In attendance: Jack Lewis (Chair), Sterling Abram, Jerry Branch, Sue Yarger, Karen Bunch

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m.

The August 2010 minutes were accepted with edits.

With the recent long stretch of dry weather, should Dublin be concerned about water shortage in our wells? There is no municipal water supply here. There are two nearby springs; one in Harrisville on Skatutakee Lake and one on Rte 10 across from the Monadnock Humane Society – hopefully no one will need to use either of these springs.

There was discussion about a Dublin Lake property seeking permits to build.

Lake Report:

Weed Watch - The last weed watch of the season took place on 2-Sept. From the Women’s Club Beach, a weed watch was conducted with 6 volunteers. Cemetery Cover was checked thoroughly during this session. Also, one of the volunteers completed the final portion of the circuit of the lake on August 31. No invasive weeds were found in Dublin Lake this whole season. Amy Smagula of NHDES could not spare staff divers to do a routine check at Dublin this year since they are busy working at lakes with known infestations.

Lake Host Program - The program has ended for the season with no weeds found on any of the boats entering or exiting the lake. Bill Goodwin has filed the final report with NH Lakes. He also wrote an article on the program that appeared in the September Dublin Advocate. Bill has posted laminated information sheets on invasive plants at the Dublin Boat Landing. Finances: $1000 grand from NH Lakes, $500 grant from the Badger Monadnock Fund of the NH Charitable foundation and $500 hard cash from Beech Hill Dublin Lake Watershed Association to extend Lake Host salaries. At the end of the season, there was $268.93 left over, and this amount will carry over to next year. Karen has written a letter to NH Lakes expressing our appreciation for the program and, with the approval of this group, our plan to participate in the Lake Host Program in 2011. DCC is also most grateful to Bill Goodwin for the work he puts in as point person. Jack will draft a letter on DCC letterhead to Bill Goodwin expressing our appreciation for his efforts. Karen proposed that we participate and fund the Lake Host Program in 2011; the proposal was seconded and all approved.

Dublin Lake Water Testing – Because of the low water level, the September deep water testing session involving collection of E. coli and phosphorus samples at approximately
30 inlets has been postponed. It is hoped that there will be rains so that these samples can be collected in October.

Dublin Lake Preservation Committee – There will be 2 more meetings (September and October) before adjourning until spring. The initiatives still being researched are the banks restoration project and a possible banner at the boat landing reminding boaters to check boats for weeds. The group is still concerned about any possible construction on the lakeshore at Skyleau.

Howe Reservoir – Nancy Markuson sent Jack and Karen the data from her 3 water sampling sessions this season. Two of the 8 conductivity readings were high. Four of the 8 Phosphorus readings were high, but not excessive. With this being the first year, baseline data is being collected, and VLAP says it takes 10 years of sampling to really be able to track trends.

Road Salt Research – Sara Steiner of VLAP reported work done in Canaan by the Goose Pond Lake Association. She sent a copy of their newsletter which describes a low salt warrant article for town roads. According to Doug Graham, NHDOT, Dublin’s Rte 101 is a Type 1B Highway, carrying between 5,000-15,000 vehicles daily. Brian adds salt to the sand (to keep sand from clumping) on Dublin roadways.

Update on Planning Board Land Use Regulations – The sub-committee of the Planning Board met in August. Some issues that were discussed (taken from the 8/19 minutes):

Is there enough land on Rte 101 to provide a reasonable opportunity to the sighting of business uses? (probably not)
Parts of Rte 137 are heavily residential (but other parts are not)
Some of the land along Rte 137 are in an important aquifer area (but most isn’t)

The feeling was that Rte 101 did not provide enough useable land and that the objections could be addressed by amending the Special Exception criteria to include the following provisions: ZBA shall find that the proposed use shall not have an adverse impact on nearby residential neighborhoods. (current language limits the ZBA inquiry to abutting properties, but not nearby properties or neighborhoods) In deciding whether the site is an appropriate location for the proposed use, the ZBA shall consider the likelihood of adverse environmental impact resulting from the use.

Review 2011 DCC Budget – Some things to consider are 1) What to spend on spraying Japanese Knotweed; 2) What to spend on Galerucella Beetles; 3) Need more funds for 2011 Lake Host Program. More information is needed from OSPC to factor in what their funding requirements are for 2011 for the GIS/ARC system costs. Rates might increase for water testing of Dublin Lake and additional costs will be incurred from the Howe Reservoir Lake testing.

Status of Galerucella Beetle distribution – The second and final 2010 beetle distribution was released on Thursday, 26-August. The entire 1000-beetle shipment was released along Rte 137 on Mud Pond near Goldmine Road, as agreed to by DCC. There was discussion to focus the entire 2011 beetle distribution to the Mud Pond area so that we can realize a greater concentration of beetles to Purple Loosestrife infestation.
Howe Reservoir – Jerry enlisted the help of Neil Sandford to bush hog cut a swath in the park area for wildflower planting. (Neil will submit an estimate to mow the Howe area in 2011.) Jerry will use wildflowers that are indigenous to the northeast area. Jerry is also working with Margaret Baker to create 3 signs for the area that will show a map of the area, a dedication sign and the park name. Jerry will do the woodworking for smaller trail signs. Cost for the signs is estimated at $1400 with much of the work being donated. Jerry will send out a notice for support to help paint picnic tables.

Life Safety area – After a walk of the land behind the Life Safety buildings on 26-August, it was determined to have Pete mow the area and to remove 5-6 large bush/tree/plants and to open up several areas for a better view of Mud Pond. There was also talk about using ditching for fill, to bring in more organics to the sandy area.

Japanese Knotweed – To the dismay of all, Jeff Taylor, a member of the NH State Agriculture Department, decided to postpone spraying of the Knotweed until late 2011. He had originally agreed to work to get any/all permits in place and to spray in September but then got too busy. He now wants us to submit the permits (which might take upwards of 180 days to obtain) and believes that we can wait until next year to work this issue. Sue thought there might be concerned citizens in the Bonds Corner area who might try to take matters into their own hands and spray the invasive weed.

We were not able to talk about all issues on the agenda.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m. The next meeting is planned for 9/13/10.