

# MOUNTAIN LAKES DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES

**July 12, 2008**

(Not approved)

The meeting was called to order at 9:34 AM. Commissioners present were Commissioner Demers, Commissioner Jacobs, and Commissioner Schmid.

Residents in attendance were Mike Bonanno, Joel Godston, Sandy Schmid, June Soule, Tom Eighmy, Don Drew and Peter Olander.

Mike Bonanno made a motion to accept the minutes as printed. Peter Olander seconded it.

Joel Godston stated that the second sentence on page 2 after the word middle needed an addition of the words "of the season."

The minutes of the June 14, 2008 Commissioners Meeting were accepted as amended.

## **Recreation Update:**

Commissioner Jacobs, read the head lifeguard's July 2008 report. The Mountain Lakes, waterfront started the season slowly because of inclement weather. Fortunately, the weather turned just in time for the July 4 weekend, where there were record turnouts. We had four guards scheduled to work and we needed every one of them. I checked parking passes throughout the day and left the other three guards to rotate between the beach and pool. The three new lifeguards Brandon, Joshua and John have proven themselves to be responsible and competent employees of the district.

Aside from permitting and guarding, there have been some positive improvements in the waterfront facilities. Positioning the dock has been a challenge but as of July 9, we fixed the problem, positioning the dock in a safe 14 feet of water for swimmers. We have also been fortunate enough to have the use of the solar cover for the pool. This cover was cleaned by Mr. Bonanno and other volunteers to help maintain heat levels in the pool during the night. The guards it will cover the pool Monday through Wednesday at five o'clock. Thursday through Sunday, the pool will not be covered as, it is each person job, and only one will be available. Don drew his assistants have been invaluable to the success of the waterfront including projects such as these.

Commissioner Jacobs mentioned that a sail board was donated by Mark Hoffer for the use of the District and we thank him.

Commissioners Schmid said that the sale board or windsurfer are difficult to learn to use. If they want some advice, Commissioners Schmid will be available to show them how to use it. Mr. Drew said that Mr. Hoffer stated that he would make himself available to show people how to use it as well. Commissioners Schmid said that we need to set an age limit. All of the commissioners agreed the age of 16 would be the limit. Mr. Godston stated that we should check with the insurance company concerning liability.

Commissioner Jacobs stated that there was a request concerning extended pool hours by the recreation committee. We understand that there is some interest in keeping the pool open each night until 8 p.m. without lifeguards. Commissioner Schmid stated that the insurance company recommends the use lifeguards but he cannot tell us that we need to have lifeguards. The use of the pool without lifeguards does not affect our insurance coverage. Commissioner Schmid stated that

the bottom line is that as a community it is up to us to decide whether we have lifeguards or not. The commissioners decided that the recreation committee needed to draw up a suggested policy before the pool hours would be changed. Mr. Bonanno scheduled special a recreation meeting for the following Wednesday to discuss this issue.

Commissioner Jacobs stated that the beach this year has been fabulous. Mr. Bonanno concurred and further stated that the lifeguards are the best that we have had in three years. Thank you.

Parking was incredibly difficult over the 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend. They parked up both sides of Killer Hill and the lifeguards were not sure what to do about it. There was further discussion concerning the issue with ideas of signs, orange cones or just having the lifeguards notify the car owners to move their cars would be some options. This may be an issue over Labor Day as well.

Mr. Bonanno stated that he has been working hard to find an AED for the district. Unfortunately, he can't find one that is 100% free. However, Howard Evans will donate some funds toward the purchase of one. The Commissioners felt that if Mr. Evans will still be willing next year we would look into adding it budget.

Mrs. Schmid said that she would like to add some activities to this year's Labor Day fireworks display and potluck. They include an Olympics and Mountain Lakes memory slide show. They would be on Saturday August 30 and she would need some volunteers.

### **Water Committee Update:**

Mr. Drew said that the last weekend. We had double the water usage and some days we didn't meet demand. We turned Woodsville water and light up to its maximum capacity. We are currently in the high 40,000-gpd range. We thought that we may have had a break over the 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend with the usage upwards 90,000 gpd but it came right back down after everyone left. Further discussion followed concerning Mountain Lakes ability to handle large capacities of water. Commissioner Schmid stated that the topic of expansion of our water production capabilities is a top priority for the District and the Water Committee. We are looking at one option of expanding the filtration system that we currently use. Mr. Godston replied that was a good idea because we have already unsuccessfully spent \$ 70,000 looking for new wells.

After discussion, concerning the excavating contract with Horne Excavating, which is due for renewal August 1, 2008, the Commissioners unanimously agreed to his new terms.

After discussion, concerning the contract with Harold Clough, which is due for renewal August 1, 2008, the Commissioners decided that they would like to schedule a meeting to discuss new terms.

### **Water Tariff:**

Commissioner Schmid stated that the Commissioners and Water Committee have discussed these proposed changes over the last several months. The proposed change to the Water Tariff is:

- b. As a courtesy to the customers of the Department, after a written request is received, service for one shut-off/turn-on per year will not be charged (for reasons other than violations). For District scheduling purposes the written request must be submitted a minimum of one week prior to initiating this service."

Mr. Godston made a motion to open a public hearing and Mr. Bonanno seconded. Further discussion followed and the public liked the changes. Commissioner Demers made a motion to accept the change to the Water Tariff and Commissioner Schmid seconded the motion. The Commissioners voted unanimously to change the Water Tariff to remove the old section, concerning seasonal shut-offs and replaces it with the words above.

**Planning Board Update:**

Mrs. Schmid stated that we have a small number of applications this month. There is a lot owner that applied to the Haverhill ZBA to build in the wetland buffer; the meeting is on July 24 at 6pm.

The Planning Board continues to be concerned with the performance of the Zoning Officer and the fact the Commissioners have not yet met with him. Commissioner Demers stated that our biggest issue is tracking violations and building permits. The Planning Board also needs to have better communication with the Zoning Officer. The Commissioners and the Zoning Officer have been trying to set up a time to meet but with everyone's differing schedules, it has been impossible to find a time that works. Commissioners Demers further stated that he would do his best to get the meeting scheduled. Further discussion took place concerning what the public would like to see being done concerning zoning ordinance enforcement. The Commissioners agreed that some things need to be updated and that is what this meeting should bring about.

Mrs. Schmid stated that the Master Plan work is going well and that they are on track to finish at the end of November 2008.

**District:**

District Office Manager Renee Cota stated that we are saving money in terms of interest expense because the Town of Haverhill is paying the District in two installments this year instead of just one in December. We won't have to borrow quite so much money this year.

Commissioner Demers asked if any owner could have a camper on their property. After further discussion, the zoning ordinance will need to be reviewed more thoroughly. The Commissioners decided that they will deal with requests on a case by case basis.

Chris Demers made a motion to adjourn and Tom Eighmy seconded it

Adjourned 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Renee L Cota  
District Manager