

Lakes and Drainage Committee Meeting  
9-11-23 (7pm via ZOOM)

Attending:

Bill Reilly  
Betsy Just  
Lowell Lorenz  
David Scheirman  
Bobby Hoffer  
Ken Hecker  
Karen Anthony

Visitor:

Scott Tobiason sat in on the meeting. He possibly might join the L&D committee.  
Mark Hodges has resigned so there is an opening.

Approval of the 8-7-23 minutes. Motion to approve by Lowell 2nd by Karen

**Agenda Additions:**

**Old Business:**

**Semiahmoo Highland Development:** Nothing new to report

**Carp Removal Status Report:**

Fish and Wildlife is still scheduled to help BBVCC with the removal of the Carp on September 26. There has been new growth of milfoil weeds growing in Thunderbird lake. So it was decided to only do Kwann Lake this time. A few carp will be moved to the lakes on the golf course by hole 3 and 5. We believe when we had the bad flooding in 2021 all/most of the fish swan out of those 2 locations.

**Status Report on Gauges:**

Gauges posts are all in that will help us to track the depth of the lakes in a possible flood event. We might have to put extensions on a few.

**Status Report on Rogers Slough Logs:**

We are very happy to report that we received a permit from the county to remove logs from Rogers Slough. They came September 6-11 and over a 4 day period pretty much cleared out the mouth of the slough. We are happy with the amount they took out.

David spoke with the County Supervisor and he said his crew was done at this point. He gives his report to his boss of how many logs and what sizes were collected. It is then shared with the committees in the county. Most of the time the Parks and Recreation will come and take the logs to be re-purposed.

The permit says anything bigger than 12 inches thick they will come take away. Anything smaller BBVCC will re-purposed or dispose of. When this will actually happen we are still unclear. Bill will reach out to the county next week and see if they have a timeline.

**Status Report Lake Treatment:**

There is a modest amount of algae starting to appear in the NW corner of Thunderbird lake and at the south edge. We're also seeing the appearance of some aquatic plants (milfoil along with stranded sea lettuce, which grows in brackish water). It is late in the season but it was decided to do one more treatment of EutroSORB on Kwann and Thunderbird lakes. The more phosphorus locking compound that we put in our lakes now, the more advantaged we will be in blocking algae blooms next season. Bobby has it on his schedule for next week. He also GreenClean Algaecide on the sides that worked well.

Lowell wanted to test the water in the lakes before the application to get a baseline data. Bill commented we tested about a month ago and the results were good. Lowell said it is still important to test every month, they don't cost that much. The sample test kits are only \$25 so Bobby will do again.

Bobby is going to spend the rest of his budget by the end of the year on these products so we are sure to always have some on hand.

**Status Report Aeration:**

There is one bubbler that is not working. Bobby has 2 working ones in the shop ready to go next week.

Bill asked if it would make sense to turn off the bubblers in the lakes in the winters to save electricity.

Ken said in the past when that was done the bubblers filled with too much sediment and was a lengthily process to clean and repair. He strongly recommended we keep them going all winter to keep them clean.

Bill suggested we turn at least one of the bubblers off this winter as an experiment.

**Status Report County Study:**

Scott from the county has done a new study of Stormwater Drainage. It was supposed to be out in September and now have said October. We are hoping/assuming we will have it in hand before the October 18 meeting here at BBVCC with BBWARM and the county 6-8pm for their quarterly meeting.

**Status Report County MOU Outreach:**

The Memorandum has been signed and approved by the board but still needs to be notarized. The MOU is asking BBWARM and the County to help us with the permits and costs of the County's stormwater that runs through Birch Bay Village

**Flood Protocols:**

Karen reviewed the checklist for the procedures and protocols that she put together in the event of a flood. It covers

- 1 Maintenance
- 2 Prediction
- 3 Probability

Her comments were:

- Cleaning out Rogers Slough was priority and we are thrilled that got done.
- Continue to educate residents of the importance of maintaining three properties and neighboring drains in their neighborhood.
- Karen will write up a summary for the newsletter.

- Karen, Bobby, Betsy, Bill will schedule a day when it is nice weather to mark the drains locations with bright white paint on the roads. Bobby will make the stencil.
- It was also suggested that stake markers be put out to identify the drains on lower Salish.
- Bobby said his crew put cameras down the drains on Salish and they are pretty dirty. It is on his schedule this month to clean.
- Bill will reach out again to the county about helping to clean out the ditches along Birch bay Drive of blackberries and overgrowth debris.
- Pumps are good and ready to go.
- We have several volunteers that Bobby will give a lesson on how to start and put gas in the pumps. Plus Bobby will write up instructions.
- Bill will do a lesson for Bobby, Lowell, Karen, Betsy on what weather apps and sites that are best to track a storm sometime in October.
- Karen has been looking at disclaimers that make to clear that this is a volunteer group doing their best to inform and educate our Village but in the event of a flood we are in no way responsible for damage.

Karen is getting together a group of volunteers on Wednesday October 19, 10am-12pm to fill sandbags like we did last year. They will be put on pallets and distributed to high risk flooding locations. All volunteers are welcome.

#### **Algae Report:**

David, Bill, Bobby, Lowell all met with a representative from SePRO that supplies our aquatic products that we use such as herbicides, algaecides and dyes to maintain our lakes. It was a good meeting. He was complimentary and gave us some good feedback. BBVCC has had a much milder summer than last year and the lakes are looking good. It is much better than last year. We are learning as we go and have gotten great positive feedback from the village.

David has been taking pictures and taking notes the 1st of each month and sending it to the members of the L&D committee. He's been doing a great job of tracking the lakes condition.

#### **New Business:**

##### **Lakes Written Plan and Checklists:**

There was a discussion on how best to go forward with a Lakes Written Plan.

A Memo was found from the previous Lakes and Ponds committee (This committee dissolved in 2020) that talks about who does what. Ken Hecker that is now on L&D is the only remaining member of that previous committee

It talks about:

- A scheduling tool in maintenance
- Identify who does what
- Communication with the village

We have learned a lot in the past 18 months since L&D was created. We can see why the previous committee came to their decisions. Unfortunately we don't have all their documentation. We are uncovering new information all the time.

For example: Lowell and Bill just spent a lot of time on the elevations of pipes. After they were done a document was found from years ago of the same measurements. But they said they had a good time doing it!

David just found some 2004 engineering documents that were helpful.

There is a very nice brochure that goes out to new homeowners. We are not sure when it was made. It should be updated for 2024

Motion to Adjourn by Ken 2nd by David  
Minutes by Betsy Just