



CANDLEWOOD LAKE AUTHORITY

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

Minutes of Meeting December 8, 2010

Attending:

H. Berger	Sherman
P. Schaer	Sherman
F. Cioffi	Brookfield
H. Mayer	New Milford
J. Murphy	Brookfield
B. Lohan	Brookfield
E. Siergiej	Danbury
G. Dufel	Danbury
R. Stroh	New Fairfield
J. Hodge	New Fairfield

Absent:

B. Kemble	New Fairfield
R. Guendelsberger	New Milford
M. Toussaint	New Milford
C. Reppenhagen	Sherman
M. Calandrino	Danbury

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

Recorder: R. Stroh

Guests: One member of the Press

Chairman, Howie Berger, called the annual meeting of the Candlewood Lake Authority to order at 7:31 P.M. at Brookfield Town Hall, Brookfield, CT.

Secretary's Report: Rich Stroh, Secretary, noted that there were no corrections, to the minutes of November 10, 2010. Bill Lohan moved to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Ed Siergiej and voted with all in favor and John Hodge abstaining. Minutes have been accepted as written.

Chairman's Report: Mr. Berger advised that later this evening there would be a teleconference presentation by Ethan Nedeau of Biodiversity on the Zebra Mussel. With that, he advised that the agenda would be modified with the election of officers, approval of Treasurer's reports, approval of the audit and approval of the proposed 2011-

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12 budget occurring before the presentation and then Director and Committee reports following.

Election of Officers: Ballots and instructions on election procedure were passed out. John Hodge made a motion to accept the nominations as presented on the ballot, seconded by Mr. Murphy, voted with all in favor. Mr. Murphy made a motion to close nominations, seconded by Mr. Stroh, voted with all in favor nominations closed. Mark Howarth and Frances Frattini were appointed counters. Ballots were cast and then collected by Mr. Howarth, tallied and returned to Mrs. Frattini who recounted and announced the new officers with the following results:

Chairman	Howie Berger	8
Vice Chairman	Mark Toussaint	8
Secretary	Rich Stroh	8
Treasurer	Phyllis Schaer	8

With a unanimous decision the officers for the coming year will be:

Chairman	Howie Berger
Vice Chairman	Mark Toussaint
Secretary	Rich Stroh
Treasurer	Phyllis Schaer

Delegates are reminded that committee assignments for the coming year need to be made and committee chairmen need to be approved by the delegates at the next CLA meeting – anyone interested in changing their committee assignments should contact the chairman or vice chairman.

Mr. Berger advised the delegates that Attorney Ted Backer had sent a letter to the Town CEO's as per discussion at last month's meeting – had heard back from only one Town (i.e. New Milford).

Harold Mayer arrived at 7:40 PM

There are a number of inconsistencies in the document, conditions needed clarification and the rules that the Lake Patrol will operate under need to be spelled out so that there is no ambiguity. As the present agreement was extended to January 31 these issues need to be resolved next month. The goal is to have something to the DEP by the end of the year. Mr. Murphy is looking into the Brookfield PD operating on Candlewood the same as on Lake Lillinonah.

Phyllis Schaer arrived at 7:48 PM

Treasurer's Report: Phyllis Schaer, Treasurer – noted that the monthly reports from July to November 30 had been sent to the delegates prior to the meeting and asked for any discussion. Mr. Dufel noted that on Line #120 for November there appeared to be a number missing – it read 494.38 and should be 3494.38, this will be corrected. With no other corrections, Mr. Murphy moved to accept the Treasurer's Report of Income and

Expenses for the five months ended: July 31, August 31, September 30, October 31 and November 30, 2010 with the correction to Line #120 for November – seconded by John Hodge and voted with all in favor. Reports have been accepted and filed for audit.

Mrs. Schaer next noted that the Audit for year ended June 30, 2010 has been completed. She, Mr. Berger, Mr. Marsicano and Mrs. Frattini had met with the Auditor and a number of questions were resolved. Discussion followed. With no further discussion, Mr. Murphy moved to accept the audit for year ended June 30, 2010 as prepared by Fiorita, Kornhaas & Company PC dated October 13, 2010, seconded by Mr. Dufel, and voted with all in favor. Audit has been accepted and will be forwarded to the Towns.

As it was 8:15 PM Mr. Berger advised that one of the speakers from Science at Night at WESCON last month Ethan Nedeau would be teleconferencing. They set up the teleconference and computer presentation – Mr. Nedeau spoke about the Zebra Mussels in Laurel Lake (Massachusetts), which flows into the Housatonic River where Zebra Mussels were also found. He spoke about the conditions that are favorable to Zebra Mussels and that Candlewood is on the low to moderate end of the range, and that it is possible that they can colonize here. Candlewood is most vulnerable during the months of late May to September when zebra mussels are spawning and also during the spring pump up when large amounts of water come in from the Housatonic. He noted that maybe the drawdowns could keep the Zebra Mussels from becoming established as he believes that veligers (planktonic larval stage Zebra Mussels) may already be in Candlewood, and that they may not have been able to get established. A short question and answer period followed. The delegates thanked Mr. Nedeau and the meeting resumed at 9:06 PM.

Mrs. Schaer noted that the Finance Committee had met and they had discussed a budget proposal for 2011-2012. They decided to recommend to the Board a proposed budget figure the same as last year's approved amount of \$60,514.34 per town including donations in the proposed total budget amount. Discussion followed. Mrs. Schaer noted that the insurance premium split between Admin and Public Safety had changed due to the CIRMA premiums so the amount added to Admin (Line #113) was subtracted from Public Safety (Line #313). John Hodge made a motion to accept the proposed total budget of \$421,708.00 (including donations of 50,000) which would be \$61,514.34 per town, motion seconded by Jerry Murphy and voted with all in favor. Budget proposal has been approved by the delegates and will be submitted to the Towns in a timely manner.

Executive Director's Report: Larry Marsicano noted that his report is attached to these minutes and that a presentation on milfoil research by Dr. Tom Lonergan at WCSU was taking place on December 9th and open to the public.

Public Education Director's Report: Mark Howarth noted that his report is attached to these minutes.

Committee Reports:

Public Safety: Rich Stroh, Committee Chair, had nothing to report.

Public Awareness: In the absence of the Committee Chair, there was nothing to report.

Equipment/Facilities: Ed Siergiej, Committee Chair, had nothing to report.

Watershed Management: Harold Mayer, Committee Chair had nothing to report except he will be meeting with Northeast Utilities on December 9th about Candlewood Mountain and Vaughn's neck and the possibility of an easement.

Old/New Business:

Mr. Berger advised that the CLA needs to educate the public on the drawdown, milfoil and now zebra mussels. It appears that FirstLight may not be able to meet the parameters of an effective deep drawdown this year; CLA should be advised by mid-December. New Fairfield has commissioned a study on the effects on the littoral zone by effective deep drawdowns. Is this the time for this study if an effective deep drawdown may not be done?

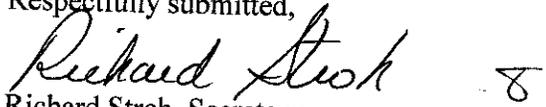
The Invasive Species Sub Committee will hold its first meeting next Wednesday – it is composed of leaders in the Environmental Community and should have a report for the next CLA meeting.

Mr. Berger advised that the health and well being of the lake is the responsibility of the CLA which sometimes may not be popular. The CLA has to stand up for the lake, all delegates need to react to motivate others to go there and protect this lake.

Mr. Cioffi noted that the milfoil needs to be eradicated or the lake will become a swamp it may take a couple hundred years but it could happen. Discussion followed. A letter will be drafted to FirstLight for the CEO's of the towns outlining the parameters of an effective drawdown noting that the 5 towns support this. It will be sent to Mr. Hodge and he will disseminate to the other CEO's.

With no further business to come before the Candlewood Lake Authority, Mr. Hodge moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Mayer. Meeting adjourned at 9:50 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,


Richard Stroh, Secretary
Frances Frattini, Administrative Coordinator

r/b/s

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 December 2, 2010 Larry Marsicano

The following report summarizes activities November 2, 2010 to December 2, 2010.

EDUCATION

In October I reported on a meeting with the New Fairfield Senior Environment Corps who expressed interest in expanding their role around Candlewood Lake. At that time I proposed investigating opportunities to get them Project WET-certified so they can provide educational programming to elementary school level students. On November 9th we met with Susan Quincy of the CT DEP at the Kellogg Center to discuss opportunities. Ms. Quincy was very supportive and helpful in the development of a plan that included two days of training. We are meeting again with NFSEC on December 7th to discuss the plan.

WATERSHED

Gary Dufel and I visited the residence at Shady Knolls to provide comment on a proposed

STORMDRAIN MARKING

Weekend of November 13th CLA Staff and Delegates participated in the stormdrain marking program in the Town of Sherman. A status report has been submitted to the Connecticut Federation of Lakes who provided seed money for the project at our request.

ZEBRA MUSSELS

As noted last month, a zebra mussel seminar was planned and scheduled for November 15th.

The program was well-received and well attended (reportedly over 130). The presentations of all three presenters are available on the website as are websites of others who have worked on this issue. Since that time the CLA's Invasive Species Subcommittee has been working on development of a Task Force to address this problem. The first meeting of the task force is tentatively scheduled for December 15th. In addition, CWI's Jim McAlister organized a informational meeting for local residents and other guests to discuss the issue. Phyllis and Mark attended.

EURASIAN WATERMILFOIL / WEEVILS

We have been developing a pseudo-real time database to track lake level and other factors during the drawdown period. Howie has been working on using that data to provide on our website a visual representation of daily lake level, temperature, rainfall, Housatonic discharge, etc for the public. That should be available in the near term.

We were able to access the weed mapping GIS data in efforts to analyze how much, approximately, would be exposed during deep drawdown. This map will be come available to the public once the Technical Committee reviews the report and data from the CT Agricultural Experiment Station who performs the mapping for FirstLight.

We received a 2010 Progress Report of the Milfoil Solution ® (weevil) Program in Candlewood Lake from EnviroScience and preliminary data from Dr. Wagener from WCSU on student research this summer. Dr. Wagener, Dr. Marko (Concordia College, WI) held a conference call on December 2nd to discuss the findings and collectively develop an approach for next season. This includes continued monitoring of the new site in Patrol Cove and attempting to culture weevils at WCSU.

We received and other members of the Drawdown Technical Committee received email from FirstLight informing us on their decision to conduct deep drawdown. The CT DEP requested formal consultation meeting which was held on December 1st in Hartford, CT. Highlights included concerns that a formal consultation was not sought particularly in light of the study announced by New Fairfield and partially funded by FirstLight. It was also revealed that the timing of the deep drawdown this winter has not yet been determined, and there is corporate / market pressure to reach the target depth by mid January or later, rather than earlier in the month (by January 7th) as we had requested to improve on the effectiveness of the drawdown. The TC plans on holding a conference call meeting once it has been able to examine the proposed scope of the proposed study.

A presentation on results from ongoing milfoil research in Dr. Tom Lonergan's lab is scheduled for December 9th.

BUDGET

Danbury held its annual budget meeting on November 18th where Mayor Boughton discussed the economic status of the City. We received budget packets via email. Some modifications have been made to including requiring that the budget be submitted by December 20th.

The Finance Committee on the 17th to work on the budget and a meeting with auditor was held on the 30th to discuss the audit.

PUBLIC SAFETY

We have been working CLAMP Chief Yedowitz to develop list of items for discussion with the CTDEP as it pertains to new MOA. A letter was drafted and sent to municipal officials regarding our concerns with current MOA. We received legal research on carrying and using batons, OC spray, and handcuffs. Howie and I met with Attorney Ted Backer on November 30th to discuss actions going forward.

OTHER

As a member of the CFL and as Director of the CLA I've been asked to participate in a task force on the development of a Seawall manual. Our first conference call was held on 18th.

Fran's birthday falls on the same day of our meeting!



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December 8, 2010
Public Education
Mark Howarth

CandlewoodNews:

The November Special Issue of the CandlewoodNews, detailing the events of the dragon boat races, was sent out to our email list.

Science at Night:

We cosponsored another Science at Night Seminar with Western Connecticut State University on November 15th. Of the four we've cosponsored, this was our best-attended Science at Night seminar with over 130 participants filling the lecture hall. Feedback from those who attended found our three speakers (Nancy Balcom – CT Sea Grant, Peter Arrestad – CT DEP Inland Fisheries, Ethan Nedeau – Biodiversity) to be very knowledgeable and informative.

Zebra Mussels:

CWI Meeting:

On Wednesday, December 1st, a group of concerned citizens, other professionals (FLPR and HVA) as well as Phyllis and I, organized by Jim McAlister, met to open dialogue on how to address this Zebra Mussel issue. Jim mentioned that this meeting was planned as a one-time meeting. It served largely to pull together some individuals who had been communicating regularly via email about the Zebra Mussels since the Science at Night Presentation, raise questions, discuss the issues and introduce ideas for possible courses of action. The CLA Invasives Subcommittee will be informed of the information and ideas shared at this meeting and welcomes input as we move forward.

CLA Invasives Subcommittee

We have been working hard to quickly organize a subcommittee to deal with the Zebra Mussel issue, in response to their October discovery in Lakes Zoar and Lillinonah. We have assembled a group of approximately 15 members, which cover a wide range of backgrounds and valuable areas of input. We have been researching prevention and control strategies used by other lakes, agencies and states to help us as we prepare our own plan. Our first meeting is planned for December with three more meetings,

which we hope to complete by February/March to have a plan of action in place for spring.

Website Changes:

Our website redesign will begin with a new home page and section on milfoil and other invasive species and over time we will continue to update and change other areas of the site to provide more information and improve the layout, navigation and delivery of the information on the site to make it more effective and user-friendly. I will be doing the design work on this upgrade as well and have been taking a course to improve my knowledge of web-design.