

**Lake Mansfield Improvement Task Force**  
**Minutes of Wednesday, August 1, 2018 meeting**

Present: Dale Abrams (Lake Mansfield Alliance), Bill Cooke (Selectboard), Gaetan Lachance (Conservation Commission), Brandee Nelson (Planning Board), Ilana Siegal (Parks Commission), and Christine Ward (Citizen at large). Absent: Peter Franck (Citizen at large)

Staff Present: Chris Rembold, Shep Evans, Sean Van Deusen.

Acting Chairperson Lachance called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM at Town Hall.

**1. Administrative Business**

Nelson moved to approve the minutes of June 25, 2018, Abrams seconded, all were in favor.

**2. Updates from Task Force representatives**

Ward said yoga at the beach is ongoing through August.

Lachance said the Conservation Commission has concerns about erosion caused by the crews working at the boat launch and requires that crew to restore the cuts in the side of the road.

Van Deusen said the forest trail contracts are being written and work should start in the fall.

Van Deusen said many road projects are underway and he cannot guarantee there will be enough money to pave sections of Lake Mansfield Road as short term solution. He said pot hole filling will have to continue.

**3. Lake Mansfield Improvement Planning**

**A. Lake Mansfield Road engineering project.**

Outlet: Scott Madeiros from Woodard & Curran presented the final plans for the outlet structure. He said the road is being raised in this area to accommodate the new secondary outlet pipe structure and allow the road to be crowned. The existing pipe will remain. Raising the road will require banks sloping down on either side of the road. In order to not have steeply sloped banks, the road will have to be narrowed in this area to about 12 feet of pavement. Madeiros said the total cost estimated for construction is \$120,000 and this is detailed in his memo to the Town Planner, dated August 1. He said once a permit is received from the Conservation Commission this would be a shovel ready project, pending a source of funds.

The road width was discussed. A 12-foot road is only enough for one car at a time. Madeiros said there is safe sight distance for cars to yield to each other and stop bars could be painted on the road indicating where to stop for oncoming cars.

A question about guardrails was discussed. Task Force members agreed that there should not be guardrails installed in this area.

Nelson moved to accept these plans for the outlet improvements and recommend the project proceed to permitting stage. Siegal seconded. All were in favor.

Road: Madeiros reviewed the plans sent today that were included in the August 1 memo. They address comments from task force members. Cost estimates are in the memo.

There was a discussion of the pull-off in front of 30 Lake Mansfield Road. This is private property but people park there and fish from there. Should a barrier be installed to prevent this? It was noted that

preventing vehicles would help prevent more bank erosion, and would make it more attractive and for people. The beach parking area is only 300 feet north, an easy walk. Task Force members agreed to discuss this question with the property owner. Rembold will follow up.

There was a discussion of the proposed rock sandwiches which would be used for drainage, rather than culverts. However it was determined that near the vernal pool, in addition to the rock sandwich, a culvert pipe should be retained under the road to allow for amphibian passage.

There was a discussion about the aesthetics of the rock sandwiches and specifically the banks along the lake. The drawings appear to indicate these will be rocky and bare areas. There was discussion that the rock sandwich areas are only 20 feet wide. If there are four areas of rock sandwich, that is just 10 percent linear distance of the bank in this area. Madeiros said these areas could make convenient fishing spots if some boulders are added. There was general agreement this would be a good addition.

Madeiros pointed out that this concept plan still shows a possible 18-foot wide travel corridor. He said nothing wider could really fit. He said in some areas it is recommended to narrow this down even further to just 14 feet wide in order to provide more lake edge buffer. If two way traffic is retained, then these narrow areas would not be wide enough for two cars to pass at the same time. It would require one car yielding to the other. These areas could be marked and stop bars painted. He said there is adequate sight distance if these yield points are needed.

Madeiros said the cost estimates at this time are up to about \$900,000 including construction, contingency, engineering, and permitting. He said that is lower than previous estimates, and probably still on the high side. More detailed designs and decisions by the Town will facilitate more accurate cost estimates.

Madeiros noted the detail sheets include a variety of options for what could occur within the 18 feet. For example, an 18-foot two way road, or, an 11 foot one way road with a 4 foot walkway and a 3 foot vegetation buffer. He said these are included to show possibilities.

Madeiros also noted that the detail sheet in the set of plans shows various methods of bank stabilization. One has vegetation and the other is more structural, with riprap. He said the cost estimates include the structural, i.e. higher cost, option.

Task Force members agreed the plans have answered a lot of questions and we have learned a great deal. There are still decisions to be made including the technique for bank stabilization, the configuration of the roadway, and funding sources. It was determined these plans should be discussed with abutting landowners before moving too much further. Rembold will follow up.

- B. i. Knob Hill Road: Rembold said the permit is in hand and the project will go out to bid this month.
- ii. Boat Launch: Van Deusen said work should be done in the next week or two.

4. Citizen's Speak Time none

5. The next meeting will be determined by Doodle poll.

6. Lachance adjourned the meeting at 7:35 PM

Minutes prepared by:

