



CANDLEWOOD LAKE AUTHORITY

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

Minutes of Meeting August 12, 2009

Attending:

P. Callahan	New Fairfield
M. Toussaint	New Milford
H. Mayer	New Milford
S. Murphy	Brookfield
H. Berger	Sherman
E. Siergiej	Danbury
P. Schaer	Sherman (arrived 7:45PM)
R. Guendelsberger	New Milford (arrived 7:50PM)

Absent:

B. Kemble	New Fairfield
R. Stroh	New Fairfield
F. Cioffi	Brookfield
G. Dufel	Danbury
G. Hofsess	Brookfield
C. Reppenhagen	Sherman

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

Recorder M. Toussaint

Guests: M Propper, Danbury
B. Lohan, Brookfield
J. Braun, New Fairfield

Chairman, Pat Callahan, called the regular meeting of the Candlewood Lake Authority to order at 7:50 P.M. at Brookfield Town Hall, Brookfield, CT.

Mr. Callahan welcomed the guests.

Secretary's Report: Mark Toussaint noted that there were no corrections, additions or deletions to the minutes of July 8, 2009, Phyllis Schaer moved to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Ed Siergiej and voted with all in favor. Minutes have been accepted as written.

Chairman's Report: Mr. Callahan advised that at the Executive Committee meeting they discussed safety on the lake at night and that the CLA will be preparing a press release on this issue. They had also discussed researching a possible change to the nighttime speed limit. Mark Toussaint noted that this was prompted by a recent editorial in the Danbury News Times. Bob Guendelsberger noted that it is a matter of enforcement. Discussion followed. Ed Siergiej advised that a lower speed limit will have an effect on safety on the lake. Mr. Callahan advised that this will be referred to committee for further research.

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DANBURY TOWN CLERK

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BY:

Vice Chairman's Report: Howie Berger, Vice-Chairman – reported that he had attended the Project CLEAR presentation this year and noted that it was much better than in the past with the video and the different groups set up in the cafeteria – it was an extremely positive event and he just wanted to acknowledge that.

Treasurer's Report: In the absence of the Treasurer – Mr. Callahan noted that at the Executive Committee meeting they had discussed the budget deficit. Mr. Berger spoke on the issue advising that based on some unforeseen items the deficit is around \$83K and it is the recommendation of the Executive Committee that all the standing committees of the CLA look to reduce their budgets by this amount. Discussion followed. Mrs. Frattini pointed out that the By-Laws call for the Finance committee to reallocate the money. Mr. Berger noted that the Executive Committee would like the committees to reduce all discretionary spending and, if needed, the committee could ask the board for the additional funds and these requests would be approved on an individual basis. Fixed expenses would remain in tact. Discussion continued. Mr. Callahan noted that the Finance Committee will need to meet to identify the items that can be reduced or eliminated. It was suggested that this meeting be held before the next Executive Committee meeting.

Mrs. Frattini advised that Mr. Siergiej had some out-of-pocket expenses for repairs to the ARKII totaling \$83.31 and a motion to reimburse him would be needed. Harold Mayer moved to reimburse Mr. Siergiej the \$83.31 seconded by Mark Toussaint and voted with all in favor. Mr. Siergiej was reimbursed.

Executive Director's Report: Larry Marsicano noted that his report is attached to these minutes. He advised that the boat count had been completed, registered boats are down slightly from last year. Discussion followed. Mr. Berger advised that the report on Recreational Pressures on the lake is an excellent document and should be read. It shows that there is clearly a Public Safety deficiency on Candlewood Lake that needs to be addressed.

Mr. Marsicano advised that he had recently received the Report from the Environmental Review Team that visited the lake last September. The Watershed Management Committee will be reviewing the document and will report back.

Public Education Director Report: Mark Howarth's report is attached to these minutes. He did report that he has been working on a publication on what and what not to do to protect the lake. He is looking at it from the aspect and understanding of what the public will see as a benefit to them. He will also be working on a fundraising letter to go out in the fall.

Committee Reports:

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

Equipment/Facilities: Committee Chair, Ed Siergiej, reported that McKee I now has two thousand hours which is when it is time to think about replacing it – with the present budget constraints he advised that it will be kept for now. The ARKII engine is at risk and usually it would receive the McKee engine but it too will have to make it for another season. He had done some repairs to the door and window on ARKII. The committee has decided that to help reduce the budget they will defer purchasing any new buoys this fiscal year. They will also be looking into ways to reduce costs at Sherman Base. He advised that he had dismantled and removed a dock that had been abandoned on Sand Island. Sand Island is taking a beating from overuse – a letter has been sent to FirstLight to possibly post a sign on the island and carefully consider it for

erosion mitigation / buffer restoration work. Mr. Marsicano noted that no response from FirstLight has been received.

Mr. Callahan thanked Mr. Siergiej for all his volunteer time.

Jerry Braun advised that it is the responsibility of the licensee to maintain the environmental quality of its project lands and he could address the islands (Sand and Skeleton) with FERC as an intervenor.

Public Awareness: Mr. Toussaint advised there had been no meeting but that Mark Howarth is working on the press release on nighttime safety. Also they will be working on a fundraising letter to go out late summer early autumn and then another in the spring.

Watershed Management: Harold Mayer, Committee Chair, noted nothing further to report as Watershed was covered by the Executive Director.

Audience Participation: Mr. Lohan questioned the speed limits. Mr. Braun noted that fishing tournaments must not violate the limits. Mr. Marsicano noted that there were no complaints about the fishermen but mainly the complaints this season are about the loud speakers from the wakeboard boats.

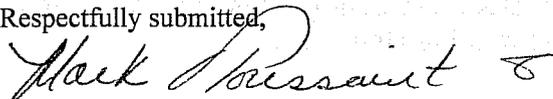
Old/New Business:

Bob Guendelsberger advised that CLUB-A would like to hold a "Milfoil" summit on the lake. This will include a panel of experts on the best practices to control the spread of the weed.

Mr. Marsicano advised that he was out with Dr. Marko to inspect the sites where weevils were installed last year and there was little milfoil in these locations.

With no further business to come before the Candlewood Lake Authority, Mr. Mayer moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Toussaint. Meeting adjourned at 9:05 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,



Mark Toussaint, Secretary

Frances Frattini, Administrative Coordinator

n/r/b/t

These minutes are not considered official until they have been approved at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Candlewood Lake Authority.



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Executive Director's Report August 6, 2009 Larry Marsicano

The following report summarizes activities between July 6, 2009 to August 6, 2009

PROJECT CLEAR – CANDLEWOOD LAKE ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS AND RESPONSIBILITY

We learned that the National Science Foundation grant proposal we collaborated on with Western Connecticut State University was not funded. However, WCSU is committed to revising and resubmitting the proposal later this year per our meeting at the University with them and Education Connection on July 22nd.

On Monday night, June 27th, I was invited to discuss CLA initiatives and programs including Project CLEAR with a class of graduate students taking *Independent Study in Lab Science*, most of who were teachers. This class is working with Dr. Tom Lonergan on a Eurasian watermilfoil research project to better understand the optimal conditions (freezing / desiccation) to kill the plant. Preliminary results suggest that under optimal environmental conditions, the plant is call be killed in 24 to 48 hrs. Further work is necessary to confirm these results. Additional collection of plants is being scheduled for October when additional testing will be conducted. Dr. Lonergan is the Chairman of the Biological / Environmental Science Department at the University.

On August 4th we provided access to the lake using the ARK and demonstrated field limnology techniques to Dr. Wagener's Limnology Graduate Class. Dr. Wagener is also a faculty member of the Biological / Environmental Science Department at the University.

I am scheduled to meet with Ana and Maria Bortoletto, Project CLEAR alums from Danbury and currently attending WCSU, who are doing research on historical climate relative to the biennial deep drawdown starting in 1985. There research should contribute to our understanding of the biennial deep drawdown program.

SHORELINE MANAGEMENT PLAN

On July 9th we submitted comments on the proposed SMP as well as our report entitled "*An Examination of Recreational Pressures on Candlewood Lake, CT.*" Our letter to FERC and report were also sent to Bob Gates of FirstLight, the CEOs of the Candlewood Lake municipalities, a number of state legislators, and US Congressman Murphy. We have also contacted FERC regarding procedural issues. We have scheduled to discuss our concerns with Rob Michalik, District Director for US Congressman Chris Murphy.

BUFFER RECOGNITION PROGRAM

This past month we completed the design work for our Lake-Friendly Shoreline signs and have distributed four sets. Several of the recipients have their signs on display. A webpage and a map download should be available in the near future.

PUBLIC SAFETY ISSUES

On Thursday, July 23rd, we attended a promotional event sponsored by the CT DEP and McDonalds. EnCon Police Officers, LPOs and others are giving out coupons to youngsters on the lake wearing PFDs. Coupons are redeemable for an ice cream cone at McDonalds. At the event on the 23rd I did have the opportunity to talk with Eleanor Mariani who is the CTDEP's Boating Law Administrator and Deputy Commissioner Susan Frechette. We will hopefully be scheduling some time to spend with Ms. Mariani and Deputy Commissioner Frechette on a weekend afternoon on the lake to discuss overcrowding and user conflict issues.

MILFOIL WEEVIL PROJECT

On July 7th I visited the sites scheduled to receive weevils this summer. As had been the case earlier in the season, no thick stands of milfoil were observed at those sites. Only one site within the boundaries of New Fairfield had potential for stocking but in located in an uninhabited area – near the tip of Vaughn's Neck. I contacted EnviroScience and postponed the stocking until June of 2010. First Selectman John Hodge was notified. An article was printed in the Citizen News regarding the decision on July 29th.

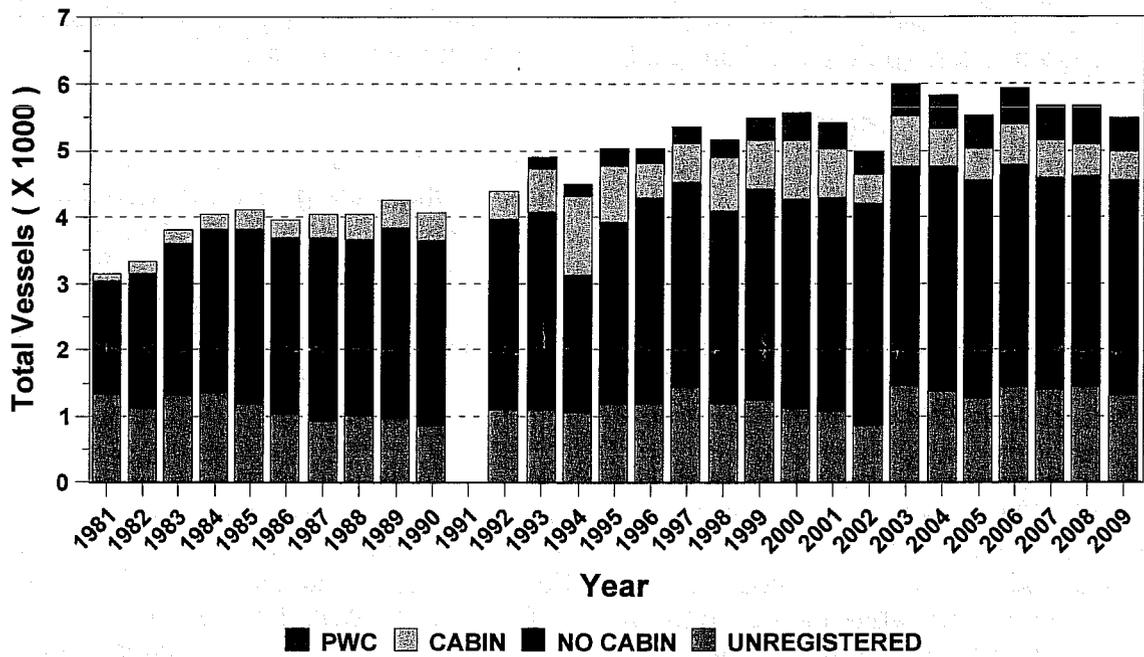
OTHER

On July 9th we were host to Theresa Labarbara of Channel 3's Better Connecticut program to discuss CT Lakes Awareness Week.

I attended and addressed the Lake Lillinonah Authority on July 7th. Of particular interest were our water quality and bacteria monitoring programs and our work with the milfoil weevils.

On the evening of July 14th, LPO Bob Spielman and I were guests of the Candlewood Yacht Club where we discussed boating safety, overcrowding, and user conflict issues.

On July 23rd we participated in the Danbury Chamber of Commerce's Leadership Danbury Program. After lunch at Down the Hatch, the 25 to 30 business and community leaders listened to presentations by Brian Wood from FirstLight and I, discussing the lake and responsibilities of our organizations/companies. A tour of a portion of the lake was provided afterwards.



YEAR	UNREGISTERED	NO CABIN	CABIN	PWC	TOTAL
2000	1136	3128	897	420	5581
2001	1083	3207	743	381	5414
2002	876	3322	442	347	4987
2003	1475	3287	765	481	6008
2004	1390	3367	584	499	5840
2005	1268	3269	497	487	5521
2006	1446	3329	621	549	5945
2007	1438	3241	595	539	5813
2008	1458	3151	491	577	5677
2009	1317	3231	452	477	5477



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August 12, 2009
Public Education
Mark Howarth

Lake Protection Publication:

With a grant we received we will be creating a lake protection guide, which will be mailed out to residents in an effort to help educate the public about their actions and the things they should be doing to help protect our lake. In order to create this publication, we are currently researching social marketing strategies to get a better understanding of what we need to do in order to get people to adopt a change in their actions.

Focus groups and a survey will help us to understand what residents see as the potential benefits of protecting Candlewood Lake and its water quality. In addition we will be able to gain a better understanding about their barriers to change...are they resistant to having a shoreline buffer because they are worried about their view of the lake being diminished, perhaps the cost, a lack of understanding what types of trees, bushes and groundcover to plant for their soil and sunlight exposure etc. Lastly, we will want to use the survey and focus groups to gain a better understanding of what would persuade residents to adopt these changes in behavior...e.g. tax breaks for properties that meet buffer guidelines, recognition for meeting recommended guidelines etc.

July E-Newsletter:

We wrote and sent out a July electronic newsletter. It covered the First Annual Candlewood Lake Dragon Boat Race and had an article that highlighted the changes made to Project CLEAR for 2008/2009. There was an article on Lakes Awareness Week as well as one on Harold Mayer receiving his bronze star and other medals. The 2009 NALMS conference, which we are the host state for when it comes to Hartford for in October, was included, as were shorter articles about our new Lake-Friendly Shoreline recognition program, safe boating class announcements, One Book One Lake and Long Meadow Lake Management's aquatic invasive plant presentation.

CLEAR Documentary:

Continuing to work on the Project CLEAR documentary to create a more polished version of the video which was done during the five days of Project CLEAR so that we can upload the video to our website and submit it to National Geographic.