



# CANDLEWOOD LAKE AUTHORITY

P.O. BOX 37 • SHERMAN, CONNECTICUT 06784-0037 • (860) 354-6928 • FAX (860) 350-5611

## Minutes of Meeting January 13, 2010

### Attending:

R. Stroh (7:37) New Fairfield  
P. Callahan (7:37) New Fairfield  
B. Kemble New Fairfield  
E. Siergiej Danbury  
G. Dufel Danbury  
H. Berger Sherman  
P. Schaer Sherman  
M. Toussaint New Milford  
R. Guendelsberger New Milford

### Absent:

F. Cioffi Brookfield  
H. Mayer New Milford  
C. Reppenhagen Sherman  
M. Calandrino Danbury

L. Marsicano, CLA Executive Director  
F. Frattini, CLA Administrative Coordinator  
M. Howarth, CLA Public Education Director  
J. Yedowitz, CLAMP, Chief of Marine Enforcement

Recorder: M. Toussaint/ R. Stroh

Guests: M. Propper, Danbury

Howie Berger, Chairman, called the regular meeting of the Candlewood Lake Authority to order at 7:35 P.M. at Brookfield Town Hall, Brookfield, CT.

Secretary's Report: In the absence of the Secretary, Frances Frattini noted that there were no additions, deletions or corrections to the minutes of December 9, 2009. Mark Toussaint moved to accept the minutes as presented, seconded by Phyllis Schaer and voted with all in favor, and Bob Guendelsberger abstaining, minutes have been accepted as written.

Rich Stroh and Patrick Callahan arrived.

### Treasurer's Report:

Phyllis Schaer, Treasurer, reported that the proposed 2010-11 Budget has been submitted to the Towns.

Mrs. Schaer moved to accept the Treasurer's Report of Income and Expenses for the months ended July 31, 2009 to December 31, 2009 as presented, seconded by Ed Siergiej. Discussion followed. Mr. Guendelsberger noted that he is concerned that the report shows a deficit budget of over \$34,000. Mr. Berger explained that the Executive and Finance committees

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had met and reduced the deficit to that amount which should be covered by donations – it was noted that to date over \$20,000 in donations have been received making the deficit presently only \$14,000. It was noted that in the proposed 2010-11 budget the donations were included so that the budget was not deficit. Mr. Berger added that the deficit budget goes back to previous treasurer's who preferred to show the figures that way, the present Treasurer has changed that to include donations in the budget and no longer shows a deficit. With no further discussion the motion was voted with all in favor except Bob Guendelsberger who opposed. Treasurer's Report for months ended July 31, 2009 to December 31, 2009 has been accepted and filed for audit.

Regarding the Audit for year ended June 30, 2009 there was a question regarding Other Expenditure on page 5 – it was noted that this is also shown on page 16 and explained on page 2. Mrs. Schaer noted that she would contact the auditor for further clarification. With no further discussion, Mrs. Schaer moved to accept the Audit for the year ended June 30, 2008, seconded by Pat Callahan and voted with all in favor except Bob Guendelsberger who opposed. Motion carried and audit will be submitted to the Towns.

Chairman's Report: Mr. Berger spoke about the Executive Committee's discussion about how to better operate the committees and staff of the CLA. He thanked Mr. Callahan for volunteering to be a member of the Public Safety Committee. He noted that the new delegate from Danbury, Michael Calandrino, would be assigned a committee after he has a chance to see how the CLA works.

Mr. Berger had a power point presentation on CLA Educational Programs and Outreach – he reviewed the items noting that the CLA presently does the majority of items covered. He noted that as the By-Laws permit non-delegate members they would be tapped to help the CLA move forward. Grants will be researched and applied for to help with funding of projects and initiatives. CLA would continue to partner with outside agencies such as the Northwest Conservation District's so we could, for example, utilize their plant sale for plants for buffer gardens, for WESCON for seminar series, Education Connection for Project CLEAR, Land Trusts for acquiring land, etc. Possibility of a Floating Education Center instead of a building, having patrol members act as shoreline observers and also proceeding with the possibility of a Boat Sticker Program were discussed. The presentation also noted CLA publications such as the Action Plan, Economic Study, Buffer Garden Packet, etc and technology such as the website, interactive use such as Facebook, partnering with the CT Weather Center who are looking into web cams around the lake and finally, the possibility of a GIS center for Western CT. Mr. Berger asked the committee heads to send him or to the office their goals for the year – so that a list can be prepared and they can establish a performance matrix. Doing this will change the bulk of the monthly meeting to governance issues and the reporting of progress would be in written reports. He asked the committee chairs to please do this before the February meeting.

Vice Chairman – nothing to report.

Executive Director's Report: Larry Marsicano noted that his report is attached to these minutes and reviewed the topics listed:

- Recreation /Public Safety Management
- Lake Advisory Committee per Recreation Management Plan
- FERC & FirstLight Shoreline Management Plan
- Invasive Plant Management/Drawdown (Seminar)
- Project CLEAR – moving into the middle schools

He also passed a Fact Sheet from the US-EPA on a National Lakes Assessment and discussed one of the key findings – shoreline disturbance is one of the nations lake health decline . Candlewood

was not one of the lakes assessed in the study. Discussion on healthy lakes followed. Mr. Dufel asked if algal toxins are naturally occurring? Mr. Marsicano noted that they are naturally occurring, that Candlewood has blue green algae but not a level that would be considered toxic. Mrs. Schaer noted that if the health of a lake becomes unbalanced that could cause it become toxic. Mr. Marsicano noted that the DEP did a "Diagnostic Feasibility Study back in the late 1970's which would be a starting point for assessing Candlewood.

Public Education Director: Mark Howarth noted that his report will be attached to these minutes. He noted that he has been working on the website. Mr. Marsicano advised that he has received positive comments on the improved website. He noted that he would be teaching at Project CLEAR having the children do public service announcement segments. He suggested that you Google EPA TOOLBOX to see examples of public service announcements that can be used.

#### Committee Reports:

Public Safety: Rich Stroh, Committee Chair noted nothing at this time. Chief Yedowitz reported the Lake Patrolmen will begin recertification classes soon.

Public Awareness: Mark Toussaint, Committee Chair reported that the committee will be working on the Clean Up and Dragon Boat Race and will be utilizing volunteers to help with these and other projects.

Watershed Management: In the absence of the Committee Chair-- no report.

Equipment/Facilities: Ed Siergiej, Committee Chair, reported that to keep the budget down this year they would not purchase new buoys for the next season. He also noted that he has researched the replacement of the engine on McKee I -- the best price he has is a quote of just under \$16,000 from Echo Bay Marina for the new engine. There is money in the Fixed Asset Replacement Fund for this purchase. The engine from McKee I will be put on the ARKII workboat. Discussion followed. Pat Callahan made a motion to approve the expenditure of not more than sixteen thousand (\$16,000.00) dollars from the Fixed Asset Replacement Fund to purchase and install a new 150HP engine on McKee I and to install the engine removed from McKee I on the ARKII workboat. Motion seconded by Bruce Kemble. Discussion followed. It was noted that payments would be split to 50% upon installation and the other 50% when the boat is in the water. With no further discussion the motion was voted with all in favor.

#### Old/New Business:

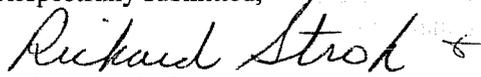
Mr. Stroh asked Mr. Kemble about the Candlewood Lake webcam. Mr. Kemble noted that the project will use up some of the host's internet bandwidth and it could be more than available. Mrs. Schaer suggested that maybe Charter/Comcast would be willing to donate bandwidth for advertisement our site.

Bob Guendelsberger asked if overboard discharge could be included in the discussion with DEP. Discussion followed noting that the DEP was required by the legislature to do the study and report back with recommendations by February wherein it appears that they will be recommending limiting boat size. Can they limit engine size? That would be more difficult as the predominant engine on the lake is the I/O (inboard/outboard).

Mr. Berger asked what the delegates thought the length of a good meeting would be -- it was decided between an hour to an hour and half.

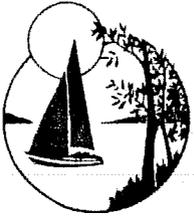
With no further business to come before the Candlewood Lake Authority, Pat Callahan moved to adjourn, seconded by Bruce Kemble. Meeting adjourned at 9:25 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,



Richard Stroh, Secretary  
Frances Frattini, Administrative Coordinator

r/b/s



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## ***Executive Director's Report January 4, 2010 Larry Marsicano***

*The following report summarizes activities from December 4, 2009 to January 4, 2010.*

### **RECREATION / PUBLIC SAFETY MANAGEMENT**

The Chief Elected Officials or their representatives, local legislators, and CLA met with the CT DEP to continue discussions on the recreational issues on Candlewood Lake in efforts to make recommendations (e.g. boat length limit, engine size limit) for the lake. FirstLight was also invited and participated. Results of the public survey CTDEP conducted were presented. There appears to be some agreement that Candlewood Lake has problems and that some measures should be considered, e.g. boat size limit. However, it was made evident that CTDEP will be shorthanded this season and probably not able to provide public safety man-hours like they have in the past. This news precipitated another look at the boat sticker program which all our CEOs and legislators supported provided it was used exclusively for public safety. CTDEP was to meet internally about recommendations and the boat sticker program at some point after our meeting. We were asked by one of our CEOs to redistribute the Boat Sticker Program proposal we had developed several years ago.

### **LAKE ADVISORY COMMITTEE – PER THE RECREATION MANAGEMENT PLAN**

On December 30<sup>th</sup> FirstLight submitted its report on the meeting of the Lake Advisory Committee held on November 9<sup>th</sup>. The final report included and addressed comments on the draft report submitted by the CLA and CT DEP. It also included the CLA maps showing areas of high density during the 2008 aerial flyovers per the GIS analyses we had done. FirstLight's report to FERC is available on our website.

We have made photocopies of the FirstLight report and have sent them to municipal CEOs and legislators involved in the recreation discussions with the CTDEP.

### **FERC & FIRSTLIGHT SHORELINE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

There has been nothing issued from FERC following the submittal of additional information by FirstLight. We are working with two students from WCSU who elected to conduct a "virtual inventory" of the project property from the 2006 photo documentary of the shoreline we compiled and use in our GIS system.

We met with Mayor Mark Boughton on December 15<sup>th</sup> to discuss some of our concerns and considerations regarding the proposed SMP as it pertains to addressing overcrowding and user conflict. We expressed that we would like to see the SMP approved provided that FERC modified it to ensure FirstLight's commitment to

addressing the overcrowding and user conflict issues beyond what is currently described in the proposed SMP. The Mayor was supportive of our efforts.

### ***INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT / DRAWDOWN***

On December 10<sup>th</sup> the CLA co-sponsored with WCSU a "Science at Night Program" that focused on the Eurasian watermilfoil and deep drawdown issue. The event was well attended, included excellent presentations by researchers and a lively panel discussion over biennial vs. annual deep drawdowns. The entire event was taped by WCSU who are editing / producing it for educational purposes in the near future.

### ***PROJECT CLEAR – CANDLEWOOD LAKE ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS AND RESPONSIBILITY***

Project CLEAR students met again on December 11<sup>th</sup> at WCSU. Future meetings are scheduled for April 16<sup>th</sup> and May 24<sup>th</sup>. CLEAR students will also participate in the Clean Up scheduled for May 22<sup>nd</sup>. Their week of summer field research runs from June 24<sup>th</sup> through 30<sup>th</sup>.

CLA participated in a meeting that included Western Connecticut State University, Education Connection, and a Grants Program Officer from the National Science Foundation who teleconferenced in on December 17<sup>th</sup>. The purpose was to work on revising a grant proposal for Project CLEAR. A letter of intent for submitting a proposal to the NSF is due later in January with the University acting as the primary applicant.

We also met with Education Connection separately on January 5<sup>th</sup> to discuss the current Project CLEAR program, including the new middle school program. This new component engages ~125 middle school students from the participating districts who are going to the CT DEP Kellogg Center in Derby for environmental education programs. On May 25<sup>th</sup> they are going to Squantz Pond for a day of data collection. We will be helping coordinate the lunch... BBQ. Delegates are welcome to volunteer.

Also discussed were the final two classroom days for the high school students. These days are typically divided into two parts: during the first part they meet as a group (~125 students plus teachers) and listen to presentations; the second part of the day the individual research teams meet to learn about the specifics of their research. Scheduled to lecture to the entire group are Dr. Chris Kukk from the Social Science Department and Dr. Tom Lonergan from the Biology and Environmental Science Department of WCSU. Dr. Kukk will provide a global and national perspective on the importance of water resource protection/conservation while Dr. Lonergan will present the research his graduate students are doing on milfoil and discuss the scientific method. Mark Howarth is also scheduled to address the group about public service ads. This year, Mark will be working with student to create some PSA for public dissemination via local access TV or radio.

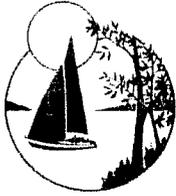
**OTHER**

We participated in another meeting of the Candlewood Watershed Initiative on December 17<sup>th</sup>. Part of the discussion included a look back on CWI's year and evaluation of their relevance.

Michael Calandrino has been appointed in Danbury to serve on the CLA.

We assisted the CT Agricultural Experiment Station with the deployment of the soil moisture – temperature sensors. WCSU researchers also deployed sensors and is the lead on the research initiative to better understand the necessary conditions for deep drawdown management of Eurasian watermilfoil.

We have already started receiving calls regarding the Candlewood Lake Clean Up.



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**January 13, 2010**  
**Public Education**  
**Mark Howarth**

## **Lake Publication:**

We are in the process of developing the content for our publication. We are planning a dual media publication. Initially we plan to produce this as an interactive electronic publication with informative illustrations and photos to support the text. An electronic publication will afford us easy distribution as well as allow us to include interactive features allowing the reader the option of clicking on options to get more detailed and in-depth information about chosen topics within. We are then hoping to print the guide using an appealing format and full color printing. The distribution process for the printed publication has yet to be determined.

## **Project CLEAR:**

On December 11<sup>th</sup>, we had the second classroom day of Project CLEAR at WestConn. Their morning lecture began with a presentation on low impact development practices for storm water management followed by a short film, After the Storm, on the effects of storms and storm water. They then broke into their research groups where they did exercises on water pollution, plankton identification and contour map analysis, among other topics. A muscle study on Candlewood involving CLEAR students was planned for Saturday December, 19<sup>th</sup>, however unfavorable shoreline conditions prevented that research from happening. At the next WCSU classroom day I will be preparing a lesson and leading an activity for the students to create public service announcements for Candlewood Lake, which we then plan to film during the June field days and ultimately broadcast to the public.

## **Sponsorship and Fundraising:**

We are developing options for a new fundraising and sponsorship strategy which will both simplify the process for us, and offer increased exposure and benefits to our event sponsors.

## **Website:**

We are working on ways to improve and increase the information we offer to the public via our website, in addition to design and functionality upgrades. Work continues on adding new features to increase new and repeat visitor traffic to the site. This is being done in an effort to make this site a valuable public resource.