

Town of Eden
71 Old Schoolhouse Rd
Eden Mills, VT 05653

Minutes of Special Meeting, October 19, 2021

The Selectboard held a special meeting at Lake Eden Recreation Area on October 19, 2021. Present at the meeting were: Ricky Morin, Clayton Whittemore, Freeda Powers, Craig Rounds (LERA Manager), Pam and Johnna Uhlendorff (LERA Managers Assistants).

Ricky opened the meeting at the Lake Eden Recreation Area at 5:35 pm.

The Selectboard made a final walk through of the grounds. The water system was successfully shut down and winterized on 10/18/21 by John Campagna of Plumbing Solutions. The docks had already been brought on shore and the picnic tables were all put away under the shelters. The grounds looked to be in good condition and things appeared to be in order. Craig said he will wait for drier weather to do a final cutting of the fallen leaves to make spring cleanup easier. The riding mower will need to be serviced before use in the spring. Final trash removal will take place on 10/21/21 by Hillside Trash Co. There is some metal from broken picnic tables that Craig said he will take to the Johnson transfer station this weekend.

Craig indicated that some of the picnic tables with metal frames/legs are falling apart and damaged; he recommends replacing them as we can with new natural wood ones, which can be treated. He also pointed out that the lifeguard chair has had some boards replaced but has others that are beginning to show signs of deterioration; this should be examined and repaired as needed.

There were a few kayaks left behind at the kayak area; no indication of who the owners are. Craig said it would be good to expand the kayak storage area since it is a large draw to the lake and when the place is full and busy, there are a lot of kayaks here. The Board considered alternatives to placement of the kayaks and it was agreed that perhaps over by the more sloped grassy area closer to the road that accesses the upper camping sites. This would prevent the kayakers and their equipment from spilling into the beach area and also keep the flattest portion of the grassy lake access open for safer footing. It was noted to be cautious not to crowd the access to the docks as well.

At the road accessing the upper camping sites, Craig recommends a No Outlet sign to prevent folks think it is a road out and exiting by driving across the property up there when they realize it isn't.

There was some discussion about moving the existing water drain pipe back and/or adding a gate valve box. This would prevent accidental personal injury or damage to the pipe and valve. Food for thought and further consideration, but no determination was made to implement this at this time.

Some erosion was noted on the lake side of shelter #2 where storm water runoff from the shelter hits the ground; the area is gravel as the erosion takes place.

Craig, Pam and Johnna shared that there is a good deal of public interest in adding activities to LERA such as a shuffle board. The Board did not object to the ideas discussed and Freeda can assist with possible grants for funding. They indicated the play area is as big a draw as the beach and it would be a good investment to make additions where we can.

Craig inquired what the average annual or monthly electricity usage or cost is at LERA. Freeda will try to get that information.

Overall, the Board was pleased with the condition of the grounds and with the attentiveness and competence of the LERA Management this year. They voiced their thanks to Craig, Pam and Johnna and asked for their take on how the year went. They all indicated that the season was a success and that they worked very well together. LERA was a busy place this summer including many school groups. Visitors were greeted promptly and the grounds were always kept up and maintained. All three indicated they wish to return again for next year. The Board agreed to discuss this at their next meeting, October 26th where they will finalize draft contracts and the contracts can be signed any time after. All were in agreement.

Meeting ended at 6:20 pm.

Minutes Approved on 10/26/21 by Ricky Morin, Clayton Whittemore, Jubal Durivage.
Freeda Powers, Town Administrative Assistant