

BY-LAWS
Of the
FRIENDS OF PONTOOSUC LAKE/WATERSHED INC.

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1. ORGANIZATION

1.1. AUTHORITY:

The Friends of Pontoosuc Lake/Watershed Inc. is a nonprofit corporation. It was originally established in 1981 as the Pontoosuc Advisory Board by the Berkshire County Commissioners, the Mayor of Pittsfield, and the Lanesborough Board of Selectmen.

1.2. OBJECTIVES:

The objectives of the Corporation are to achieve the following:

- A lake in which high water quality standards are maintained,
- A lake in which nuisance aquatic vegetation is held in check,
- A safe and sound dam, capable of maintaining water elevation at the appropriate levels,
- A watershed in which high environmental standards are maintained, and
- A lake which can be enjoyed by the citizens for a variety of uses and the provision of facilities to support these uses.

1.3. ACTIVITIES

Consistent with the above objectives the Corporation shall undertake a variety of activities including the following:

ADVISE AND SUPPORT Provide advice and assistance to all agencies responsible for the management and maintenance of Pontoosuc Lake and its watershed. Provide input from the viewpoint of lake users and provide assistance in obtaining funding or any other help needed or requested by these organizations. Recommend lake management activities which promote water quality and weed control, fish and wildlife, lake recreation and water safety, and public education. Organizations and agencies supported shall include the following:

- The City of Pittsfield and any departments or boards thereof,
- The Town of Lanesborough and any departments or boards thereof,
- The Commonwealth of Massachusetts and any of its agencies, and
- Any other organization responsible for or with an interest in the watershed or the lake.

COORDINATE Provide planning coordination among the various boards and organizations making decisions which impact the lake and the watershed, and help plan specific projects such as a weed control program. Provide a sounding board so all interested parties can make their views known.

COMMUNICATE AND EDUCATE Work to inform the community at large of matters concerning the lake and the watershed through newsletters, posting of signs, informative meetings, and any other appropriate means.

VOLUNTEER ACTION Organize and conduct volunteer activities in support of the objectives such as lakeshore cleanup, shoreline surveys, water quality monitoring, maintenance of a reference library, and any other appropriate volunteer activities.

1.4. MEETINGS:

- Meeting locations shall be determined by the President
- Meeting Format/Agenda shall be as follows:
 - ☞ Call to order
 - ☞ Approval of previous meeting minutes
 - ☞ Request for new agenda items
 - ☞ Old business
 - ☞ New business
 - ☞ Adjournment

1.5. QUORUM:

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: A majority of the Board members shall constitute a quorum and then a majority of members present shall carry a vote.

CORPORATION: A majority of the Board members shall constitute a quorum, and then a majority of the Corporation members present shall carry a vote

2. VOTING REQUIREMENTS:

All members of the Corporation attending a Corporation meeting shall have the right to vote on all business coming before the meeting. All members of the Corporation attending a Board meeting have the right to make recommendations to and/or respond to recommendations from the Board. Only members of the Board may actually vote at Board Meetings.

3. LIBRARY OF DATA

The corporation shall maintain a library of all pertinent data related to Pontoosuc Lake and the watershed. A listing of data in the library shall be updated no less than annually

4. AMENDMENTS TO BY-LAWS

These by-laws may be amended by a 2/3 vote of the attendees at an Corporation meeting, provided that such amendments shall be presented in writing at a Board meeting prior to the Corporation meeting that they shall be voted on.

5. FUNDING

Funding to cover the activities of the Corporation shall be obtained from the following sources, as available:

- Annual Membership Dues and special assessments voted by the members of the corporation. Annual membership dues have been set initially in the Articles of Organization of the Corporation at five dollars for an individual and ten dollars for a family; such dues may be changed from time to time by a two-thirds vote on those members voting at a membership meeting of the corporation.
- Donations and Contributions

6. LIABILITY

It is explicitly understood that neither the Corporation nor the Agencies it advises assumes any responsibility for the well being of any member (or representative of a member) attending, managing, or participating in meetings or any other functions of the Corporation.

Adopted by a unanimous vote of the Corporation at its April 28, 2003 meeting

Clerk of the Friends of Pontoosuc
Lake/Watershed Inc.