

# TOWN OF BROOKLINE, NEW HAMPSHIRE MELENDY POND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

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# Minutes Melendy Pond Management Committee (MPMC) Tuesday, August 31st, 2021

Attendees at the in person meeting were members Eddie Arnold, Randy Haight, Susan Holroyd and Tom Solon along with Town Administrator Tad Putney. Also attending: Mark Delage and Lou Smith.

**Eddie** called the meeting to order at 6:31pm.

#### **Minutes**

Tom moved, seconded by Randy, to approve the public and non-public minutes of the August 11<sup>th</sup> meeting as written; Voted Yes 4-0.

### Addendum to Lease – Lot 8/8A

Tad said he met with Mark recently to discuss and review the draft Addendum to Lease, which is the same as the other documents the committee has used for tenants selling their structures. He said Mark is looking to sell his structure to Lou and the Addendum states Lou will assume the terms and conditions of Mark's lease and, in turn, the town will permit the transfer from Mark to Lou. Eddie asked if the Affidavit of Residency is included. Tad provided a copy to Mark and Lou. Tad said Mark and Lou plan to get the Addendum and Affidavit notarized by Patti tomorrow night and then the Selectboard can countersign next week. Randy moved, seconded by Tom, to recommend the Selectboard sign the Addendum to Lease for Lot 8/8A; Voted Yes 4-0.

#### Milfoil Update

**Tad** shared an email he received August 19<sup>th</sup> advising that a follow-up inspection of Melendy Pond by Amy Smagula of NH-DES found the milfoil treatment earlier in the year was very successful as "no milfoil" was found in the pond. **Tad** noted that the treatment is now paid from the Conservation Commission operating budget rather than Melendy Pond funds.

#### **Update of Motorboat Restrictions on Melendy Pond**

**Eddie** said after the last meeting he did some research and found the NH State Police Marine Patrol is responsible for the pond, not Fish & Game. He shared a document noting that motorboats are permitted on Melendy Pond, but there is a speed limit of 10 miles per hour.

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#### **Invoices Due October 1st**

**Tad** said last week he mailed out the invoices to the 10 tenants with 2019 leases that have 50% of their annual rent due on October 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### **Discuss Potential Warrant Article for Town Meeting**

Tad said there has been some interest expressed by tenants for a warrant article at town meeting to permit the extension of more leases. Tad shared an email Tom had sent to the Selectboard last December outlining his proposed approach, if another round of lease extensions are permitted. It said, in fairness to those who signed leases in 2019, that any new leases would require the accrued incremental payment of higher rent since early 2020, plus an additional penalty. Eddie said that he likes that any further extension of leases is helpful financially, but he is not comfortable doing it as we told voters in 2019 that we were only doing it once. Tom said he did not have a strong feeling either way. Eddie said if the Selectboard puts a warrant article forward, it is viewed as the Board asking for support of the article and therefore he would prefer to see a petition warrant article come forward that can be amended along the lines of Tom's approach. Eddie asked if we should ask tenants if they would be interested in signing a new leases in order to gauge interest. It was decided we would not pursue letters at this time.

**Tom** suggested the Selectboard be asked if they want to pursue a warrant article that allows for additional lease extensions and, if so, ask if they want us to send letters to tenants gauging interest. He said we should note it had been noted as a one-time opportunity in 2019, but interest continues. **Tad** added the ongoing financial viability of Melendy Pond has changed for the better. **Tom** said we should find out if they want us to be proactive, in which case we can draft language for a warrant article, or wait to see if a petition warrant article is submitted. **Tom** said it is actually best that we work on warrant article language, that can be vetted by town counsel, so we are ready to suggest amendments in the event a petition article is submitted. Members agreed.

#### **Discuss Expiring 2021 Leases**

**Tad** noted that two leases expire this year. One on September 4<sup>th</sup> and one on December 18<sup>th</sup>. He shared letters that were sent to both tenants last September 4<sup>th</sup> advising them that the town expects the tenants to remove the structures within 90 days of the leases termination and, if not done, then the town reserves the right to conduct the removal and bill the tenant. **Randy** suggested sending follow-up letters to both tenants. Members agreed. **Tad** suggested we wait to take any action regarding removals until next spring and, if they have not been removed, we can look into removing both at the same time for a reduced cost. **Tad** suggested that one of the structures is in good condition and he can imagine some taxpayers would advocate for the town to rent it, but he would not be comfortable using someone else's structure for such a purpose. **Randy** said he does not think town counsel would approve of such an approach and he thinks the town would need to bring the structure up to code before renting it.

#### **Letter to SAU Office to Confirm Tenant Addresses**

**Tom** recommended sending the annual letter after October 15<sup>th</sup> once the state has supplied the SAU with the latest student information. **Tad** suggested reviewing a draft of the letter with the committee at the next meeting on October 13<sup>th</sup>.

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### **Confirm Next Meeting**

Members confirmed the next meeting will be on Wednesday, October 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. Items for October 13<sup>th</sup> meeting agenda include:

- Discuss draft language for potential March 2022 warrant article
- Review draft letter to SAU office regarding student addresses

7:19pm – Eddie moved, seconded by Tom, to go into non-public session per RSA 91-A:3 II (c) reputation; Roll Call Vote Yes 4-0.

7:33pm – Eddie moved, seconded by Susan, to come out of non-public session and seal the minutes; Roll Call Vote Yes 4-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:33pm.

Minutes submitted by Tad Putney.