



CANDLEWOOD LAKE AUTHORITY

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

Minutes of Regular Meeting April 10, 2013

Attending:

H. Berger	Sherman
P. Schaer	Sherman
E. Hayes	Sherman
J. Hodge	New Fairfield
N. Gyle	New Fairfield
B. Kemble	New Fairfield
M Toussaint	New Milford (7:45PM)
H. Mayer	New Milford
J. Wodarski	New Milford
C. Robinson	Danbury
E. Siergiej	Danbury
J. Murphy	Brookfield
W. Lohan	Brookfield

Absent:

D. Rosemark Danbury

L. Marsicano, CLA Executive Director
M. Howarth, CLA Public Education Director
F. Frattini, CLA Administrative Coordinator
D. Vane, Chief of CLA Marine Patrol

Recorder: E. Siergiej

Guests: G. Linkletter, Sherman
 J. Farley, Brookfield

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TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
DANBURY, CONN.

APR 15 2013

at 3:53pm o'clock Mon # _____

Town Clerk

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. He welcomed the guests.

Secretary's Report: Ed Siergiej, Secretary, noted there were no corrections to the minutes of the March special meeting, Harold Mayer moved that the minutes of the March 18, 2013 special meeting be accepted as written, seconded by Ed Hayes and voted with all in favor and Norma Gyle abstained. Motion carried, minutes accepted.

Chairman's Report: Mr. Berger reported that his report would be covered under the other meeting reports. He did note that at this meeting the CLA would go through the SMP in depth, as it is the most important document to help govern the lake.

Vice Chairman's Report: In the absence of the Vice Chairman there was nothing to report.

Treasurer's Report: Phyllis Schaer, Treasurer, asked if there were any questions on the Report of Income and Expenses for the month ended March 31, 2013. Mr. Hodge asked if there

was a possible deficit for this fiscal year – Mrs. Schaer advised that based on additional income from grants, donations and sale of merchandise the Authority should end the year cash positive. With no other questions, Jerry Murphy moved to accept the Treasurer’s Report of Income and Expenses for the month ended March 31, 2013 be accepted presented, motion seconded by Harold Mayer and voted with all in favor. Treasurer’s Report of Income and Expenses for the month ended March 31, 2013 has been accepted and filed for audit.

Mr. Berger noted that the Authority had submitted to the CEO’s of the five Towns a proposed budget based on appropriations of \$50,000 per town for the next fiscal year – this was sent to them several weeks ago. He also noted that the Executive Committee tried to answer the question “If the CLA does not do the job, who can?” Other than the overlap of the Lake Patrol and the DEEP there are very few overlaps, the Goals and Accomplishments does give some clarification to what the CLA does and how it operates. Should it be necessary to adopt the budget based on the reduced appropriations, it will be brought to the delegates for a vote. The Towns should realize the benefit of what the CLA provides and they should support the budget requests of the CLA, it is unwarranted for such drastic cuts. There was no comment by the Town delegates on the budget cuts from their respective Towns.

Executive Director’s Report: Mr. Marsicano noted that his report is attached to these minutes. He then advised that he would be giving two presentations – one on Water Quality History of Candlewood Lake and the other on the recently approved SMP. The FERC order to modify and approve the SMP had recently been issued. FERC found multiple deficiencies with the SMP FirstLight proposed in 2009 including: overcrowding on Candlewood Lake, Protection and re-establishing shoreline vegetation, seawall and erosion control measures, and credits for pump-out facilities. It was noted that a number of reports are required by FirstLight and on most of them FERC requires that the reports be submitted to the DEEP and CLA for comment prior to submission to FERC. The SMP also noted that the responsibility of Licensee with regards to weed management needs to be explored. Discussion of the SMP followed.

Mr. Marsicano gave a presentation on a Water Quality History of Candlewood Lake noting that over the last thirty years things have not changed that much but that is not to be interpreted as “things are OK” and that is why the CLA has sought the expertise of WCSU and CT College for a statistical analysis of the data to help to determine if there are trends and how this effects the future of the lake. Discussion followed – questions discussed – what effect do septic systems have on the water quality, what of the nutrients from the sediments vs. the nutrients from runoff and other external watershed issues? Is the lake going toxic? Will the CLA say that the lake is not going toxic? Before the CLA can answer this question they will wait for the statistical analysis. What will the CLA do if the worst case occurs?

Mr. Berger advised that there would be a meeting of the 5 Town CEO's and the CLA scheduled for sometime next week – the CEO’s have called the meeting

If FirstLight does discontinue the deep drawdown what will the Authority recommend for control of the milfoil – discussion followed. Ed Hayes made a motion that in the next three months have presentations each month including the pros and cons on the three methods to control milfoil – 1. Chemicals, 2. Harvesters and 3. Grass Carp to be presented by an independent third party, seconded by Ed Siergiej and voted with all in favor.

Mr. Berger advised that at the Executive Committee last week they had discussed recommending that there be no Clean Up in 2013, discussion followed. Mr. Berger moved that the CLA would not have the Clean Up in 2013, seconded by Mrs. Gyle and voted with all in favor. The Clean Up has been canceled for 2013.

Phyllis Schaer made a motion that the CLA participate in the DEEP Boat Length program for the boats that are grandfathered, seconded by Jerry Murphy and voted with all in favor. Motion carried.

Public Education Director and Public Awareness:

The report of Mark Howarth, Public Education Director, is attached to these minutes. He advised that he had set up online registration for the Safe Boating Class and it worked very well, the new email news he has been sending has been a good communication tool for the Authority and finally he showed the proposed sponsorship tri-fold for the Dragon Boat race and this year will include Project CLEAR. Public Awareness committee has been discussing potential sponsors and how to get information out to the Town Boards and Councils. He advised that he might have an Eagle Scout candidate who may be willing to take on the project of building Zebra Mussel motels. CLA has received a three thousand dollar grant from the DEEP for a zebra mussel outreach campaign this year. Mrs. Schaer reported that there will be Billboards again this year and they will include Milfoil as well as Zebra Mussels, these will be done in conjunction with the DEEP. Mr. Marsicano advised that the DEEP has committed five thousand dollars for a study plan and twenty thousand dollars for field testing of CO2 in Laurel Brook to control the spread of Zebra Mussels.

Public Safety: Ed Hayes, Co-Chair, reported that Joe Wodarski has joined the committee. He advised that he had some policy changes that he would like the delegates to review before the next meeting. He was asked if the Lake Patrol officers would be willing to be proactive regarding zebra mussels by asking any PWC's where they had been (What other body of water had they been on) – the officers will need to be trained in Zebra Mussel inspections.

Equipment/Facilities: Ed Siergiej, Committee Chair reported that the buoys are going in. There was some damage to the workboat that will need to be repaired before the fall when buoys need to be taken out. Radio tune-ups on the boats have been deferred and will only be done if necessary. There are no reserve buoys and we will try to make due with what is available. The boat donation looks like it is going to be a very good deal, as it should sell for more than a few thousand dollars.

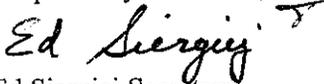
Watershed Management: did not meet in March.

Any and All Business:

Mr. Berger made a motion that when the delegates meet with the Town CEO's the CLA will present the work on Water Quality presented tonight and the work on the budget reallocation, including the graph showing the changes from administration to the various committees and also include fundraising, volunteer time and the patrol, seconded by Harold Mayer and voted with all in favor. Motion carried.

With no further business to come before the Candlewood Lake Authority, Norma Gyle moved to adjourn, seconded by Harold Mayer. Meeting adjourned at 9:53 P. M.

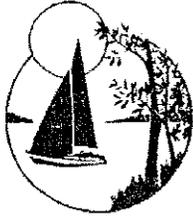
Respectfully submitted,



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

April 8, 2013

Larry Marsicano

The following report summarizes activities of March 11, 2013 to April 8, 2013.

Invasive Species Management – Eurasian Watermilfoil and Zebra Mussels

The Technical Committee for the Nuisance Plant Monitoring Plan per Article 409 in the FERC license met on March 27th. Presentations and discussion took place on regarding reports on the milfoil mapping by the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station during the summer of 2012 and on zebra mussel monitoring by Biodiversity for FirstLight.

The CLA's Invasive Species Subcommittee / Zebra Mussel Task Force met on April 3rd. Topics of discussion included last year's and next year's monitoring and outreach efforts, work with Kevin Kelly, Eurasian watermilfoil, drawdowns, water quality, grass carp, and blue-green algae.

Water Quality

Our work on analyses of water quality in Candlewood Lake is underway. In addition to WCSU, Dr. Peter Siver of Connecticut College has expressed interest in the study. Dr. Siver was one of the co-authors of the peer-reviewed paper published in the mid-1990s on water quality trends in Candlewood Lake and is considered by many as one of the leading researchers in the State on water quality of lakes.

FirstLight / FERC

On March 27th FERC issued an Order to Modify and Approve the Shoreline Management Plan. Modifications requested by FERC were to address areas in the proposed SMP considered vague or deficient. Those included recreational boating overcrowding, shoreline buffer protection, and seawall permitting. For these three issues FERC has required FirstLight to prepare more concrete plans within defined periods of time (6 to 12 months) or are required to prepare annual reports, all of which will be reviewed by the CLA and/or CT DEEP, with comments addressed by FirstLight prior to submittal to FERC.

CLA Budget Proposal

We were requested by Mayor Patricia Murphy to prepare a budget which would be based on appropriations of \$50,000 dollars from each town vs. the \$64,400 which was our request earlier this year for the 2013/2014 Fiscal Year. A letter with explanation on how we might try to operate within those constraints was emailed to the five CEO's on Thursday, March 28th along with a copy of the recent report on "CLA Achievements and Goals."

Several days earlier (March 25th), I had sent the five CEO's an email offering to meet with them when they next meet to discuss the water quality of Candlewood Lake. No invitation was returned to meet with them, only a reminder that they were anticipating a revised budget based on \$50,000 dollars by Mayor Boughton.

Project CLEAR

The first meeting of the Project CLEAR students is scheduled to occur on April 9th at the CT DEEP's Kellogg Center in Derby, CT. I will be moderating a panel discussion on the value of the data students have been / will be collecting. Panelists will include professionals from state government or private consultants who do environmental research.

Vessel Donation

We are planning for the appraisal of the boat for some time during the week of April 8th.

Vaughn's Neck

On April 5th I met with Dr. Neeta Connally from WCSU who teaches the Environmental Applications of GIS and Hunter Brawley to plan the trip for her class to visit Vaughn's Neck and map with GPS points of interest that might be used to develop a public trail. I have informed the representatives from NU who we discuss Vaughn's Neck with of these plans.

Committee Meetings

Executive Committee met on April 3rd.



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April 10, 2013
Public Education
Mark Howarth

Online Safe Boating Registration:

The Marine Patrol decided to offer to teach a safe boating course in New Fairfield at the Knolls Clubhouse. In the past, registration and payment was a manual system. This year we were able to utilize our online donation system to create a product (safe boating course registration) and offer that for sale online. The system can be set with a date for the offering to end and it also allows for you to set the inventory, so we were able to offer the 50 class spaces we had, without worrying about overselling.

The public was instructed to register online either directly through a link in an email or our website, which then allowed them to register single or multiple people for the course. They would pay online as well and receive tickets via email that they print and bring with them to the course. The information for each person who registers is sent to us via email by the system.

This has streamlined the process of registering for the courses and eliminated the time we needed to be involved registering participants as well. The course sold out last week already.

Email News:

We expanded the use of our new email-marketing program to better communicate with the users and residents of Candlewood Lake. We created subject-specific informational emails on current topics. For instance, we sent out an email about what we do on the CLA, which included a survey that users could take and submit, which many people responded to. We also sent out an email about spring lawn care and the new CT law pertaining to phosphorous in fertilizer, as well as announcing the Candlewood Watershed Initiative's Soil Testing Day.

Sponsors:

We did the design work for the 2013 dual sponsor tri-folds. These will be printed up in anticipation for finding sponsors for our events this year.