. Town Meeting is May 7, to vote on the CPA project funding.

B. Lake Mansfield Road engineering project

Outlet: Rembold said he and Van Deusen are in touch with the Engineers. The current issue is about whether or not to design and permit an outlet structure that could allow for lake level drawdowns in the future. The Engineers will work on a matrix of pros and cons for the next meeting. Ward said it is not clear whether a drawdown would benefit our lake or not. She said in some lakes a winter drawdown kills the weeds, but it's not the same for all water bodies, and, in some cases invasives could colonize more readily.

Road: Rembold reviewed the road cross sections prepared by Woodard & Curran, dated March 2018. The plans indicate a potential 18-foot wide corridor, where it could fit in the right of way, and what constraints there are on both the east and west sides.

 The Task Force <sup>said</sup> in May we should invite the public to a meeting and make sure we invite abutting land owners.

4. Citizen's Speak Time

Mr. Guerrero said that a decision on whether the road should be one-way versus two-way should be a ballot vote.

5. The next meeting will be in April but a date could not be definite. Nelson volunteered to chair.

6. Cooke adjourned the meeting at 10:35 AM

Minutes prepared by:

