



CANDLEWOOD LAKE AUTHORITY

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

Minutes of Regular Meeting December 12, 2012

Attending:

H. Berger	Sherman
E. Hayes	Sherman
P. Schaer	Sherman
H. Mayer	New Milford
C. Robinson	Danbury
E. Siergiej	Danbury
D. Rosemark	Danbury
J. Murphy	Brookfield
W. Lohan	Brookfield
N. Gyle	New Fairfield (left at 8:30PM)
J. Hodge	New Fairfield

Absent:

M Toussaint	New Milford
B. Kemble	New Fairfield

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

Recorder: E. Siergiej

Guests: J & S. Wodarski, New Milford
M. Propper, Danbury
K. Lynch, Sherman

Howie Berger, Chairman, called the regular meeting of the Candlewood Lake Authority to order at 7:38 P.M. at Brookfield Town Hall, Brookfield, CT. He welcomed the guests. He noted that Frank Cioffi of Brookfield has resigned as a delegate and wished to spread upon these minutes a 'Thank You' for all the work he has done as the Clean Up boat coordinator over the years and his other contributions to the CLA.

Mr. Berger noted the items that would be taken up this evening are:

- Budget deductions, contributions
- Watershed and drawdown
- Tools for milfoil control
- Lake Advisory Committee
- Public Awareness new online store

RECEIVED AND FILED
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
DANBURY, CONN.

DEC 17 2012

at 12:55 pm o'clock Map# _____

Town Clerk

- Microsoft Office 365
- Election of officers
-

Secretary's Report: Ed Siergiej, Secretary, noted there were no corrections to the minutes of the November meeting and asked for a motion to accept the minutes of the November 14, 2012 meeting, moved by Jerry Murphy, seconded by Harold Mayer and voted with all in favor. John Hodge abstained. Minutes accepted as written.

Vice Chairman's Report: In the absence of the Vice Chairman there was no report.

Treasurer's Report: Phyllis Schaer, Treasurer reported that she will be meeting with the auditor next week on finalizing the audit.

Mr. Berger reported on how the 2012/13 budget deductions were arrived at by taking a look at all the committees' expenses and with fundraising the amounts reduced should be able to be returned to the budget this fiscal year.

With that he reported that the Finance Committee and Executive Committee had met and the proposed 2013/2014-budget request will be \$421,638.00 (\$64,542/town.), which is \$500 less than requested last year. This amount will leave a deficit of around \$36,000 which the CLA should be able to recoup through fundraising. Phyllis Schaer moved to accept the proposed 2013/2014 budget of \$421,638.00, seconded by Harold Mayer. Discussion followed. Mrs. Schaer noted that the CLA provides a service that helps the economics of all the Towns. Mr. Siergiej reported that he had spoken with the Finance Director of Danbury who would like to meet with the CLA to see if they may help in some budget areas. It was noted that a possible audit every two years instead of annually with an outside review every other year could reduce this annual cost. With no further discussion the motion was voted with all in favor. Motion carried and the proposed budget request will be sent to the Towns in a timely manner. John Hodge noted that the Town of New Fairfield may be able to help us get better prices for gas.

Mark Howarth reported that the annual appeal letter was sent out last week and it was reported that around two thousand dollars has been received as of today.

Public Safety: Jerry Murphy reported that the Lake Patrol had a very successful year. Also there was no fall event and there will possibly be one in the spring.

Ed Hayes reported that they had received a revised swim area application from a resident of Orchard Rest Road in Sherman and after review it was noted that the committee would recommend that it be approved. A copy of the application will be sent to the delegates for discussion at the January meeting.

Howie Berger reported on PA 12-167 – Inspection of Vessels and Vessel Trailers for Invasive Species, noting that as a boating law the Lake Patrol Officers may be able to include this in their boat inspections. He noted the possibility of seeking a grant for funding for ramp monitors to inspect boats at the State Launch ramps.

Equipment/Facilities: Ed Siergiej, Committee Chair reported that it was a very good year; nothing broke. Equipment is all buttoned up for winter.

Mr. Berger reported that the CLA computer server is having problems and suggests that the CLA move to the Cloud Based Microsoft Office 365 – this will save money and not require hardware on site. It also includes the current software and 24/7 online tech support.

Public Awareness: Howie Berger noted that Mrs. Schaer did a good job with the billboards last season and she will be doing so again for 2013 – Mr. Schaer noted that the DEEP may wish to partner with the CLA on this.

Mark Howarth, Public Education Director, gave a presentation on the CLA Online store showing the Candlewood Lake merchandise for sale on the CLA website. Mr. Berger thanked Mr. Howarth for all his work on the site and merchandise. Anyone willing to help out at the office for shipping should contact him.

Mr. Berger reported on the Zebra Mussel Task Force meeting wherein it was noted that the FirstLight representative stated that this might be the last year of the drawdown because of the increase in blue green algae. The CLA wonders what is the basis of this determination. FirstLight has pointed to Dr. Knoecklein's report as the basis. Discussion followed. It was also noted that the drawdown this year has been delayed due to the work on the penstock that was just completed and is being tested. FirstLight noted that they should have the lake down to shallow drawdown level by the end of December and to deep drawdown depth by mid January – they do not know the duration that it will remain down. Discussion on an effective deep drawdown based on historical data followed and it was noted that this will again be publicized. John Hodge noted that Dr. Knoecklein's report contained zero conclusions but many questions. Mr. Marsicano noted that he spoke with Dr. Knoecklein to clarify his analysis, i.e. is it drawdowns driving the water quality trends or can it be land use as there was no conclusive evidence in the report. Based on the above discussion, a number of questions arose that Mr. Berger will ask FirstLight. Mr. Marsicano noted that the Technical Committee had a conference call in October recommending the "Deep Drawdown", advising that it needs to be down by late December to early January and the duration was to be discussed internally by FirstLight and reported back to the Technical Committee. He learned that in a local news article, the committee was not advised.

Watershed Management: Committee Chair, Harold Mayer had nothing to report

Mr. Berger reported that other methods to control Milfoil have been looked into including weed harvesters, chemicals and grass carp. These measures can run from fifty to one hundred thousand dollars. The CLA will discuss which solutions to recommend at the January meeting and how to fund it.

Mr. Berger advised that the attorney for the residents with the dock at 59 Ta'gan Point has filed a response to the CLA letter to FERC noting that the CLA took a position of one homeowner over another –this is about the structure as it applies to the rules on Candlewood. We are still waiting for FERC to reply.

He also noted that he heard that the SMP may be finalized in early 2013.

Mr. Marsicano reported that the Bureau of Reclamation will fund Dr Kelly's research out West but that the DEEP is very interested in trying it here at Laurel Brook; they are looking into how to proceed.

Mr. Marsicano distributed a buffer garden tri-fold that was part of an Eagle Scout project – these will be at the kiosk at the buffer Garden in Sherman. These were paid for by donations that the scout raised for his project. He also noted the inclusion of Candlewood Lake and CLA in a recent WCSU magazine. Lastly, he noted the passing of Ernie Krubsack from Sherman, a friend of the CLA and the Lake.

Any and All Business:

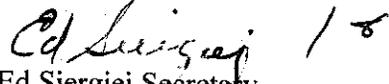
Election of officers of the coming year

Ballots and instructions on election procedure were passed and Mrs. Frattini asked for nominations from the floor. With none, Mark Howarth was appointed counter. Ballots were cast and then collected by Mr. Howarth, tallied and he returned ballots to Mrs. Frattini who announced that with a unanimous decision the officers for the coming year would be:

Chairman	Howie Berger
Vice Chairman	Mark Toussaint
Secretary	Ed Siergiej
Treasurer	Phyllis Schaer

With no further business to come before the Candlewood Lake Authority, Chris Robinson moved to adjourn, seconded by Phyllis Schaer.
Meeting adjourned at 9:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,


Ed Siergiej Secretary
Frances Frattini, Administrative Coordinator

r/b/lm

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 5, 2012
Larry Marsicano***

The following report summarizes activities of November 9, 2012 to December 5, 2012.

DELEGATE RETIRING

We received a copy of a letter from Brookfield Delegate Frank Cioffi to Brookfield First Selectman Davidson that he was resigning from his seat as Brookfield Delegate, and that he enjoyed the time he served on the Board. Frank has been a delegate since May of 1997, serving for almost 15 years. He has served on a variety of committee most recently on Public Safety and has been a key coordinator of the John Marsicano Memorial Candlewood Lake Clean Up since its inception in 1999 when he, John Marsicano and I organized the first events.

With Frank's retirement, we will be two delegates down from a full roster: one from Brookfield and one from New Milford.

INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT

The CLA's Zebra Mussel Task Force / Invasive Species Subcommittee met on November 16th to discuss developments pertaining to zebra mussels in local waters and to begin discussions of Eurasian watermilfoil in Candlewood. Meetings will be held in January to continue discussions on milfoil and in February to follow up on zebra mussels.

As reported last month, Dr. Kelly's proposal was partially accepted, i.e. he would receive funds to conduct his experiment in BOR facilities in Colorado. I discussed this with the CT DEEP who has since expressed interest in funding a parallel study in New England provided we can develop service contract with the BOR for Dr. Kelly's time, develop a definitive study plan, address permitting issues, etc. Work to address these issues has been ongoing. CT DEEP is also producing an addendum to the Task Force's Finding and Recommendations Report (2011) on options available to address the recruitment of zebra mussels.

We continue our work analyzing samples collected over the spring and summer from Lakes Candlewood, Lillinonah and Zoar. Analyses could be completed by the end of the month. Results to date indicate that much of the recruitment of veligers from upstream sources occurred early in the season, e.g. May and June (see Figure 1).

We received the 2012 Progress Report from EnviroScience on the weevil stocking experiments in Candlewood Lake. In their recommendations EnviroScience stated, "At this time, additional

weevil stocking is not recommended as part of the management plan due to the increase in observed milfoil growth and density in 2012.”

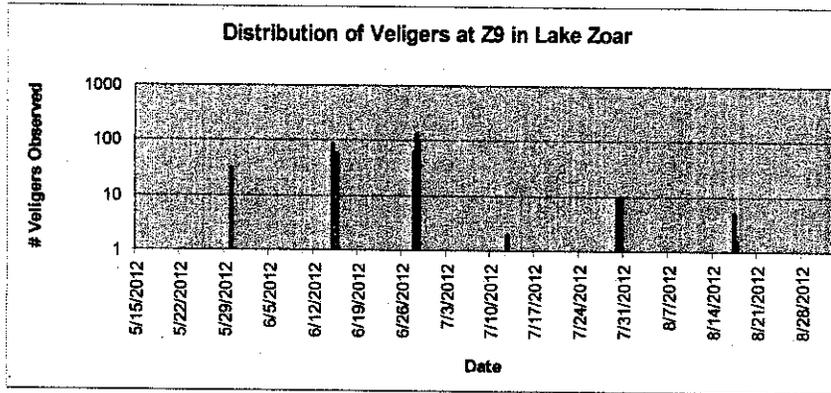


Figure 1. Distribution of observations of zebra mussel veligers at one site in Lake Zoar from May thru August in 2012. Note the logarithmic scale for # Veligers Observed.

FIRSTLIGHT POWER RESOURCES / FERC

On November 19, 2012 a letter was filed by a local attorney representing the property owners at 59 Ta’agan Point Road in Danbury, where the large L-shaped dock exists. The letter states that the CLA is attempting to *tortuously interfere with the relationship between our clients and FirstLight Power Resources*. I was directed and have since submitted an additional letter to FERC clarifying our position and re-emphasizing our request that FERC provide guidance on this project before it compounds environmental and user conflict issues on Candlewood Lake.

Comments on the draft minutes of the Lake Advisory Committee meeting held on October 17, 2012 were drafted and sent to FirstLight and the members of the LAC on December 4, 2012. Focus of our comments were:

- Closing of the main dam area to the public / public information on lake levels
- Dock at 59 Ta’agan Point Road and Land Use Issues
- Emergency Management

A copy of our comments is available upon request.

LAND USE

We received from Town of New Fairfield for our review and comments revised site plans for 91 Lake Drive South in New Fairfield for extensive work below the 440 including shed, ~40 foot long by 10 foot high retaining wall retaining wall at the 428 contour to be backfilled for a ~10X40 foot gravel patio laid over a permeable bed, fixed pier, additional docks, etc. It is unclear if a Letter of Filing Consent has been issued. We had commented unfavorable on the

first set of plans we received in November because of the scale of the project and disturbance involved. New plans have been scanned and emailed to Gary Dufel who volunteers his time for Watershed Committee to help review such plans.

PUBLIC SAFETY

We received a revised application for swim area permit from Kevin Lynch of 27 Orchard Rest, Sherman. Plans were scanned and emailed to Chairs of Public Safety for review.

WATER QUALITY

On November 28th I participated in an open meeting to discuss P.A. 12-155 AN ACT CONCERNING PHOSPHORUS REDUCTIONS IN STATE WATERS and nonpoint phosphorus source reduction at CT DEEP Offices in Hartford. A second meeting was held on December 6th and addressed the Public Act as it pertains to point sources of phosphorus. Presentations provided at both events can be found at www.ct.gov/dep/cwp/view.asp?a=2719&q=474130&depNav_GID=1654.

We have received all of the water quality data for 2012. While water quality was not the poorest in our ~30 year database, it was clearly in the group of poor water quality years (see Figure 2 and 3). Water quality in Candlewood should be considered in the context of long-term shifts (see Figure 4).

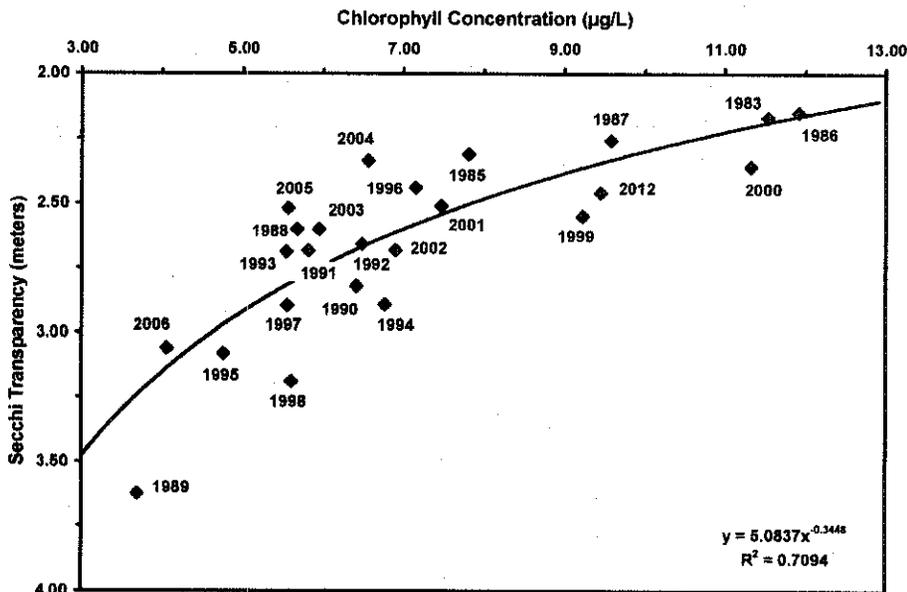


Figure 2. Regression analysis of Candlewood Lake Secchi Transparency vs Chlorophyll Concentration from 1983 thru 2006 and 2012.

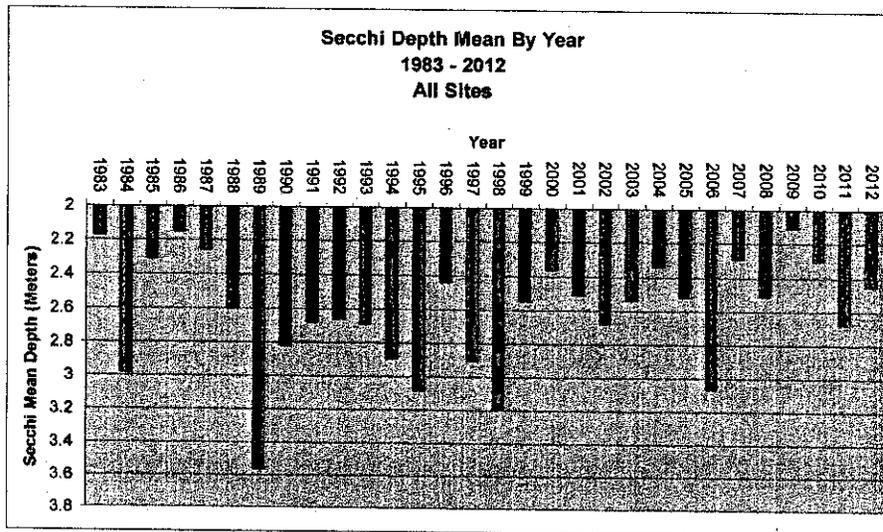


Figure 3. Mean Secchi Disk Transparency in Candlewood Lake based on data collected from 1983 at four sites monthly from May thru October.

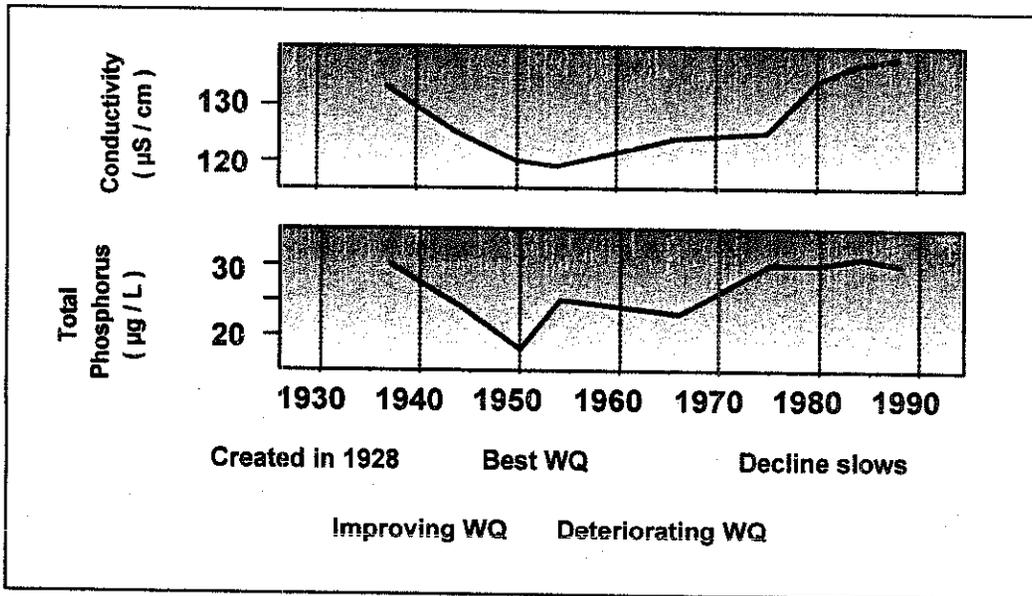


Figure 4. Historical water quality in Candlewood Lake based on paleolimnological reconstruction of total phosphorus and conductivity using scaled chrysophytes chronologically layered in lake sediment.



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December 12, 2012
Public Education
Mark Howarth

Appeal Letter:

Our 2012 written appeal has been printed and mailed out. This year we have added the option to allow people to donate via credit card through an online donation system, found on the Candlewood Lake Authority website. No longer do people have to call in to us to make a donation using their credit card.

Online Store:

We have produced (and are still producing) a number of new items which will be for sale on our online store. We have received stock in two different styles of coffee mugs and are expecting in (any day) stock in sweatshirts (two styles and designs) as well as several styles of long sleeved t-shirts for both men and women, with different designs on each.

All of the items we have in have been photographed and uploaded to the store, with final back end details being finished up at the moment. We plan to be "live" and open to the public by the time the CLA meeting takes place.