

TOWN OF WESTHAMPTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

MEETING Minutes

For the Westhampton Conservation Commission meeting on December 20, 2023 at 7:00 P.M. in their office at the Westhampton Town Hall, #1 South Road Westhampton

Members Present: Fred, Bill, Alyson, Jessica (recording)

Also in attendance: Jerome Renault, Melissa Nuttelman, Janice Pegels (Lake Management Committee), Jim Jewell (dam and dike work group), Mike and Lori Dunn,

1. Call to Order: 7:00 pm

2. Accept Minutes meeting of: December 6, 2023

3. Review correspondence: Melissa Nuttelman (PIL), Mike and Lori Dunn; Burt Rd

4. Old/Ongoing Business: PIL submission of annual report, in accordance with Order Of Conditions; discussion/review of plans for dam repair at the lake:

PIL will continue to keep weeds at bay (pontoon harvesting, etc.), specifically targeting aquatic weeds; drawdown and weed harvesting mostly successful; harvesting of weeds will continue; Overall no major problems; regarding bacteria/toxic algae bloom; water samples have been tested, however, concerns remain; barley straw project seems to be working; no significant bacteria when tested—barley straw had no major impact on bacteria, but will try again and continue testing at lake; algal blooms appear to be more generalized and pervasive this past year in certain areas; Steve Holt has advised the Lake Management Committee regarding appropriate grass management/ treatments on the dam and dike; the committee will continue to test and monitor the water quality, weeds, invasive species, and wildlife; E Coli water Quality Report, etc., is being monitored and residents are being educated; beaver issues will continue to be managed when pipe is inserted in the dam, it will require a new NOI/OOC; next drawdown early November 2024, will go below current gate, 4 ft.; Dam repair and drawdown; 2 ft drawdown; educational materials to be distributed; aquatic plant mitigation plan; in spring of 2024, PIL, Inc will notify Cons Com of the aquatic plant species to be targeted during summer of 2024; NOI to utilize the drawdown option will also be provided in 2025; appropriate paperwork has been submitted; Cons Com approves proposed work and accepts annual report;

5. New Business: Mike and Lori Dunn, Burt Rd., re: sign-off on building permit: no wetland/stream issues; Cons Com signs off on building permit

6. Agenda next mtg to Town Clerk's mailbox: Agenda/Notice will be sent to Town Clerk for January 3, 2024

7. Adjourn: 8:00pm