

# LAKE ANNA ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Richard E. Holbert Building  
Spotsylvania County  
MINUTES – December 5, 2019 MEETING

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## DETERMINATION AND CALL TO ORDER

Mr. McCotter called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

## ROLL CALL

**Present:** Chris McCotter, Chairman; Greg Benton, Spotsylvania County; Jim White, Orange County; Robert Egan, Spotsylvania; Dick Shrum, Louisa County; Sarah Marshall, Dominion Energy; Paulette Mann, Spotsylvania County

**Absent:** Duane Adams, Louisa County

## CITIZEN'S INFORMATION PERIOD

There were none

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES- September 25, 2019

The Committee accepted the minutes as drafted.

## BILLS FOR REIMBURSEMENT

There were none.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Shrum reviewed the Treasurer's report and stated that the Committee may want to consider a budget amendment for CY2020 if we change the way we handle buoys.

He stated that Wendy Colvin, Finance Director, Louisa County, reviewed the financials for the Committee and found no discrepancies. All expenditures and deposits were accounted for and very well documented. The account balance as of November 13, 2019 was \$74,959.77.

Mr. White suggested that Ms. Colvin's email be appended to the minutes.

The Treasurer's report was accepted as submitted.

## Subcommittee Reports:

Mr. McCotter stated that all subcommittees have been contacted for a report.

Ms. Jean McCormick stated that all buoys have been found in compliance as of November 1, 2019. She described that they were blindsided when it was found that 8 buoys were out of compliance due to fading. She stated that she is not going to be able to do this program forever and that the Committee needs to discuss coming up with an alternate plan. Wolfe Landscaping has agreed to charge \$500 payable in two installments on May 30 and October 30 to assume the duties of the LAAC Safety and Navigation Committee for 2020. They have worked very closely with her and feel confident in their ability to take over the installation and maintenance of the 62 No Wake and Hazard Buoys on Lake Anna. She advised the Committee that she would remain as a liaison, continue to place the orders for new materials, as well as store the equipment.

There was discussion that two other bids may be necessary.

Ms. McCormick stated that she doesn't believe anyone will come in lower than this bid and that the fuel alone costs approximately \$2000.

Further investigation will need to occur to determine if the Committee must do an RFP.

Mr. John Cassel stated that there is hydrilla in freshwater creek and that it is semi-sporadic and dying off. He recommended that it be looked at early in the summer and potentially treat it very early.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Website – Mr. McCotter stated that the Committee needs to determine if they want to move forward with an independent website for LAAC. The lowest bid they have gotten is \$2200.

Mr. Marshall inquired if there are potentially any grants and how badly an independent website is needed.

Mr. McCotter stated that it would be nice to be more transparent.

Mr. Marshall stated that all three counties have their own websites and maybe they could be used.

Mr. McCotter stated that the website needs to be a communication channel.

There was a brief discussion as to who would maintain an independent website should they choose to procure one.

Finally, there was discussion that Mr. Doug Smith should be recognized by the Committee for all of his hard work on the lake over the years.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### *No Wake Buoys at WHTF Bridges*

There was discussion about having buoys at all bridges and getting hazard buoys where they need to be.

Ms. Marshall explained the process and stated that LAAC would need to make a request of Dominion.

There was discussion about them being placed at Moody. Discussion also centered around monitoring traffic on a weekend afternoon at the bridges.

Mr. Shrum stated the Coleman Bridge is very dangerous and could use a buoy.

Ms. McCormick stated that an increase in buoys is not widely supported.

It was discussed that there have been 200 lots approved in the last three years around the lake and the traffic has increased on the WHTF bridges. Mr. McCotter suggested that Mr. Shrum reach out to the HOA's to gain feedback from them about additional buoys.

### *Electric Shock Drowning (ESD)*

ESD is a little-understood and often unidentified killer and entirely preventable. This only occurs in fresh water and wherever AC exists. Primarily around docks, marinas, and plugged in boats. It is very difficult to confirm medically since it paralyzes rather than electrocutes. It can be prevented by not swimming within 10-yards of AC-equipped dock or boat.

Smith Mountain Lake has suspected ESD events and some individuals/organizations have looked into it, finding about 95% of their docks had lethal stray voltages even when up to building code. Trained experts with advance equipment found problems at over 200 docks, coming from starting motors, air conditioners, boat lifts, arching high voltage lines, etc. Smith Mountain Lake recommends owners use the ShockAlert device near docks. LACA got involved in August when asked by SML team to support the electrical code changes. Louisa and Spotsylvania Administrators were contacted in early November and asked to look into the potential

problems at Lake Anna to see if code changes should be supported and/or implemented. It is suggested that given the obvious water safety implications and governmental role of electrical codes and implementation on Lake Anna.

Mr. Steve Harler stated that his fourteen-year-old daughter was shocked and that there 14-year-old boathouse had a cut wire running under the water. He urged the Committee to investigate further and find all boathouses in compliance.

There was discussion about meeting with Building Code Officials and Dave Ansell, Spotsylvania County Building Official stated that he sent staff to a meeting in Richmond regarding these electrical standards.

Lastly there was a brief discussion about harmful algae bloom and that funding is an issue. This needs to be done at the state level by getting it on the legislative agenda.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next LAAC Meeting will be held in Louisa County on January 22, 2020 at 7 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

*The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.*

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Paulette Mann, Spotsylvania County Secretary

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Date

DRAFT