

Jim Geraghty

Lake Shore Drive Comments

Thanks for organizing an open and constructive discussion last week. I'm not sure what next steps you have in mind, but had two observations I thought you might like as input.

First, there seemed some confusion of two issues with very different decision making processes. One, wetlands protection, is clearly a Cons Com matter, which per counsel's letter applies to both public and private property, and could as most speakers seemed to agree be fairly easily addressed by a Cons Com policy licensing approved docks. The second issue, whether certain usage of public land is in the best interests of town residents, seems one more for the select board - which I believe, like most residents, would support reasonable usage based on a responsible Cons Com licensing policy.

Second, neither at the select board meeting, in written comments, or at the hearing has a single person publicly voiced a complaint about docks. That hardly suggests serious public concern. In fact the only concern mentioned was that a few unnamed people may also like docks, which is just what a fair licensing policy is intended to adjudicate.

As the meeting ended town counsel offered to draft a simple, responsible, wetland protective licensing policy for docks. That seems like it'd be good input for the Cons Com both on matters in its own purview and on a recommendation to the Select Board.

I welcome your thoughts on these and other ideas, and on how to communicate them.