

Lake Garfield Working Group (LGWG) Meeting Minutes
July 13, 2023

LGWG members in attendance: Greg Carnese, Richard Jaffe, Kyle Pierce, Mike Germain.
There being a quorum, the meeting was commenced at 7:06 pm.

Agenda Items:

1) The minutes of the June 15, 2023 meeting were reviewed and approved for website posting.

2) A request was submitted by member Dennis Lynch to consider him as the LGWG representative on the newly formed Monterey Open Space Advisory Committee. Dennis' request was unanimously supported by the members and the recommendation will be forwarded to the Select Board for his appointment to represent the LGWG. .

3) LAPA West Meeting Invitation: Due to the short notice given for a meeting of the Lakes and Ponds Association West (LAPA West) during July, members were unable to attend the meeting.

4) Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting (DASH) Update: Mike Germain reported that the New England Aquatic Services (NEAS) divers spent two (2) very successful weeks harvesting the invasive Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM) from Lake Garfield. EWM was observed to be less dense in those locations previously cleared by the divers in the large basin of the lake. The area outside the main channel appears to be the most prevalent growth location. The appearance of "fake" EWM was noted and was described as being smaller, thinner and without the orange-red tips (flowers) seen in actual EWM.

5) Lake Scientist Reporting Update:

Lake Scientist, Hillary Kenyon, is in the process of scheduling the next round of survey work to determine the abundance and distribution of EWM in Lake Garfield.

6) Cyanobacteria Update:

Mike Germain reported that the occurrence of cyanobacteria is similar to the summer of 2022 with cell concentrations below health related action levels. Greg Carnese received some inquiries concerning floating green masses which Mike Germain confirmed to be cyanobacteria which is carried by the wind to different lake locations. LGWG members agreed that quarterly reports of cyanobacteria in Lake Garfield would be very helpful and useful in decision making.

7) 319 Grant Update:

Mike reported that Courteny Morehouse, Berkshire Regional Planning Commission, continues to evaluate various lakeside properties for the installation of rain/buffer gardens to help capture and treat stormwater flowing into the lake. Properties will be selected based primarily on the best locations to capture and treat stormwater. A question was asked about how much funding is available from the 319 grant to evaluate and install rain/buffer gardens. Courteny provided the Hupi Road project update to the LGWG by email.

8) The next LGWG monthly meeting was scheduled for 7:00 pm on August 15, 2023 and the current meeting was adjourned at 7:19 pm.

