

CANDLEWOOD LAKE AUTHORITY

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

Minutes of Meeting September 10, 2008

Attending:

C. Reppenhagen	Sherman
H. Berger	Sherman
B. Kemble	New Fairfield
F. Cioffi	Brookfield
S. Murphy	Brookfield
G. Hofsess	Brookfield
H. Mayer	New Milford
E. Siergiej	Danbury
G. Dufel	Danbury

Absent:

P. Callahan	New Fairfield
R. Stroh	New Fairfield
M. Toussaint	New Milford
R. Guendelsberger	New Milford
S. Conroy	Danbury
K. Mersereau	Sherman

L. Marsicano, CLA Executive Director
F. Frattini, CLA Administrative Coordinator
M. Howarth, CLA Public Education Director

Recorder E. Siergiej

Guests:

- D. Stevenson, Brookfield
- L. Johnson, New Milford
- C. Ricci, New Milford
- K. Gately, Danbury
- M. O'Connor, New Fairfield.
- J. Siergiej, Danbury

In the absence of the Chairman, Howie Berger, Vice Chairman, called the regular meeting of the Candlewood Lake Authority to order at 7:40 P.M. at Brookfield Town Hall, Brookfield, CT. Mr. Berger welcomed the guests.

Secretary's Report: In the absence of the Secretary, Frances Frattini noted that there were no additions, deletions or corrections to the minutes of August 13, 2008. Ed Siergiej moved to accept the minutes as presented, seconded by Bruce Kemble and voted with all in favor, minutes have been accepted as written.

Chairman's Report: In the absence of the Chairman, Mr. Berger reported that the lake had been sold; the new company Suez North America purchased the High Power Resources which included Candlewood Lake. The buyer has a strong statement on environmental policies

RECEIVED FOR RECORD
DANBURY TOWN CLERK

SEP 15 11:44

BY:

DRS

– it can be found on their website (and is included in Mr. Marsicano’s written report). Executive Committee had met and discussed the CLA response to the response of FirstLight to FERC’s Additional Information Request. Mr. Berger advised that the CLA is now renting office space at 30 Bridge Street in New Milford.

Vice Chairman’s Report: Mr. Berger, Vice Chairman, had nothing to report.

Treasurer’s Report: Glenn Hofsess noted that the audit is on going, spoke to the auditor last week and there are no significant findings and a draft report should be available for the October meeting (the October meeting will be a week early – so it may be November).

Mr. Berger advised that the headquarters of the CLA will remain Sherman Base but a more professional space was needed to conduct business – now it needs to be furnished. Ed Siergiej addressed this noting that three estimates for furniture were sought – Office Max at \$8600.00, and Ikea at \$7300.00 for laminate also, these prices did not include delivery or set up, and finally Cosmos Office Furniture at \$4710.00 for used steel which includes delivery and set up. Furniture will be refinished, delivered and installed. Mr. Hofsess noted that the money for the purchase of the furniture will come from the proceeds of the 2007 Dinner Auction, which raised funds specifically for furnishing the office. Mr. Siergiej noted that the Danbury project has been stalled but the furniture would be used there when built. Mr. Siergiej made a motion to allow spending up to six thousand (\$6000.00) dollars for purchase of furniture for the new office space (i.e. the \$4710 plus \$1390 for additional items), seconded by Charlie Reppenhagen and voted with all in favor. Motion carried. Mr. Berger thanked Mr. Marsicano, Mr. Howarth and Mrs. Frattini for researching the furniture.

Executive Director’s Report: Larry Marsicano, Executive Director, noted that his report for September would be attached to these minutes. He gave a brief overview of what is written in the report, which covered the following items: Response to FERC on FirstLight Power Resources response to FERC’s questions, the sale of the lake, and the up coming visit of the Connecticut Environmental Review Team. This is to get a third party opinion on the knowledge base on the Candlewood watershed and measures to ensure the future of the lake, including the proposed Watershed Residential District in New Fairfield. Project Clear has a new Project Manager, Alberto Mimo, who recently retired from the DEP. Mr. Marsicano noted that he and Dr. Pinou of WESCONN are both working on National Science Foundation grants – WESCONN a formal (University setting) proposal and CLA an informal (non-classroom based) proposal for Project CLEAR. Other items included: Review of Savannah Hills – Danbury, GIS mapping on delineating the sub sheds of the watershed, milfoil, and weevils. Gary Dufel questioned the position of the CLA on the cell tower on Stadley Rough Road in Danbury. Mr. Marsicano advised that when this was first proposed a number of years ago the CLA objected based on land disturbance and aesthetics in the view shed of the lake. The Technical committee was advised that a deep drawdown will occur this year – the power company has been asked to define a deep drawdown and optimal time for the drawdown and if there is any leeway in the time the lake remains down. He thanked Mr. Berger, Mr. Hofsess and Mr. Siergiej for all their efforts on the new office space and Mr. Howarth and Mrs. Frattini for helping with the furniture selection.

Public Education Director: Mark Howarth’s report will be attached to these minutes. Mr. Howarth summarized his activities for the past month – he attended a Social Marketing Workshop yesterday, he passed a draft copy of the e-newsletter which has a new look, he noted that he and Ms. Ponak had photographed the shoreline of Squantz (this area was not done when

the whole lake was done in 2006). The website will be redesigned by the end of the year, he has been checking on the watershed delineating signs.

Mary O'Connor commented that there was an incident on the lake last weekend and that there was no Patrol on the water, she has spoken to Chief Yedowitz and suggested that patrol schedules be more in tune with the nighttime use of the boaters on the lake. Mr. Berger advised that DEP is responsible for the safety on the water. Discussion followed.

Cliff Ricci noted that he was shocked to learn that there are fishing tournaments at night. Lee Johnson of the CT Bass Federation advised that the Federation was instrumental in instituting the permitting process. Discussion followed.

Committee Reports:

Public Safety: In the absence of the Committee Chair there was no report.

Watershed Management: Harold Mayer reported that the committee had met and discussed site plans – Egret Property in Danbury – application was withdrawn and Savannah Hills – Engineer Joe Polulech visited and submitted a report. Mr. Berger noted that there needs to be a press release on the CLA involvement in land use issues in the Towns.

Public Awareness: In the absence of the Committee Chair there was no report.

Equipment/Facilities: Ed Siergiej, Committee Chair, reported that the season is winding down and getting ready to wrap up, buoy removal scheduled, permits applied for to rebuild the bulkhead on Deer Island, and he is preparing the Asset Inventory additions for the auditor.

Old/New Business:

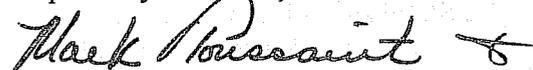
Susan Murphy asked about Candlewood Lake Club being billed by FirstLight Power Recourses for an A-2 survey. Mr. Marsicano note that FLPR said in the SMP that it would not recover costs for an A-2 Survey for existing uses but they can for a new use. Mr. Berger suggested that CLC send a letter asking for justification of the bill.

Bruce Kemble noted that he had been on Martha's Vineyard and picked up "A Guide to Protecting Martha's Vineyard" and noted that they address many of the same concerns that we have on Candlewood. He also noted that there are many similarities in the measures being employed to address these concerns.

Charlie Reppenhagen announced that the Town of Sherman will be having a Volunteer Recognition day and the 3 Sherman CLA delegates will be presented with Certificates for their service to the Town. Mrs. Murphy advised that Brookfield also does this.

With no further business to come before the Candlewood Lake Authority, Glenn Hofsess moved to adjourn, seconded by Frank Cioffi. Meeting adjourned at 9:22 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,



Mark Toussaint, Secretary

Frances Frattini, Administrative Coordinator

r/b/t

Executive Director's Report
September 10, 2008
Larry Marsicano

The following report summarizes activities between August 5, 2008 and September 10, 2008.

FERC / FirstLight Power Resources

On August 19th FERC issued a notice of application soliciting comments, motions to intervene and protests. Earlier, we had begun review of FLPR's responses to FERC's request for additional information submitted to FERC on June 27th. Comments to FERC have since been drafted and distributed to the Chief Elected Officials of the CLA municipalities. These will be submitted to FERC by the due date of September 19th.

As revealed in early September, ECP has sold FLPR to GDF Suez a huge, multinational power company based in France. Information on the actual subsidiary, Suez North America, and some of their environmental policy is available at www.suezenergyna.com/whoweare/healthsafety.shtml. Executive Committee discussed recommending to the CEO's asking Congressman Murphy to ask FERC to postpone any further action on the SMP until the local stakeholders have had time to hear from Suez. A letter was drafted (attached) and will be sent out.

Environmental Review Team Review

We have been preparing for the visit of the Connecticut Environmental Review Team on September 16th. Member of the team include Elaine Sych from CT ERT, John Rozum from UCONN Cooperative Extension NEMO, and Bruce Wittchen from the CT Office of Policy and Management. Copies of numerous papers, reports, etc. have been made and sent to the participants in preparation of the visit. A tour of the shoreline by water and of the watershed in New Fairfield will follow a meeting with the ERT and member of the CLA and community at Candlewood Isle on the 16th.

The Candlewood Watershed Initiative Team met again on August 22nd. Alex Messerle from New Fairfield has volunteered to participate with the group. Alex has been an advocate of the CLA for many years. The CWI is now pondering whether to be involved in weed control and geese management.

Project CLEAR

Due to the change of Project Manager, there has been considerable time spent preparing for the upcoming season. Several meetings with Education Connection have occurred including one with the new Project Manager, Alberto Mimo. On September 3rd I met with Alberto for several hours to go into CLEAR in detail. A meeting with Education Connection, Alberto, the CLEAR teachers, Dr. Dora Pinou from WCSU, and I is scheduled for September 23rd.

I've continued to work with Dr. Pinou on two possible National Science Foundation grants. One grant would be administered by WCSU; one by the CLA. I have begun work on our letter of intent which is due to NSF by September 18th. I am scheduled to meet again with Dr. Pinou on September 12th.

Watershed / Land Use Issues

We commissioned Joe Pollulech, P.E., to review the plans for Savannah Hills, in Danbury and visited City Hall and the proposed site with Mr. Pollulech on August 22nd. On behalf of the CLA, I provided to the Danbury EIC comment and the report we commissioned on the Savannah Hills subdivision on August 27th. We have also received notice from Danbury Corporation Council that our August 1, 2006 letter on the then proposed cell tower on Stadley Rough Road, Danbury, was submitted into the list of exhibits Danbury presented on September 9th to the CT Siting Council in opposition to the cell tower being proposed on Stadley Rough Road again. I may be asked to speak at the public hearing if continued.

I have been working with Kristen Ponak, who works for us on a limited basis, on a phosphorus export map for the Candlewood Lake watershed (see attached). The map and estimated phosphorus export is based on scientific research done by a highly recognized lake scientist and at the very least presents relative contributions of the sub-basins in the watershed. Red/auburn/orange areas contribute the most followed by yellow areas and then green areas. Note that the sub-shed immediately around the lake, and the around Ball Pond and Ball Pond Brook, appear to be contributing the most to the phosphorus load to the lake.

Eurasian Watermilfoil, Weevil Research, Etc.

Students from WCSU continue to monitor the experimental and control sites that are part of the Milfoil Weevil Introduction research. On August 27th scientists from EnviroScience, located in Ohio, visited and joined the student researchers. Cortney Marquette from EnviroScience described the research as "right on track" according to Alex Messerle's article in the Citizen News.

Bob Gates from FLPR has corresponded with the members of the Technical Committee regarding the drawdown. A deep drawdown will occur this winter. I have asked Bob for more specifics on the actual depth and duration of the deep drawdown. I have also recommended doing some research on winter weather patterns to see what time of winter is optimal to achieve the greatest affect. A Technical Committee conference call may occur in the near future.

New Office Space

We have continued to work toward setting up the CLA administrative offices in a new facility. We signed a lease for the office suite at 30 Bank Street, New Milford; we have been working with utility companies (electric & cable) to set up services and have shopped for furniture. We need to move into the new space as soon as possible. Mark and particularly Frances have worked very hard on finding the right furniture. Our thanks go to Howie and others for efforts to get us into a professional working environment and to Jack Farley, who owns the building, for his generous and accommodating lease agreement.

Other

Water quality and bacteria monitoring occurred in August.

The Annual Boat Count was conducted. Results will be available in the near future.

Mark Howarth
Public Awareness
August-September 2008

- Social Marketing Workshop: In an effort to further my understanding of social marketing tools and how I can better use them to help us deliver our messages to the public, I attended a social marketing workshop entitled "Getting Your Feet Wet With Social Marketing", presented by Jack Wilbur of the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food. The course was held on September 9th in Norwalk, CT. The workshop covered such topics as understanding behavior change, potential barriers to behavior change and ways to overcome them, audience research methods, outreach methods and evaluation among others.
- Electronic News: Developed a new Electronic News layout. New graphics and colors were implemented to modernize the look of the publication and new recurring feature sections such as a "Candlewood Lake Protection Tip" and a "Candlewood Lake Nature Focus" were added. In addition to hopefully improving the overall "look" of the publication, the primary goal is to increase regular readership when it is distributed. Much of the text was then used for our printed newsletter, which will soon be going to print, so the final text of this edition of the Electronic News may change.
- Candlewood Lake News: Created text for the latest printed version of the Candlewood Lake News, which we will be printing and mailing. The focus of the articles was Eurasian watermilfoil, including what we are doing to control it and what residents can do to assist in the effort.
- Buffer Program: Larry and I have begun to contact chosen property owners regarding their selection. Due to Shawn Sweeney's new job demands with Roots & Shoots of the Jane Goodall Institute, he will no longer be able to do the graphics for our signs as was previously arranged. As an alternative, I have met with and am working with the graphic artist at a local sign company to create those graphics for us. We have also chosen sign materials which we feel will be attractive, durable and cost-effective.
- Squantz Shoreline: Photographed the entire shoreline surrounding Squantz Pond with Kristen Ponak to complete our baseline of documented shoreline data on our GIS system. Previously, in 2006 the entire Candlewood Lake shoreline was photographed, but Squantz was not included in that work.
- Donor Package: Continued work on our donor package, adding new sections, graphics and editing content.