

Memorial Beach Committee

Meeting Minutes

March 6, 2019

Presentation by: Jason

Webster Lake Association President

Presentation Topics Included:

- A description of the Invasive Weed Species and how they are spread and its impact on the quality of the lake.
- Fear is that Hydrilla will make it to Webster Lake as it has invaded local area lakes.
 - If Hydrilla arrives the result would represent an ecological disaster.
- We are not making progress against killing weeds. We are maintaining. No treatment would result in almost complete invasive species coverage of entire lake.
- Reduction of Webster Lake Depth. Natural Occurrence.
 - Two Fish Kills this past year.
- In 2016 The State downgraded the water quality to the lowest Water Quality Rating
- The potential closing of the State Ramp.....
- Doug has a copy of the agreement. Terms need to be negotiated. Identify town desired terms.
- Need agreement in writing.
- What would be the benefit of closing the State Ramp?

We need to develop a Holistic Approach toward the eradication of Invasive Weed Species.

Potential Solutions

- Reduction of Boat Traffic
- Implement a High Temp Boat Wash. \$100-150K. Most Effective
- Implement Cold Water Boat Wash. Less Costly and less effective.
- Implement a Visual Inspection Process
- Develop an Informational Campaign to inform and educate users of the lake on the dangers of Evasive Species Plants and how prevent growth. Raise Public Awareness.

Treatment Options

- Lake Association spends \$60K annually for treatment.
- Hydro-Raking – Costly and contributes to fragmentation
- Weed Moving – Like mowing your lawn. Also contributes to fragmentation.
- Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting (DASH). Costly. \$1.2 Million for 150 Acres.
- Diver Hand Pulling – More costly than Dash. Results are seasonal
- Herbicide Treatment is the best option.

Herbicides used in Webster Lake:

- Reward (Diquat)
 - Concern is it wipes out native species plants. \$250.00 / Acre.

- Sonar (Fluridine)
 - Much more costly. \$1,400.00 / Acre.

New Herbicide for consideration:

Clipper

- \$500.00 / Acre
- Approved for use in every state but MA.
- Currently conducting Clipper Study with State as a test.

Discussions:

Can we staff Lakeside to collect data before we close the ramp?

- Staff Lakeside – Monitor, Collect data. Two people

Recommendation to review Webster Lake Regulations 323 CMR2.13(1)

State Boat Launch Data:

1.75 Acres

Parking for 10 – 11 Boat Trailers

Daily Revenue of \$180 - \$330.00

Daily operation cost of \$180.00. 7:AM to 7:PM

Webster PD Comment

- 3-4 Officers on staff per day.
- One Lake patrol Boat on Lake for foreseeable future.
- Majority of problems come from boaters from RI, CT and Boston Area.
- One Access Point would make it easier to manage

Additional Topics Discussed

WPI Presentation:

Davian, Senior WPI

Redevelopment of Memorial Beach Report

Next Meeting will include Presentation by WPI Team.

Ron discussed Boat Count and Boating Recreation Inventory Process and will research how it may have been enforced.

Jason will continue to research Boat Wash Procedures and Costs.

Carole and Doug will work on drafting an amended contract for review with the State for the Memorial Beach.

Carol updated details on the Pavilion. She hasn't received the draft but will make it available. Discussed potential use and location.

Who identifies metrics for collection of data for lakeside? (Look at Boat Count and Boating Recreation Inventory Process.)

Where would the money to build a Boat Wash come from?

Discuss the potential to mulch the area around the Senior Park and make incremental improvements. Carole mentioned that she has identified a resource.

Would the Selectman need to go to town meeting to implement changes?

What is the signage at the State Ramp?

Carole presented daily entry rates

Tom: Updated the committee on variety of racks available for Canoe and Kayak Storage. He will provide updates on Cost and Availability.

Next Meeting: March 27th 6:PM Webster PD Community Room