

Waukewan Watershed Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

April 15, 2009

Members Present:

Bruce Bond
Randy Eifert
John Hodsdon
Bonnie Ireland
Pru Tylenda
Bob Vogler
Tim Whiting

Staff Present:

Angela Labrecque

Visitors:

Agenda:

- Approval of minutes of the March 26, 2009 WWAC meeting
- Continue discussion on health ordinance for high risk septic systems around Lake Waukewan
- Review status of discussions between Meredith and NHDOT on hazmat traffic on Winona and Waukewan roads
- Other business

Chairman Bruce Bond called the meeting to order @ 8:14 am

The **3/26/09 WWAC meeting minutes were approved** with the correction of the next meeting date from April 16, 2009 to April 15, 2009.

Hazmat pass through trucking on Waukewan/Winona Roads:

- Bruce reported that the Meredith town management believes the letter to the NHDOT should come from the Meredith Selectmen not the WWAC. It is being edited for their signature.
- John Edgar is requesting that this topic be put on the agenda for the Selectmen's Workshop. Expect this to be scheduled for a workshop within the next 6 weeks.

Discussion of the proposed health ordinance re: septic system inspections:

- Env-Ws 386.49(h)(2) states "A person shall not build or maintain any privy, toilet, sink drain or subsurface septic disposal system or discharges therefrom, within 125 feet of Lake Waukewan. Existing **properly functioning septic systems** within 125 feet of the shoreline may remain in place. If failure occurs, the repair or replacement shall be in accordance with Env-Ws 1000."

WWAC question – How would a septic system be evaluated to show that it is a **properly functioning septic system**?

- A DES letter dated 9/15/08 states a new septic system design is required if the building or lot ridge line is to be modified. However the letter says the new septic system design does not need to be installed if an existing septic system with an Operation Approval has been issued.

Note: This letter does not specify that the existing septic system be tested to verify it is properly functioning.

- **Action Item: Bruce Bond – Draft a letter to be sent to the Meredith Selectmen stating WWAC's intent for a Health Ordinance that would specify what properties would require a septic system test that would evaluate the existing septic system is properly functioning. Bruce committed to having a draft of this letter e-mailed to all WWAC members before the next meeting on May 20th where it will be discussed and perhaps modified.**

Porta-potty at the Meredith Lake Waukewan Boat Ramp:

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- For the past several years there has been a porta-potty located across the road from the town boat ramp. This porta-potty is used by boaters, fishermen and Lake Hosts. The new bathrooms located by the town beach are too far to be used by boaters, fishermen and Lake Hosts. There is some concern that the porta-potty at the boat ramp may have been cut for 2009 to save the \$95/month porta-potty expense.
- **Action Item: Angela Labrecque – Verify that the porta-potty at the boat ramp has been cut.**
- **Action Item: Bruce Bond – If the porta-potty has indeed been cut, write a letter to the Town Managers expressing that the porta-potty at the boat ramp be approved for the 2009 boating season.**

Lake Waukegan Water Level:

- Angela informed us that the screw head at the Waukegan Boat Ramp was remeasured and the top of the screw is 540.82 feet above sea level. She also reported that the Meredith Water Dept has been maintaining the water level to be 6 inches below the top of the screw at the 540.22 foot above sea level point.
- Tim Whiting stressed that the official lake level be kept at 540 feet above sea level. If a level of 539 feet above sea level is maintained, it would have a serious adverse effect on the water quality because -
 - 1) the boat ramp would no longer be usable without modification.
 - 2) property owners' boat docks would be in shallower water causing substantially more churn of the lake bottom when boating in and out of their docks.
- Angela pointed out that the official water level (reference line) could also have a significant effect on the official size of a lake front property, e.g. if a properties shoreline is a gradual sloped beach, the 539 foot level would be substantially further into the water than a 540 foot level. This would impact setback values, perhaps shoreline property lengths and property acreage for example.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:00 am.

Next Meeting: Wednesday 5/20/09 at 8:00 am in the Town Hall Annex.

Minutes submitted by Bob Vogler.

These minutes were approved at the 5/20/09 WWAC Meeting