

**POALH Board of Governors**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**June 17, 2020**

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm by Bonnie Sudell at The POALH Pavilion, Lake Shore Drive, East Haddam, CT. Board members in attendance: Cindy Biancamano, Jeff Conway, Janet DePratti, Hema DeSilva, Jason Griffing, Gary Petersen, Kathy Sabo, Bonnie Sudell & Bill Taylor.

Association members in attendance: Lee Griffin - Treasurer, Ed Bader - Tax Collector, Dave & Gail Edgington, Robb & Carol Wright, Corinne & Bill Halliday, Gary Zawistowski, Forest Halisey, Mike Halisey, Linda Abel, Evelyn Passan, John Jacoby, Angela Buccheri, Dave Spencer, Fred Alden

Invited Guests: Karl Acimovic, Engineer

*Bonnie Sudell started the meeting asking for a motion to suspend the normal order of business to allow Karl Acimovic, engineer, to give the board his presentation first regarding the dam inspection and bio-detention basin updates, which were under Old Business on the agenda. Cindy Biancamano made the motion and Jason Griffing seconded the motion. A vote was held, and all board members present agreed (9 yes).*

**Old Business:**

- **Dam & Bio-Detention Basin Update:** Ed Bader introduced Karl Acimovic as the engineer awarded the dam inspection contract after receiving two quotes. Mr. Acimovic indicated as part of the inspection report he has made several recommendations for maintenance and future improvements. Two of those recommendations involve the east and west spillways and their reconstruction. They are old and are in poor shape. That would include the discharge channels that go down the headwall at the growth. First Phase would involve the east side taking out the base of the channel that is there now and reconstructing them with new concrete walls and a concrete base slab that would go from the spillway crest down to the current headwall. There would be minor improvements at the headwall. The lake level would not change based on this. The DEEP is very adamant that there not be a change in the lake level without a good reason. In order to prevent scour on the upstream side of the spillway when water is coming in and going down through the channel, on that upstream side we would place some riprap which would be no higher than what the ground surface is there right now but it would prevent any scour during a severe storm situation. Then in the channel itself going down into the headwall we would slope the channel so that there is a better hydraulic entrance to the current pipe that acts as a culvert. Once that phase is completed the Second Phase would involve reconstruction of the west side spillway in a similar fashion. There are stonewalls that are there now and in poor condition. We would also recommend a new upstream wall between the two spillways instead of the current riprap that is there and the remains of what appears to be a wall that was there at one time. The west spillway would be built in a similar fashion with concrete sidewalls, a new spillway crest and entrance walls and a bit of a slope down near the headwall to create good hydraulic entrance conditions. The current spillway elevation will be maintained as is. There would be no change in the current surface water elevation that is there. This would also increase the capacities of the spillways that are there now. The walls would be up somewhat higher than what you see now and that would mean that when you have a severe storm instead of blowing over the top of the grass area and potentially eroding that. The flow would be concentrated across the two spillways and within the two channels. From that point the culverts would discharge on the downstream side. There have not been any problems noted in that particular area. The Town of East Haddam and the property owner on the downstream side would do any improvements in that location. Phase One construction costs are estimated at \$60,000 but because you always find some kind of surprise as you go down through the dam like voids or poor soil. So, we have added on 15% for contingencies and 15% for engineering and permitting. That would bring the total to \$76,000 for Phase One. Mr. Acimovic explained scour was erosive action when you have high velocity flow which tends to take loose soil downstream creating holes on the upstream and downstream side. If the dam overflows and the water flow comes across the embankment ripping out the grass and soils it would create a failure and impact the road and the downstream walls. Riprap will be installed below water level and is rocks and stone. It will be the same elevation as the ground surface. It prevents scour action. The level of the lake will not have to be lowered or emptied while the work is being done. Although during construction the contractor will have to deal with ground water when it comes up. The ground water will not have an effect on the lake water quality. The contractor will use a sedimentation bag when he pumps the dirty ground water out to go back into the downstream area in a clean fashion. You can also get extra filtration with hay bales. Will it have any effect on adjacent property owner's properties during construction and any erosion concerns? The contractor is required to come up with a schedule of operations of what he is going to do, when he is going to do it and how it will affect the site as a whole. The dam committee will meet with the adjacent homeowners, so they know what to expect. Mr. Acimovic indicated that the contractor would need to have storage space for equipment and materials. It was indicated that the ball field area would be suitable for this purpose. This should

reduce the cost of the work. During the construction there will be some road disruption and the contractor will handle traffic control. In regard to future dam inspections and ratings the Double BB rating is a very good rating. Anytime the DEEP sees a road at the dam it is automatically rated a B. The fact that we are a double B means that we do not need an emergency action plan, which is very tedious as well. So, a double B is actually a good rating. An optimal time of year for this to be done is between midsummer and late fall. Typically, on a lake like this you would want to get started right after Labor Day. Ed Bader indicated that we would have Mr. Acimovic come back to attend the July 18<sup>th</sup> Town Hall meeting so everyone can have a better understanding. The board today needs to approve to bring the spending the \$76,000 authorization to the member for their consideration at the annual meeting in August. There is an extensive permitting process through the DEEP, which will take months. The cost of all of Phase 2 is about \$124,000. Phase 2 would be much farther down the road. We have enough in our financial reserves to cover Phase 1 but not Phase 2. Ed Bader will request the Town of East Haddam to fund 50% of Phase 1. Hopefully the town will share some of the cost of Phase 1 and 2. Mr. Acimovic indicated that the second phase would involve a concrete wall on the streamside of the dam between the two spillways. We would recommend some riprap and the area where the stone would be situated, we would want to lower a bit. That would be part of the permitting process and that would help to prevent a lot of vegetation from growing up between the two spillways. Ed Bader indicated that we have a lot of vegetation in front of the berm and it is very difficult to manage that. On an annual basis we will have a maintenance plan to remove 10 cubic yards of silt. We want to make this as maintenance free for the future as possible. Mr. Acimovic also indicated that during Phase Two the drainage from the road should be taken into a catch basin and directed to the downstream side of the road. *Jan DePratti made a motion to present Phase One of the dam project to the membership. Jeff Conway seconded the motion. A vote was held, and all board members present agreed (9 yes).* There was no report of the bio-detention basin.

#### **Public Comment:**

Dave Edgington spoke about the swim lines and rafts. When he was doing properties, he worked hard with the DEEP to get the swim lines into place. Once the swim lines are in place our kids are protected. They each have a serial number on it and anyone who comes through with a boat if you take a picture of it the DEEP will go after them. There have been a lot of boats and kayaks coming through the second beach swimming area. It is a safety factor to have the swim lines out there. The second thing is the rafts. The kids are all over them. We are not making it safe to have them on the shore.

Evelyn Passan agrees with the swimming lines and rafts. She would like the port-o-potties open. She was told we are following town guidelines. She called Chatham health district and the port-o-potties in Moodus are opening today. She did not know what the town was doing to maintain the port-o-potties, but she suggested perhaps we clean them one more day a week. She indicated people are defecating by the port-o-potties at second beach. John Jacoby further commented that the same thing was happening at third beach. He said that the East Haddam town beach has opened their port-o-potties and the playscape for the kids. We should be able to do it as well. It was indicated that the port-o-potties are already cleaned twice a week. Evelyn Passan also indicated she spoke with the state police about the speeding along Lake Shore Drive. She would like some support from the board. She suggested perhaps putting up a sign or a crosswalk. She also wanted the Internet password for the Wi-Fi at First Beach. She was given the password of 1STBEACH to use.

Robb Wright read the minutes from last month about the right of ways and the surveys. He wants to make sure his voice is heard. He does not accept any of the surveys as they are because he has an A2 survey of his property that does represent the two oak trees. He has confirmed with the town that his mile marker holds true so from the town perspective his A2 survey does represent the trees, the layout, the water culvert – everything. This is going to be an issue. This survey thing is changing what we know. Even if the survey is dead on satellite specific accurate, as we all know, the lake association here is not built that way. I have raised the argument that why would they let them build the Byron's house two feet from the line. He talked to Jim Ventres from the Town of East Haddam who states that it was the Wild West. They called it Lake Hayward Association and they put in all the houses in willy nilly everywhere. The POALH 2007 pictures denote and describe property lines, as we know them with tree lines. Look at the Ridgewood tree line at the Right of Way where the POALH just cut down a tree. The POALH survey is in the middle of a telephone pole, a tree stump and a garden and right down the middle of a tree line. If technically you want to make a balance of ten feet, there you have to cut down an existing tree line that has been there forever. The same thing is true at the right of way that comes from Ridgewood down Pilgrim Way there is a tree line where Pilgrim Way is paved and the POALH new survey pin is located five feet deep into the tree line. If that is correct, then that tree line has to be cut down and part of Pilgrim Way has to be shifted over. If we are going to hold accurate for true everywhere, we are going to have to reinstate the actual true lines. Between the tree line on Ridgewood and the tree line on Lake Shore Drive they do not hold, and they do not jive. If the association shifts Mr. Wright, then you will have to shift everyone down the line ten feet. This will create boundary disputes all the way down the line. He has to get an attorney and is getting resurveyed. Mr. Byron is getting an attorney and his property surveyed. He does not understand what the benefit is to the association. The rights of ways are being well maintained by the two homeowners. It is actually better than the pictures from 2007. The town of East Haddam put in a wastewater system. They have boundaries and pins in place that the association is not acknowledging with the new survey. The 2007 photos show no catch basin. The catch basin was put in post 2007 with a survey the Town of East Haddam completed. Mr. Wright

implores the association to talk with Jim Ventres so he can explain why he thinks this does not reflect our properties and this issue is opening up a huge exposure by shifting all us left and right and creating boundary disputes left and right. He feels it is not a right of way issue or a lake front issue. It is introducing new lines that none of these homes built in the 1950's is reflecting. If we go by the new surveys the association will be bouncing everyone. If this survey is the pilot survey the two rights of ways in question are already off. The association has insurance that reflects where the right of way is and the intention of our property. If someone slips on the right of way it is covered. The idea of being exactly where it is supposed to be versus where it has been for exactly 70 years is a problem that needs to be solved. Every association member should be looking at their property because it is going to shift everyone's boundary lines.

Angela Buccheri reiterated concerns about getting the swim lines and docks out. She indicated youth sports have opened up so she feels the courts in the association should be opened up. She hopes the board will take steps to make it happen. Gary Zawistowski was very concerned that the rafts are being left in shallow water, which could injure anyone who jumps off. They should be put out in deeper water. The board assured Gary that the matter would be addressed this evening. Fred Alden is concerned that cars are being broken into. He questioned why most of the streets are dark and how we could get some streetlights. It was indicated to him that it is the Town of East Haddam's responsibility to put in streetlights. He was directed to get in contact with the First Selectman, Rob Smith, of the Town of East Haddam to help with the situation of lighting around his house.

Forest Halisey was concerned about the lights too and encouraged all to lock their doors. We do not want a cityscape. Common sense should prevail with locking of doors.

David Spencer requested an additional boat rack to be put in at First Beach.

**Minutes:** *Jason Griffing made a motion to accept the minutes of the May 16, 2020 board meeting. Jeff Conway seconded. Jan DePratti commented that she feels the minutes are too verbose. It is an extreme job to read them. They should be condensed. A vote was held and Cindy Biancamano, Jeff Conway, Hema DeSilva, Jason Griffing, Gary Petersen, Kathy Sabo & Bill Taylor voted yes. Jan DePratti & Bonnie Sudell voted no. The motion carries with 7 yes and 2 no.*

**President's Report:** Bonnie Sudell received numerous requests from nearby residents and local realtors about the use of association beaches and buying memberships and parking passes. They were advised they needed to live within the association to use the facilities. Several emails were received about property owners encroaching on rights of ways and the poor condition of some right of ways. Several emails were received regarding weeds in the lake. Also, emails were received about putting the swim lines out. Concerns about landscaper's weed whacking at Second Beach. Text from Robb Wright regarding property boundaries and right of ways. Concerns were received about the wrong sand being delivered. Bonnie would like to remind all board members that the newsletter deadline is Sunday at 6:00 pm and to copy Jan DePratti on all articles. In an effort to shorten the June meeting Bonnie would like all board members to write short articles summarizing their accomplishments over the past winter and also plans for the upcoming year. Bonnie is concerned about fireworks on Third Beach. She is trying to find out whom the person was who set up fireworks on Third Beach last year. This is a liability. She asked if anyone knows who set the fireworks off to please email Bonnie. Jason Griffing pointed out that we do not allow fireworks so if someone sets off fireworks without our knowledge, we should not be liable. Bonnie spoke with Heather Taylor regarding the triathlon and the carnival, which Heather has coordinated the last few years. She is a school administrator and is dealing with town and state requirements as well as the local health department through this Covid pandemic. She would like to err on the side of extreme caution. She will not be sponsoring the triathlon this year and believes we should not have a carnival. She feels we cannot guarantee social distancing and that these events lend themselves to congregation and sharing of supplies. She remarked that live concerts are being cancelled throughout the area, as well as plays and fairs. She is in favor of cancelling all activities, bands, craft nights, bands, dinners, etc. It is her opinion that we are all tired of wearing our masks and are tired of Covid-19 but we need to err on the side of caution. Hema DeSilva commented that there is a right of way down by third beach that needs attention.

#### **Financial Reports:**

- **Treasurer:** Lee Griffin handed out his treasurer's report to all board members present. He reported since our last meeting he submitted the request for the reimbursement for the Third Beach dredging project and did receive a check in the amount of \$15,000 from the Town of East Haddam as income. There was also \$189.34 in bank interest. Expenditures were \$14,950.97. Budgeted income was \$209,081.00 and actual income was \$211,903.28. Budgeted expenses were \$209,081.00 and actual expenses were \$170,443.72. Per the board's request the remaining funds from the 3<sup>rd</sup> beach dredging project and Hayfield property purchase was returned to the Capital Reserve Account. *Janet DePratti made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented Cindy Biancamano seconded. A vote was held, and all board members present agreed (9 yes).*
- **Tax Collector:** Ed Bader reported that the tax collections are over 99.5% with only 1 account unpaid. This account was in the process of collection subject to a tax sale, the process of which was discussed last month. However, under Governor Lamont's executive order all tax sales are suspended until July 1, 2020. If the governor lifts the suspension of the tax sales provision within the General Statutes at that point in time, the process of collecting that one remaining account will continue. Ed Bader noted that the governor's executive powers expire

in September. The tax bills are in the process of being printed. Last month we reviewed the mill rate, which went down a little bit to 4.115. If any association member is a landlord who rents you do not get a 60-day grace period unless you certify certain conditions. To do this you must fill out a two-page form and submit it to the tax collector before July 1<sup>st</sup> to get the exception. If you do not fill out the form, you only get thirty days. Mr. Bader is trying to get the forms out to all those he has identified as landlords. For the rest of the association who does not rent properties a 90-day grace period is given to pay taxes. They should be paid by October 1<sup>st</sup> and it will say that clearly on the tax bill. *Jason Griffing made a motion to accept the Tax Collector's Report as presented Bonnie Sudell seconded. A vote was held, and all board members present agreed (9 yes).*

### Committee Reports

- **Lake Quality:** Corrine Halliday reported that the lake is being treated on Tuesday, June 23, 2020. She should have the signs by the latest Friday. She will start posting them around the lake to remind everyone of the weed treatment and have some put in the kiosks. Solitude did a pre-survey of the lake on Monday and the weeds are a little denser in spots but not horrible. We did have an outbreak of bladderwort, but we do not need to do anything special. The current treatment plan should take care of it. She does not know why we had the outbreak but will find out. There is twice monthly testing being done which started up on May 1<sup>st</sup>. Unfortunately, the buoy placed by the lake quality committee near second beach got cut. A bigger buoy was placed with chains and steel cables connected to a cement block. Someone also cut that off as well. They had to have bolt cutters. The lake quality committee needs to take samples from the deepest part of the lake, so it is easier to clip onto a stationary buoy to be in the right spot on a continual basis. The lack of a buoy adds about twenty minutes to their job. The lab is not open yet so all the samples they are gathering are being frozen. Besides a small outbreak of algae, we had last year the lake seems to be doing well so far. Jan DePratti reported that there is stream input testing taking place. Testing sites include the stream that comes down into first beach and all the grates and street drainages, up on Hayfield, second beach drainages, Wildwood Rd stream. The numbers were about the same as last year. The samples taken from streams higher up- the counts were higher. She does not see anything significant from the farm or fertilization. The plan is to make sure the equipment is working correctly and continue the testing a couple of more times this year. She is keeping a detailed log.
- **Budget:** Ed Bader reported the committee is waiting for the individual association committees to spend their budgets for this year so there is a better chance of knowing what to budget for next year. The information to committee chairs will go out tomorrow and then a series of meetings will be scheduled with individual committee chairs to go over line items, reports and explanations that need to be made. A budget should be ready for the July board meeting.
- **Events:** Jeff Conway reported that nothing since the last meeting has been cancelled on his end. The triathlon has been cancelled. Bonnie Sudell stated that ladies night would be cancelled over concerns of social distancing. There will be five bands and a quartet to include Centerline July 18<sup>th</sup>, Delish July 12<sup>th</sup>, Furious George August 8<sup>th</sup>, Dragonfly July 26<sup>th</sup>, Savage Brothers & the quartet Fusion. Colleen will host kids crafts and Linda Abel & Phil Sabo will host kiddie bingo. There will be quite a few movie nights. Cindy Biancamano reported that the golf tournament would not be held. Bonnie Sudell stated that Linda Abel has indicated to her that she is not comfortable holding kiddie bingo. Linda Abel indicated directly to the board that she was concerned for the children that it would be hard to sanitize items and prizes. Therefore, kiddie bingo will not go forward.
- **Properties:** Gary Petersen reported that the street sign project is moving along with the help of Dave Edgington and Phil Sabo. There are probably 10-12 more to put up. He will be ordering more signs so that there will be street signs of both sides of the poles instead of just one. Gary Petersen received an email regarding the right of way from Wildwood down to Lakeshore being in bad shape. Upon investigation he agreed that it needed work and after it is surveyed it will be fixed. John Allegra will be starting the third beach walkway on June 22<sup>nd</sup> guaranteeing the work will be done by June 30<sup>th</sup>. Ed Bader commented that we have a \$17,500 capital improvement. Most of the time capital improvement budgets are not in the operating budget because they take longer to get done. He indicated that this project should have been put in the capital improvement budget. He would like the board to approve taking the \$16,630 in the capital improvement budget and transferring that to capital reserve so that if John Allegra falls behind and we only pay him \$5,000 and we lose the other \$12,000 - \$13,000 - \$14,000 because we close the books at the end of June. If we transfer the \$16,630 to the capital reserve and then we will not have any problem. John Allegra can do his job and Gary can make sure it is done properly. Then Gary can pay him. Lee Griffin commented that the board has the ability to reallocate funds based on the line item of the budget. The capital reserve is not a line item on the budget therefore the funds should not be moved. Ed Bader felt we should get the funds out of the operating budget but if we do not that would just put more pressure on John Allegra to get the job done. Gary Petersen also reported that a truck or something has hit the light pole in the first beach parking lot. The surveillance cameras are being checked to see if we can figure out who hit the pole. Lee Griffin reported that he is going through the video.
- **Public Safety:** No report

- **Secretary-Clerk:** No report
- **Technology:** Jan DePratti is coming off the board and would like someone to take over the technology position.
- **Water Quality:** Jan DePratti reported that Kathy Petersen started testing the Tuesday after Memorial Day and there has not been any E-coli or anything.
- **Other:** Cindy Biancamano asked how everyone liked the birdhouses. Board members agreed that they are very nice.

### Old Business (continued)

- **Coronavirus Update:** Bonnie Sudell brought up the topic of loosening the restrictions. She indicated that it seems to be a safety hazard not to have the swim lines out. *Gary Petersen made a motion to put out the swim lines. Cindy Biancamano seconded. A vote was held, and all board members present agreed (9 yes).* Next Bonnie indicated that we did not put out the rafts because we did not want people congregating on the rafts, but they are congregating anyway. *Jason Griffing made a motion to put out the rafts. Cindy Biancamano seconded. A vote was held, and all board members present agreed (9 yes).* Bonnie next brought up the volleyball court. Kids are congregating there. *Jason Griffing made a motion to put up the volleyball nets. Cindy Biancamano seconded. A vote was held and Cindy Biancamano, Jeff Conway, Janet DePratti, Hema DeSilva, Jason Griffing, Gary Petersen, Kathy Sabo and Bill Taylor voted yes. Bonnie Sudell voted no. The motion carries with 8 yes and 1 no.* Bonnie next brought up the basketball court. *Jason Griffing made a motion to open up the basketball court. Cindy Biancamano seconded.* Bonnie noted it is an area of congregation and is not in favor of opening it up. *A vote was held and Cindy Biancamano, Jeff Conway, Janet DePratti, Hema DeSilva, Jason Griffing, Gary Petersen, Kathy Sabo and Bill Taylor voted yes. Bonnie Sudell voted no. The motion carries with 8 yes and 1 no.* Bonnie then brought up the other tennis court net. *Jason Griffing made a motion to put up the other tennis court net. Cindy Biancamano seconded.* Jan DePratti commented that there are a lot of people that would like to have a pickle ball court. That was tabled until another time. *A vote was held, and all board members present agreed (9 yes).* Bonnie then brought up opening up the playscape. *Cindy Biancamano made a motion to open up the playscape. Jeff Conway seconded.* Cindy Biancamano felt it should be left up to the parents at this point as playscapes in other parks have opened. Jan DePratti asked if there had been complaints about it being closed. Cindy replied that there were one or two. Gary Petersen does not feel it is a good idea as it is a place with a lot of germs. He has mixed feelings on it. He feels it should remain closed for a while. Kathy Sabo did not feel it was any different than children sitting around a picnic table. Jeff Conway agrees that parents can be in charge of whether they feel it is clean enough for their kids. There was a comment that we could have a sign that states to use it at your own risk. Gary also thought if it was closed parents would have an easier time keeping kids off of it and he believes it should be kept closed for another month. Bonnie also believes it should not be opened. *A vote was held and Cindy Biancamano, Jeff Conway, & Kathy Sabo voted yes. Janet DePratti, Hema DeSilva, Gary Petersen, Bonnie Sudell & Bill Taylor voted no. Jason Griffing abstained. The motion did not carry with 3 yes, 5 no & 1 abstention.* Bonnie then moved on to the topic of port-o-potties. *Janet DePratti made a motion to open the port-o-potties with a notice/sign that indicates you use it at your own risk. Gary Petersen seconded.* It was indicated that the port-o-potties are cleaned twice a week during “the season.” Gary Petersen feels they should be opened, as it seems people are making a mess. Bill Taylor suggested that perhaps you could put some wipes or hand sanitizer in there. Jason Griffing felt if we purchased items to put in the port-o-potties they would be taken. *A vote was held and Cindy Biancamano, Jeff Conway, Janet DePratti, Hema DeSilva, Jason Griffing, Gary Petersen & Kathy Sabo voted yes. Bonnie Sudell and Bill Taylor voted no. The motion carries with 7 yes and 2 no.* Bonnie next brought up the topic of the pavilion rentals. Lee Griffin reported that we have two pavilion rentals thus far. Bonnie is concerned about crowd control and people wearing facemasks during the gatherings. Lee suggested that it should be put in the newsletter to social distance and use at your own risk. Bonnie will put it in the president’s portion of the newsletter. Lee further indicated that we have nothing in the forms to indicate how many people will be attending. Gary Petersen indicated that there will be a work party tomorrow morning to get going on putting the swim lines, rafts, nets, etc. out. Hema DeSilva commented that the state is allowing gatherings of 25 people inside and 100 outside.
- **Rights-of-Way and POALH Property Encroachment Update:** Bonnie Sudell has contacted Mr. Byron several times by phone and email inquiring on the status of his survey. She has not heard from him. Cindy Biancamano commented that Robb Wright had said that Mr. Byron is getting an attorney and a survey done. Bonnie reiterated she has not heard back from Mr. Byron. Jason Griffing agrees that Mr. Byron needs to get a survey and that Mr. Wright brings up some very good points. We need to do what is right, but we need to realize that this may affect some 20 homeowners down the line. We really have to do something correct that we can handle with the whole lake. Jan DePratti feels we will know more when we talk to Mr. Byron. Jeff Conway asked if the surveys were for the right of way to be correct or the lakeshore property to be correct. Gary Petersen said that the board wanted to get all our properties surveyed so we know where our property lines are for legal reasons. Jason Griffing feels the right of way issue is a totally different issue from the lakeshore, as we do not own the right of ways. We just have an easement on their property. We do not pay taxes on it, the homeowners do. If it is going to become a huge

slinky effect all the way down the lake, we need to think of what we are going to do to solve it and what will make it fair for everyone and not expensive for everyone. Jeff Conway commented that it would be expensive all around if everyone had to get lawyers and pay fees. Once Mr. Byron gets a survey, we can spend more time discussing this issue. Jason Griffing pointed out that as a board we should be prepared or start with some alternative plan of what we will do going forward. Is the town supporting us? It sounds like the town is not. Bonnie Sudell asked us to remember that Jim Ventres from the Town of East Haddam is not a licensed surveyor. Gary Petersen felt the day they met with Jim Ventres he was on the POALH's side of this dispute. Bottom line is Mr. Byron needs to get a survey.

- **Insurance Update:** Bonnie Sudell reported that there are no quotes for the umbrella insurance yet. We now have a 10-million-dollar umbrella coverage. Twenty million is not available. We are waiting for a quote for 15-million-dollar coverage.
- **Strategic Plan Update:** No report.
- **Blighted Properties Update:** No Report
- **Swim Lessons:** Bonnie Sudell will hopefully speak with Meredith tomorrow and Bonnie will email everyone with the results of her conversation.
- **Signage Enforcement:** Bonnie recommended tabling this discussion until another board meeting. Everyone is ok with that. It was quickly discussed that there is a Trump sign on Lake Shore Drive, which is not allowed.

### New Business

- **POALH June Meeting Action Plan:** Bonnie Sudell indicated that Phase Two of the state plan allows having 100 people outside. So, we could have our June meeting outside. *Janet DePratti made a motion to hold the June meeting outside limited to 100 people including those on the board and those attending with masks and social distancing. Jason Griffing seconded.* Cindy Biancamano was concerned about a microphone being passed around and suggested that we put microphones on stands that we walk up to. There should be one for the board members and one for the membership. It was suggested that we purchase them. Jeff Conway will research getting microphone stands. Jason Griffing commented that the chairs would have to be spread apart so we may have to go out onto the beach with them. Bonnie Sudell suggested we rent a tent. Board members felt a tent was not needed. Kathy Sabo asked how do we control people from not moving the chairs. We cannot enforce the movement of chairs. Comments were made that people will sit close with family members or perhaps friends they are comfortable sitting next to. We cannot control that. It is our responsibility to set it up properly but not our responsibility to marshal attendees. Some board members felt it was our responsibility. Jan DePratti suggested that you make a statement at the beginning of the meeting or when people sign in setting forth the guidelines. Bonnie Sudell brought up the point of having remote registration. Jason Griffing felt that signing up across the table is fine. There will be no refreshments. The sign-up table can be double width to space people apart. Bill Taylor asked if people would be expected to wear masks. Everyone agreed that everyone at the meeting would have to wear a mask. Kathy Sabo will bring extra masks to the meeting. Maybe people out on the beach do not have to wear a mask. We will make sure that association members know that masks are required. Lee Griffin asked if there would be police presence. Bonnie asked if the board wanted police presence, but the general consensus was it was not needed. There will be no nametags. The agenda will be in the newsletter. Bonnie asked for board members to arrive at 9:00 a.m. for setup. Jason Griffing suggested that we face the water so the chairs that go outside can be set up on the grass. The tables the board sits at will be along the wall. *A vote was held, and all board members present agreed (9 yes).*
- **Speed Limit on the Water:** Bonnie Sudell reported that there is an electric body board going up and down the lake. She received a correspondence from Jeanine Gouin on the east side of the lake. Jan DePratti reported that Ms. Gouin is looking to implement a 6mph speed limit on the lake and would like support from our side of the lake. Electric motors can now go faster. The original mandates and regulations for Lake Hayward were just about decibel engines. Ms. Gouin has made a proposal for the Town of East Haddam to change the ordinance that was adopted on August 20, 1964. The modifications would be as follows: In 171-1 changes the word boats to watercraft. Add a 171-2 to say, "Speed Limit - Any watercraft equipped with an electric motor shall not exceed 6 miles per hour. 171-3 (previously 171-2) regarding penalties would stay the same which reads "Any person or persons violating this article shall be subject to a fine not exceeding \$250.00." Jason asked if this was a town ordinance and it is. He pointed out that it is interesting that the state owns the boat launch, but the town regulates the speed limit. Bonnie asked if there was a board member interested in working with the east shore to go with them before the town. Jan DePratti will take that on. *Jan DePratti made a motion that we support the new proposal to modify chapter 171 of the general statutes that we support the modifications of this general statutes brought to the west side of the lake by the lake quality committee members from the east side of the lake and further investigate putting together a proposal and bringing it before the town. Bonnie Sudell seconded.* Gary Petersen noted that 6 mph is a little slow. He would like to see it around 10mph. Board members agreed and Jan agreed to bring that proposal to the meeting she has to talk about the proposal. *A vote was held and Jeff Conway, Janet DePratti, Hema*

*DeSilva, Jason Griffing, Gary Petersen, Kathy Sabo, Bonnie Sudell and Bill Taylor voted yes. Cindy Biancamano voted no. The motion carries with 8 yes and 1 no.*

- **Other**

- Kathy Sabo asked about the proposed by-law changes that are coming up for a vote at the association meeting. Bonnie Sudell stated that these changes started two years ago, and we had additional comments that were made last year to request changes. Jan DePratti commented that there are some changes that were put there to generalize and simplify things. Bonnie stated that some of them were put there to correct things procedurally. Kathy Sabo stated that there are some items to be taken out like the proxy votes. She is aware that most people do not use them but why take it out. Bonnie corrected the term proxy and stated it was absentee ballots. Bonnie stated that people never use it. Kathy reiterated the question of why take it out? Kathy also noted there was something coming out of the by-laws about the budgeting process not letting the association change the budget or vote it down. Bonnie said to bring it up at the June association meeting. Specifically Kathy quoted the part to be taken out as follows: Said association shall have the power to change such budget and rate of taxation recommended to said board of governors provided the rate does not exceed that set forth in the charter (reference section 10 of the charter). Jan DePratti responded that had to do with setting it back to the mill rate to balance it out. There was discussion about having the amount of taxes come in equal to the budget. Then we had to readjust the budget, so it was reflective of the taxes. Jason Griffing commented that the budget was off by a small amount. Jan DePratti said that the it was argued that the money would have to go back to the members and if the money went back it would have been like \$25.00 a member and would have cost us more to reallocate the budget. Kathy Sabo commented that the removal of this part of the bylaws sets off a red flag. You are taking power away from association members. Jan DePratti stated that we set the budget for the year before the taxes come out. We set the budget in August. The grand list doesn't reflect the buying and selling on the lake until the end of the year like in October. Then what happens as things are bought and sold the grand list gets adjusted. What happens is that the tax collector can set the mill rate to whatever is needed so it matches as close as possible to the actual budget. Association members were upset that the amount of money coming in for the taxes was so high over the budget because the grand list changed. People were angry that the funds were moved two years ahead. Members wanted the money now instead of it being put to use two years ahead. They wanted the actual funds to match as close as possible to the budget. The budget could not be readjusted. Kathy commented that it should just be reworded or something. Not taken out.
- Lee Griffin reported that the All Waste contract went up \$76.00 which he feels is reasonable as they now have to take the trash, they pickup to Willimantic and they have not gone up on their fees in years. Bonnie commented the twice a week pickup starts the Monday after the June meeting. Lee Griffin also wants to remind people that they do not do bulk pickups unless you schedule something separately and pay for it.
- Kathy Sabo referred to an email she sent out to everyone regarding the drugs that were found down by first beach. She didn't know if we needed to address it in any way to show the association members, we are concerned about it or if we can do anything about it. She is drawing a blank on what we can do about it but would like some feedback if anyone has any ideas. It was mentioned that it was given to the police and there was not much else we can do. Kathy asked if the cameras on first beach monitor the boating area of the beach. It was reported that the cameras do not cover that area.
- Jason Griffing would like to investigate getting a different monitoring system that is more updated, as technology gets outdated quickly. It took overnight to download the video when he was looking for the culprit of who bumped into the light post. Jason will investigate. Bonnie also said our sound system needs to be upgraded. Jason will look into that also. Jeff said he could work on that with Jason.

Bonnie Sudell reminded everyone that our next meeting is the association meeting on June 28<sup>th</sup>. Then there is a Town Hall meeting on July 18<sup>th</sup> and a board of governors meeting on July 22<sup>nd</sup>.

*Bonnie Sudell made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jason Griffing seconded.*

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m.