

Lake Garfield Working Group (LGWG) Meeting Minutes
November 14, 2023

Members in attendance: Greg Carnese, Richard Jaffe, Kyle Pierce, Mike Germain, Steve Synder, Dennis Lynch. Guest: Shannon Poulin, Cyanobacteria Researcher. A quorum was reached and the meeting commenced at 7:02 pm.

Agenda Items:

- 1) The Monthly Meeting Minutes of October 17, 2023 were recorded but not transcribed due to technical difficulties. Dennis offered to prepare the October minutes and submit for approval at the December monthly meeting.
- 2) Mike indicated that Hillary was still working on the Annual Lake Garfield Field Survey and anticipated that the report would be submitted to the LGWG before February 1, 2024. The Lake Garfield drawdown began on November 1st. Although the opening of the flood gate at Brewer Pond dam was conducted during a mild snowfall, it came off without any problem. Jim Hunt, Director of Operations, and crew manually opened the gate at 7:00 am and began an initial first stage lake drawdown of 15 inches. Mike reported that an automated water level monitoring device was installed to enable real time data collection of rate of flow and water depth to be calculated as the final drawdown depth of less than six (6) foot is achieved. The Friends of Lake Garfield payed the cost of the water level monitoring device. It was reported that Jim's staff returns about three times to check the drawdown level and to open the gate. Dennis suggested to Jim that the installation of an automated drawdown device would save manpower time. A point was made that although the DEP drawdown commencement date is no sooner than November 1st, in the past the date was conducted later due to drought conditions to reduce the risk of flooding which is the primary reason for the drawdown and invasive aquatic weed control is secondary. Kyle inquired what the daily rate of the drawdown was set for Lake Garfield. Kyle stated that the DEP only permitted a three (3) inch per day drawdown. Mike noted that according the recent real time monitoring data the 3 inch rate was being achieved in Lake Garfield.
- 3) Concerning DASH/Drawdown NOI submission to the Conservation Commission, no further response has been received from the DEP according to the Conservation Agent.
- 4) Grant Update: Design plans for the MA/Federal Section 319 grant funded project along Hupi Road have been submitted to the Conservation Commission for their December approval.
- 5) Shannon reported that she and other LAPA West members attended a MA Watershed Association meeting in Westborough, MA on October 30th which focused on water quality monitoring using the the EPA generated R-Studio coding program to enable the uploading water quality monitoring data from all lake associations. Shannon presented the sampling data from the ongoing Lake Garfield water quality monitoring program. Two hot topics including DNA testing to determine E.Coli presence in lake waters and using a USEPA stormwater reporting protocol for lake water monitoring. Also, to help raise operating funds the Richmond Pond Association published a new book for sale about the history of Richmond Pond. Finally, Shannon plans to submit the Annual Lake Garfield monitoring report in December.
- 6) Dennis informed the LGWG about the Open Space Advisory Group public forum on November at which BRPC will discuss the current status of the 319 grant project along Hupi Road. It was also noted that the December edition of the Monterey News will include the Lake Garfield update of ongoing projects and their regulatory status.
- 7) The October meeting was adjourned at 7:46pm and the next meeting is on December 19th. Submitted by the Lake Garfield Working Group