



CANDLEWOOD LAKE AUTHORITY

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

Minutes of Regular Meeting March 12, 2014

Attending:

H. Berger	Sherman
P. Schaer	Sherman
E. Hayes	Sherman
N. Gyle	New Fairfield
M. Toussaint	New Milford
J. Wodarski	New Milford
J. Murphy	Brookfield
W. Lohan	Brookfield
D. Rosemark	Danbury
C. Robinson	Danbury

Absent:

B. Kemble	New Fairfield
J. Hodge	New Fairfield
E. Siergiej	Danbury
B. Brown	Brookfield
H. Mayer	New Milford

L. Marsicano, CLA Executive Director
M. Howarth, Public Education Director

Recorder: M. Toussaint

Guests: M. Propper, Danbury

RECEIVED FOR RECORD
DANBURY TOWN CLERK

2014 MAR 17 P 2:39

BY: 

Phyllis Schaer, Chairman, called the regular meeting of the Candlewood Lake Authority to order at 7:34 P.M. at Brookfield Town Hall, Brookfield, CT. She welcomed the guest.

Secretary's Report: Howie Berger, Secretary, noted there were no corrections to the minutes of the December meeting. Bill Lohan moved that the minutes of the December 14, 2013 meeting be accepted as written, seconded by Dan Rosemark and voted with all in favor. Motion carried, minutes accepted.

Chairman's Report: Mrs. Schaer as the new Chair of the CLA thanked Howie Berger for all his leadership and guidance as Chairman. Although meetings had been canceled she has been busy the past couple of months: she went to Hartford to speak on behalf of legislation and funding for Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS), a template letter was created to encourage residents to contact their legislators regarding this legislation, she and Mr. Marsicano attended the Northeast Aquatic Plant Management Society meeting, attended the HVCEO meeting and presented the Milfoil report. She reported that after this meeting she emailed Mr. Laudénat of First Light to confirm that they are in support of the use of stiplod grass carp for control of milfoil, he did confirm. She also was advised by Mr. Laudénat that their voluntary contribution will be the same as last year. She and Mr. Marsicano attended a Dept. of Public Health meeting regarding bluegreen algae blooms not only in Candlewood but across the state, noting the concern and discussing a warning system. She has also attended a number of budget hearings and noted that no decision has yet been determined – as this comes after the Towns have approved their budgets. Her focus has been to build better communications with all towns and FirstLight; she

has met with the CEO's of Danbury, Sherman and New Fairfield. State of the Lake meeting of lake community representatives will be on Saturday and volunteers are needed to help out. The Clean Up is scheduled for May 17th and discussion followed on its organization, planning and the need for volunteers. Mr. Marsicano will send the past boat captain list out to delegates so they can call volunteers from their own town.

Vice Chairman's Report: Mark Toussaint reported that the New Milford Budget hearing went well, they had a few questions that Mr. Marsicano is addressing and it looked to be a positive meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Bill Lohan, Treasurer, noted there were no questions on the Report of Income and Expenses for the months ended December 31, 2013, January 31, 2014 and February 28, 2014. With none, Bill Lohan moved to accept the Treasurer's Report of Income and Expenses for the months ended December 31, 2013, January 31, 2014 and February 28, 2014 as presented, motion seconded by Mark Toussaint and voted with all in favor. Treasurer's Report of Income and Expenses for months ended December 31, 2013, January 31, 2014 and February 28, 2014 has been accepted and filed for audit.

Discussion on the Audit for the year ended June 30, 2013 followed. Ms. Schaeer reported that the auditor noted in her report the cost-cutting measures that the CLA implemented. Bill Lohan moved to accept the Audit prepared by Fiorita, Kornhaas & Company for the year ended 6/30/2013 as presented. Seconded by Ed Hayes, and voted with all in favor. Motion carried and Audit will be forwarded to the Towns.

(Prior to this report the tape was practically inaudible)

Executive Director: Mr. Marsicano advised that his reports (January, February and March) are attached to these minutes. He noted that one of the questions from the New Milford Budget hearing was on the Capital Replacement line for \$6,000.00 – it was asked: “do you have a “plan” for replacement?” and he contacted Ed Siergiej who has provided him with the updated plan for equipment replacement. Copies of the BlueWater Satellite slides which were shared at the Dept of Health meeting are provided in the report. Connecticut has developed guidelines for Towns to close their beaches during an algae bloom. Vermont and Massachusetts seem to have taken the lead in Blue-Green algae regulations. He is presently reviewing a number of FERC plans created by FirstLight. He is working on the NEC-NALMS conference. He has spoken to legislators regarding funding for Invasive Species and has heard positively that funds will be recommended to be appropriated and Mr. Marsicano will be attending the Public Hearing on March 17th to present testimony in favor of the funding. Mr. Marsicano was asked to send out the letter templates to use to contact legislators regarding funding of AIS.

Committee Reports:

Public Safety: Jerry Murphy, Co-Chair, reported that the committee has not met and they will begin meeting later this month. Ed Hayes, Co-Chair, reported that recruitment had gone well and that Chief of Patrol Doug Vane was pleased with the results.

Public Awareness: Mark Toussaint, Co-Chair reported that the committee has been hard at work preparing for the “State of the Lake” meeting which will be held Saturday, March 15th at the Candlewood Isle Clubhouse. Registration is going well with 76 community representatives already signed up and more expected. Main focus is to reach out to communities and engage them in what the Authority does and also allow communities to discuss their concerns with each other.

Fundraising appeal has done well with over \$34,000 received to date.

Public Education Director: Mark Howarth, Public Education Director, advised that his reports are attached to these minutes. He asked for help for set up for the State of the Lake meeting on Saturday. He reported that he had taken an online course on developing a social media policy and he will get to work on creating the policy shortly. He is looking into branching out to Twitter for the CLA to reach a whole other audience.

Equipment/Facilities: In the absence of the committee Chairman, there was no report.

Watershed Management: In the absence of the committee Chairman there was not report. Mrs. Schaer did note that Watershed Management items were covered under other areas of the meeting.

Mrs. Schaer noted that she had advised FirstLight that the CLA's work can enhance what they need to do to meet their FERC license, CLA does a lot of the work for FirstLight that they are required to do under their license and the working relationship needs to be improved for all involved.

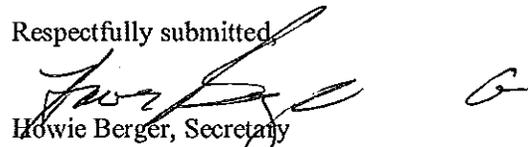
Any and All Business:

Mrs. Schaer advised that there are still outstanding balances from the Town of New Fairfield and from the City of Danbury and she has spoken to them about this. Discussion followed. Noting that payment of the appropriation is covered under the Town Ordinances.

Mrs. Schaer advised that in the future all reports of the CLA will be copyrighted.

With no further business to come before the Candlewood Lake Authority, Jerry Murphy moved to adjourn, seconded by Joe Wodarski. Meeting adjourned at 8:58 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,


Howie Berger, Secretary
Frances Frattini, Administrative Coordinator

r/b/lm&hb

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
March 10, 2014
Larry Marsicano***

The following report summarizes activities of January 30, 2014 to March 10, 2014.

Water Quality

Last month I reported that the CLA was cohosting, along with the CT DEEP and CT DPH, a forum on cyanobacteria / cyanotoxins. That forum was held on Wednesday, March 5th where the CLA also provided a Power Point presentation to attendees comprised of Health and Land Use Officials from surrounding towns, members of the three lake authorities, and representatives from FirstLight. The forum was very informative and well received. Connecticut is the last New England municipality to develop guidelines for beach closings due to cyanobacteria so we are able to learn from the efforts of the other New England States. Current State guidelines are based on visual observation of beach conditions. Three power point presentations will be available thru the Connecticut Federation of Lakes website (ctlakes.org) in the near future.

Time was invested this past month into the Blue Water Satellite data, upgrading the CLA's GIS software and displaying the data. Preliminary layouts are attached to this report and were shared with the attendees of the cyanobacteria forum. On Saturday, March 8th, I met with Kristen Ponak, a former intern who is now working with GEI Consultants, Inc. Kristen has considerable GIS skills and is inquiring of her company if she can work on this project with me without charge. In return, we will co-submit an abstract for a poster to be presented at the NEC-NALMS conference in June. See below for information on the conference.

FERC / FirstLight

On February 18th, Phyllis received an email from FirstLight with a draft Candlewood Lake Overcrowding Plan attached for our review per FERC's March 27, 2013 Order on the SMP. The note from FirstLight indicated we had until March 18th to provide comments. We have reviewed the plan and are developing comments.

The draft Vegetated Buffer Plan was reportedly provided within the contents of a Shoreline Management Manual for Homeowners to representatives of the Lake Advisory Committee in early November with a 30 day period to comment. We learned, not by FirstLight but by the CT DEEP, that a short extension of time to comment was being provided, which brought the deadline to provide comments to mid-December. As indicated in last month's report, FirstLight had requested an extension for its submittal to FERC of a Vegetated Buffer Plan to March 27th. On Wednesday, March 5th we learned thru the CT DEEP that a new updated draft of the Shoreline Management Manual for Homeowners / Vegetated Buffer Plan was available and had been provided to the CT DEEP for review. We followed up with FirstLight to ask for the revised plan on March 5th. As of March 10th, we have not yet seen that revised draft document and it appears we will only have a couple of weeks to review it rather than required 30 days. Phyllis discussed this with Richard Laudenat who said we should soon be receiving the revised report in a computer file format.

Invasive Species Management

On February 20th, Phyllis and I attended the HVCEO meeting where we provided a Power Point presentation on the work CLA had done looking at options for milfoil management, which culminated in the board's approval of applying for a permit contingent upon support from the municipalities. The presentation was well received. Phyllis did an excellent job. An article in the News-Times resulted (attached).

Several weeks ago we contacted Mike Freeze of Keo Fish Farm, one of the largest providers of triploid grass carp (TGC) in the country and located in Arkansas. I advised Mr. Freeze of tentative plans to stock Candlewood with TGCs and that the original numbers of fish we could stock would change depending on acres of milfoil mapped in the lake. Our 2013 pricing for 8,000 10-12" TGC for 500 acres of milfoil was \$5.55 each. If only half of that many TGC were needed (4,000) because only 250 acres of milfoil were mapped, then prices may be as high as \$6.35 each largely because of transportation costs. That could be reduced if, e.g., our shipment was combined with the shipment of TGC for another client.

I assisted in training of WCSU students to analyze samples for the zebra mussel veliger monitoring project on Friday, February 28th and Friday, March 7th. I trained and am working with a local New Milford student who is analyzing samples. On March 7th we participated in a conference call, along with Dr. Kevin Kelly and representatives from Praxair to discuss the CO₂ study and Praxair's involvement. On Saturday, March 8th, I discussed that conference call and other zebra mussel / CO₂ related issues with Bill Hyatt, Bureau Chief of CT DEEP Bureau of Natural Resources.

Budget

We have attended several more budget hearings: Sherman on Saturday, March 1st and New Milford in the evening on Tuesday, March 4th. Both hearings appeared to go well. I received correspondence from a New Milford Town Councilman who said, *"You guys did a great job last night!!! The best I have heard since I've been involved."*

We have responded and are preparing answers to a number of questions asked at the three hearings we have participated in (our first was in New Fairfield on January 21st). One such question pertained to the new line for the Capital Items Replacement Fund, specifically asking if we had a replacement plan. Ed Siergiej had developed such a plan some time ago but has updated it for submittal to those requesting it.

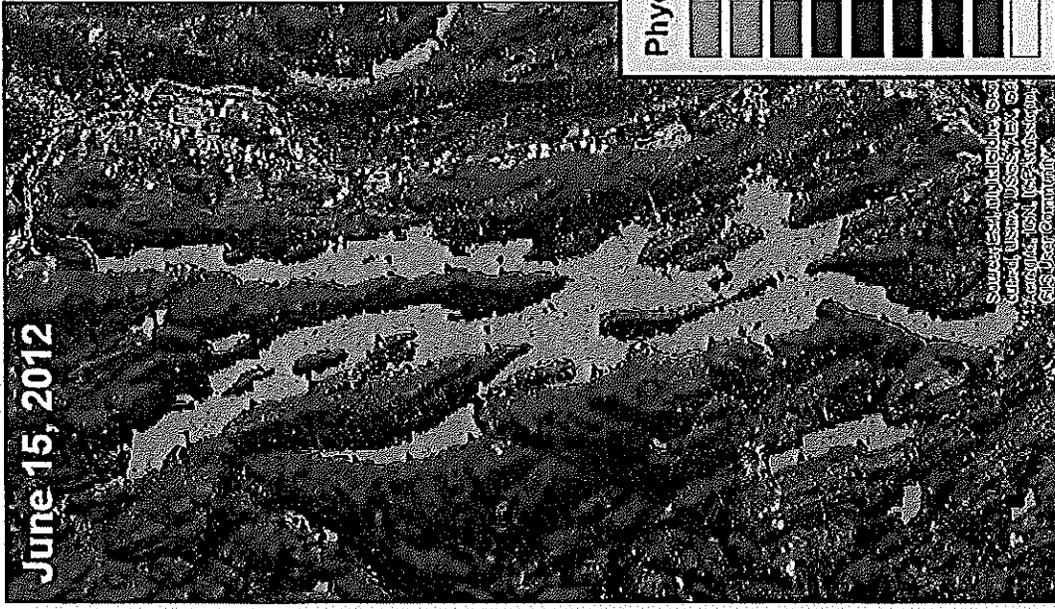
JM Memorial Candlewood Lake Clean Up

As noted in the November minutes we have scheduled the Clean Up for Saturday, May 17th. We contacted the New Fairfield Park and Recreation Department in late February to request use of the park. In the 13 years CLA has held the Clean Up, we have staged it and the lunch from the New Fairfield Town Park. We have been asked to participate in a conference call with First Selectman Susan Chapman and John Hodge to discuss the Clean Up on Friday, March 14th. We may also have an alternative site in Brookfield to have the event.

NEC-NALMS Conference

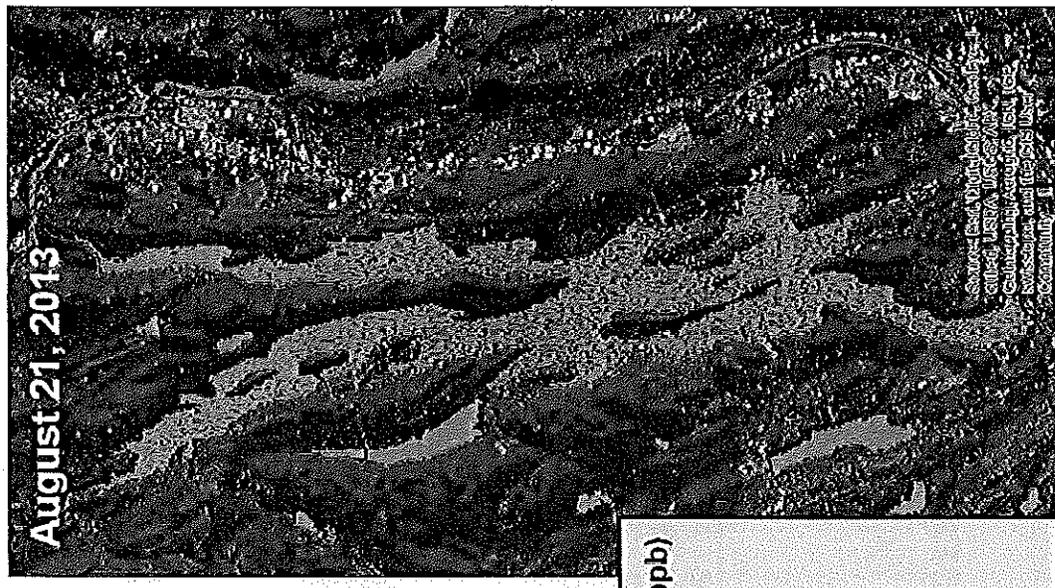
I am working with Chuck Lee of CT DEEP on the 2014 NEC-NALMS Conference scheduled for Friday and Saturday, June 13th and 14th, respectively. The conference announcement and call for papers is attached to this report.

June 15, 2012

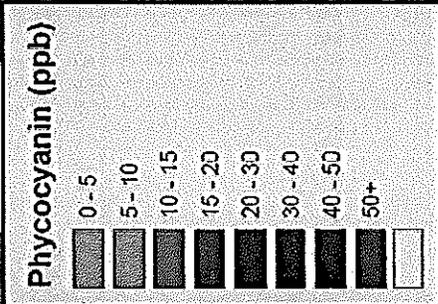


Source: Data provided by the Great Lakes Environmental Science Center, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA. Data collected by the Great Lakes Environmental Science Center, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA.

August 21, 2013



Source: Data provided by the Great Lakes Environmental Science Center, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA. Data collected by the Great Lakes Environmental Science Center, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA.



June 20, 2012

Measurement	DB	NF	NM	SH	Avg.
Chl-a (µg/L)	3.2	4.2	3.6	4.8	3.9
Secchi (m)	3.25	3.08	3.49	2.84	3.17
Total Phos (µg/L)	5.0	13.0	10.0	67.0	23.8

August 7, 2013

Measurement	DB	NF	NM	SH	Avg.
Chl-a (µg/L)	13.1	14.6	10.5	13.8	13.0
Secchi (m)	1.83	1.86	2.24	2.23	2.04
Total Phos (µg/L)	27.0	17.0	163.0	10.0	54.3

NEC NALLMS

Conference Announcement
& Call for Papers

New England
Lakes Conference
June 13 - 14, 2014

"Green Ideas for Blue Lakes"

University of Connecticut
Storrs, CT

GENERAL CONFERENCE INFORMATION

This year's meeting of the New England Chapter of the North American Lakes Management Society (NEC-NALMS) will be held on June 13th & 14th at the University of Connecticut, on the Storrs campus.

The theme of the 2014 conference is Green Ideas for Blue Lakes with a focus on what homeowners can do for their lakes.

Workshops will be held on the afternoon of Friday the 13th and concurrent technical sessions held from the morning through the afternoon on Saturday the 14th.

ACCOMMODATIONS

A block of dormitory rooms on the UCONN campus as well as rooms at the Nathan Hale Inn, also on the UCONN campus, are being reserved for those looking for overnight accommodations. Meeting registration information and specifics on accommodations will be provided in the Preliminary Program to be available in early April of 2014.

VENDORS AND EXHIBITORS

Space will be available for vendors and exhibitors of products for lake management and restoration. For more information contact Larry Marsicano at claexecd@earthlink.net.

Please mark your calendars for this important event!

CALL FOR PAPERS AND POSTERS

We are soliciting abstracts for the Friday afternoon workshops, the Saturday technical sessions and posters. Friday's workshops can range from 2 to 4 hours. Oral presentations on Saturday are each 30-minute timeslots. **The deadline to submit an abstract is March 29, 2014.**

The Following special interest topics are sought for the technical sessions, though other topics are welcome.

- Lake-side Landscaping
- Septic system maintenance
- Habitat structure on lakes
- Community Success Stories
- Cyanobacteria/cyanotoxins
- Stormwater management
- Watershed management
- Invasive Plant Management
- Invasive Animal Management
- Educational Initiatives

We are also planning to have one or more sessions for vendors and/or exhibitors to describe and discuss the use of their products with conference attendees.

Presentations are assigned 30-minute time slots.

PowerPoint presentations on USB Flash Drives are expected, unless other arrangements are made in advance. Presenters should prepare 20-25 minute talks, leaving 5-10 minutes for questions/discussion.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ABSTRACT SUBMITTAL

To submit an abstract for a workshop, presentation or poster, please provide the following information:

- Presenter name, title and affiliation
- Presenter address, telephone, fax and email
- Abstract: About 250 words, explaining purpose, approach, results and management implications, as appropriate.

Please be specific enough to allow independent evaluation of the professional value of the presentation or poster. This will encourage conference attendance when we make the program abstracts available in the form of a preliminary program announcement.

- Presenter biography

Please forward abstracts and biographies with the required information to Dr. Rick Canavan, NEC NALMS Program Coordinator by March 29, 2014.

Email abstract submissions to:
rcanavan@cmeeengineering.com

Abstracts may be submitted either in the text of the email or as a Word attachment.

Student talks and posters are highly encouraged.

Hosted By



UCONN
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
AND NATURAL RESOURCES



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**February/March 2014
Public Education
Mark Howarth**

State of the Lake:

We have decided to host a gathering of Lake Community Leadership Representatives this March 15th in an effort to update the community leaders on key topics affecting Candlewood, such as options for lake-wide milfoil control, algae bloom concerns and zebra mussel prevention.

This gathering is going to be held at the Candlewood Isle Clubhouse and is restricted to those who have registered through the CLA's website. There is no fee to attend.

This meeting will also serve as a forum for lake communities to discuss best practices among each other.

Finally, this outreach effort will allow the CLA to improve their communication and relationships with the various lake communities, as we work to promote lake-friendly practices among those who live and recreate on Candlewood Lake.



Social Media Policy Toolkit:

I took part in a 3 session online course on social media use by non-profit or similar agencies, and included various ways to navigate the rapidly changing world of social media, while addressing positive, negative and neutral feedback to posts, or news.

With social media becoming such a large part of our communication world, there is a need for a Social Media Policy, to provide employee guidelines on what to post, what not to post and other key considerations when in the world of social media.

As a result of taking this class, we now have the background and tools to complete a social media policy for the CLA.

We also plan to expand our social media reach in 2014 through new tools and formats in order to communicate with different groups and users.

Technology Transfer:

We have been working to upgrade our systems to more reliable, current and mobile systems. The old server and much of our systems have been at the end of their lives and we've been on borrowed time with much of them.

We have set up a new network storage device, which is serving as a replacement for the server and will be a common drive we will all share. That drive will be backed up through an online backup service, eliminating the need to do physical backups on drives here.

We are working to increase our online speeds as well, which are well below standards, by removing bottlenecks that are slowing us down.

We have also been transferring Outlook as well as other operating programs for two failing computers to laptops for Larry and Mark, which will function as daily "desktop" computers, while remaining portable.

Ice Dive:

This February we stopped by on site for a snowmobile recovery ice dive that lasted several days. The commercial dive was conducted by Northeast Diving Services, and was conducted just off of Driftwood Point in Danbury. The snowmobile had fallen through the ice a couple of weeks before and required a complicated ice dive to locate and bring it back up.

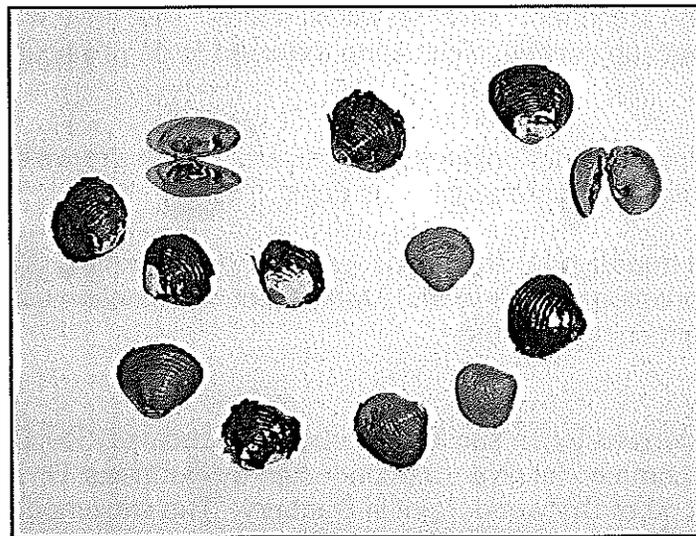


We will be doing a write-up for our electronic newsletter describing the dive and using it as a reminder to those who venture out on the lake, that there are significant risks in doing so.

Zebra Mussel Search:

In January we were alerted to what was believed to be possible zebra mussels spotted in New Milford by the rocks leading out from the aqueduct, through a post to a fishing site. Larry and I went down there that day and located a number of Asian clams (first image below) but no zebra mussels. We were able to determine that the person who posted the sighting was under the impression that the similarly-sized Asian clams, were zebra mussels.

We forwarded our findings to the CT DEEP, who posted the information and photos back to the fishing site. The fishing community on the site was very pleased with the response and outcome.





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***Executive Director's Report
January 30, 2014
Larry Marsicano***

The following report summarizes activities of January 2, 2014 to January 30, 2014.

FERC / FirstLight

As noted in last month's report, our comments on the draft Annual Vegetated Buffer Progress Report, draft Annual Pumpout & Sanitary Facilities Report and draft Vegetated Buffer Plan (purportedly embodied in a Shoreline Management Manual), which we received on November 6, 2013, were submitted to FirstLight on December 13, 2013. On January 14, 2014 we received the minutes of the November 6th meeting from FLPR and asked to "quickly review and provide comment via email." Also on January 14th, FLPR submitted to FERC an extension of submission of Vegetated Buffer Plan. That submittal included...

FirstLight is requesting this extension to meet the requests of both the Candlewood Lake Authority and the CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's requests to allow more time for them to provide their comments on the currently one hundred page document.

On January 17, 2014 FLPR submitted to FERC draft Annual Vegetated Buffer Progress Report, draft Annual Pumpout & Sanitary Facilities Report and draft Annual Seawall Report. On their draft Annual Vegetated Buffer Report we noted that some information was provided (e.g. trigger, existing % vegetated buffer, permitted % vegetated buffer, etc.) but the report in general was lacking detail on ecological quality of the buffers being required, i.e. is there a mix of trees, shrubs and ground covers. We asked if FirstLight maintains paper or electronic copies of buffer plans and are they available upon request by members of the Lake Advisory Committee. We also asked for detail on how performance is assessed so we have a better understanding of the process criteria? FLPR's response in their submittal to FERC was...

Attachment B satisfies the requirements of the FERC license. CLA does not have a role in the review of permit applications and site plans. Therefore, FirstLight declines to provide such materials to CLA.

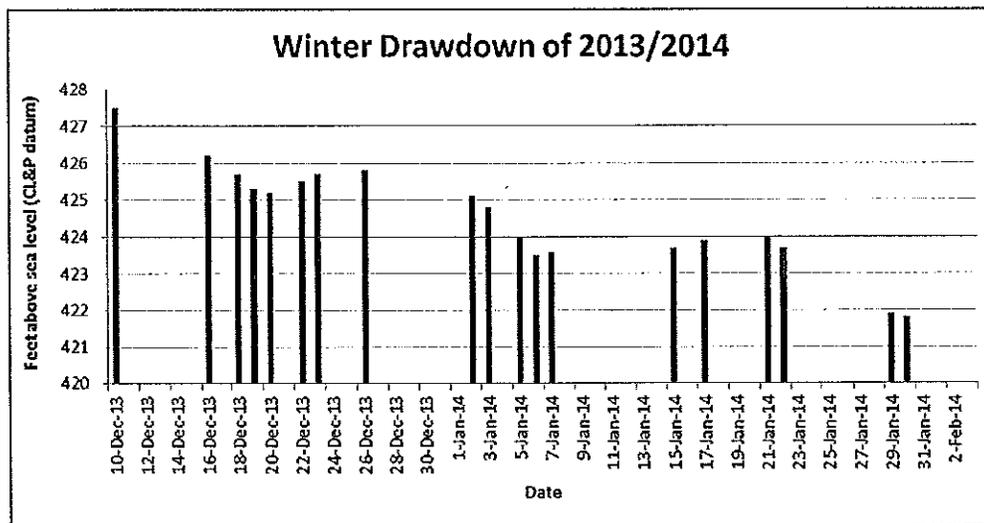
These and other comments will be discussed further at the meeting. The CLA's comments on the materials received in November of 2013 were provided in my January report to the CLA Board.

Invasive Species Management and Drawdown

We attended the Northeast Aquatic Plant Management Society conference on January 22nd and 23rd. Topics of talks that we attended included: management of Hydrilla with copper formulations in conjunction with other herbicides; toxic cyanobacteria in lake food webs; and other cyanotoxins-related subjects. I will compile notes that Phyllis and I took and make those available over the next month.

Efforts by CLA and others precipitated in a forum hosted by Senator Clark Chapin for the Legislature's Environment Committee. A number of speakers spoke to the issue of aquatic invasive species and the need to develop funding mechanisms to adequately address the issue. Speaking on behalf of the CLA and the Zebra Mussel / Invasive Species Task Force was Phyllis Schaer.

We have been monitoring lake levels this winter. The minimum alternate year depth (424 feet) was reached in the first week of January. As of January 30th, lake level was 421.8 feet above sea level (CL&P datum).



Water Quality

We are cohosting a forum on cyanobacteria / cyanotoxins with the CT DEEP and CT DPH for Directors of Health Departments of the towns surrounding Candlewood, Lillinonah and Zoar. Also invited are members of Lake Authorities and FLPR. We are scheduled to be part of the discussion. The forum is being held on Wednesday, February 5th from 10am to noon at the Brookfield Town Hall.

On January 29th the New Fairfield Board of Selectmen held a special meeting and #10 on the agenda was *Candlewood Lake Authority Buffer Garden Presentation*. The CLA, however, was never invited to provide a presentation. John Hodge did provide a very good overview of why a buffer ordinance would be in the best interest of Candlewood Lake.

Budget

We met with members of the New Fairfield Selectmen and Board of Finance on January 21st to discuss our budget proposal. There was a question regarding our budget pertaining to breakdown of our insurances. Fran was able to quickly provide that and we sent that to the Selectmen's Office.



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Executive Director's Report
January 2, 2014
Larry Marsicano

The following report summarizes activities of December 9, 2013 January 2, 2014.

Invasive Species Management

CLA coordinated a meeting of the Zebra Mussel / Invasive Species Task Force held on December 11th. In addition to our normal members (CT DEEP, representatives from Lakes Lillinonah and Zoar, FirstLight, WCSU, etc.) the meeting was attended by State Senator Clark Chapin and State Representative Cecilia Buck-Taylor who shared thoughts on finding additional funding for CT's efforts on invasive species. Of particular interest were reports by Dr. Mitch Wagener on cross polarization microscopy data and by Dr. Ed Wong on microsatellite DNA marker analyses (both attached). Minutes from the meeting should be available by the end of January.

I assisted in the revision of a research paper, which I am a co-author on with Dr. Tom Lonergan and Dr. Mitch Wagener, entitled *A Laboratory Examination of the Effectiveness of Winter Seasonal Lake Drawdowns to Control Invasive Eurasian watermilfoil (Myriophyllum spicatum)*. The paper was resubmitted in mid-December to Lake and Reservoir Management (Journal) for peer review.

Drawdown

As of Thursday, January 2, 2014 the lake level is at 425.1 feet above sea level (CL&P datum). The goal for this year is between 422 and 424 feet above sea level. We've received numerous communications regarding the drawdown and continue to provide the most recent information available to the public.

FERC / FirstLight

Our comments on the materials provided by FirstLight at the Lake Advisory Committee meeting in early November were submitted on December 13th (below). The materials FirstLight provided were in response to FERC requirements in their March 27, 2013 Order Modifying and Approving the Shoreline Management Plan which included:

- Draft Annual Vegetated Buffer Progress Report
- Draft Annual Pumpout & Sanitary Facilities Report
- Draft Vegetated Buffer Plan

Budget

We completed preparations of budget request forms and submitted them, along with the CLA-approved budget request, electronically to the City of Danbury on December 23rd and ground mailed it

to all municipalities and FirstLight on the same day. Our first meeting to discuss our budget is scheduled for January 21st in New Fairfield at 11 am.

Water Quality

On December 13th I met with Dr. Mark June-Wells of Northeast Environmental on who will be performing the third party study on Candlewood's water quality and making recommendations on milfoil management. I provided considerable water quality data and research on the lake, created a list of additional information he would like, and have started compiling it and sending it along to him.

We received complimentary notes from the WCSU Dean of Arts and Sciences and from the WCSU Vice President of Institutional Advancement on the statistical analyses of Candlewood Lake water quality data since 1985.

On January 2nd an article on the statistical analyses report came out in the News-Times.

Other

I attended a webinar entitled "*State of the GPS "Apposphere" – Navigating Smartphone Data Collection Apps*" on December 17th.

I have discussed the idea of CLA moving away from providing public safety and lake patrols with several past Chairmen (Patrick Callahan of New Fairfield and Hugh Hawkins of Sherman). Both felt this would be a grave mistake by the CLA.

Lake Lillinonah (Veligers per liter)

	2011	2012	2013
Late May		0.0017	
Mid June		0.0026	0.031
Late June	0	0.0009	
Early July			Not yet analyzed
Mid July	0	0.0009	1.09
Early August	0	0.0004	0.81
Mid August	0	0.0004	1.49
Early September	0.0013		Not yet analyzed

Lake Zoar (Veligers per liter)

	2011	2012	2013
Late May		0.077	
Mid June		0.106	0.016
Late June	0.09	0.2610	0.80
Early July			
Mid July	0.00086	0.0026	Not yet analyzed
Early August	0.0039	0.016	26.73
Mid August		0.0039	4.65
Early September			Not yet analyzed

Most Veligers per Sample

Lake Lillinonah

2011: 1
 2012: 3
 2013: 689

Lake Zoar

2011: 61
 2012: 131
 2013: 10,346

Most Veligers per Liter

Lake Lillinonah

2011: 0.0026
 2012: 0.0078
 2013: 1.78

Lake Zoar

2011: 0.16
 2012: 0.34
 2013: 26.73

Analysis of Zebra Mussel populations using two microsatellite DNA markers

Linda Berger, Nicole Stiteler, Edwin Wong

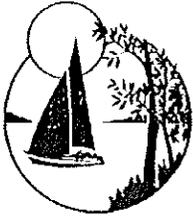
Western Connecticut State University, Dept. of Biological & Environmental Sciences

Dec 11, 2013

	Microsatellite Dpo272 (FAM)	Microsatellite Dpo260 (HEX)
Laurel Lake MA		
MA5	162.3	173.6
MA6	162.4	147.7
MA7	162.4	136.5
MA8	162.5	242.8
Lake Lillinnah CT		
LAW1	162.4	139.8
LAW2	162.4	241.2
LAW3		242.2
LAG1	162.4	137.8
LAG2	162.3	136.6
LAG3	162.5	137.8
LAS	156.6	275.1
279		
Lake Zoar CT		
ZAC1	156.5	136.5
ZAC2	162.4	136.5
ZAF1	162.4	139.8
ZAF2	162.5	136.7
243.9		
Lake Champlain VT		
VA2-5	162.3	152.1
VA3-5	162.4	136.8
VA4-5	162.5	140.1
VA6-5	162.5	141
148.1		
148.9		

Comments

1. LAW3-Dpo272 and ZAF1-Dpo260 did not yield any microsatellite data, and is presumed to be a failure of the PCR reaction. These samples will need to be repeated.
2. All samples, except for those noted above, contained a common Dpo272 microsatellite at about 162bp. Interestingly, MA and CT samples shared a 156bp microsatellite not found in VT samples. VT samples contained a 174bp microsatellite possibly unique to that location, but more VT samples need to be examined. Not surprisingly, given that they are from a contiguous body of water, Lillinnah and Zoar samples share a 189bp microsatellite.
3. For the Dpo260 microsatellite locus, a common microsatellite across all locations is the 136bp. MA and VT share a 148bp microsatellite, while MA and CT share a 242bp microsatellite.
4. Using only two microsatellite loci, MA7, LAG3, and ZAC2 have the most in common among samples from different geographic sites.



CANDLEWOOD LAKE AUTHORITY

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December 12, 2013

Mr. Richard T. Laudenat
FirstLight Hydro Generating Company
143 West Street, Suite E
P.O. Box 5002
New Milford, CT 06776

Re: CLA's Comments on Drafts of Annual Vegetated Buffer Progress Report, Annual Pumpout and Sanitary Facilities Report, and Shoreline Management Manual

Dear Mr. Laudenat:

Thank you for efforts to develop the drafts of the Annual Vegetated Buffer Progress Report, Annual Pumpout and Sanitary Facilities Report, and Shoreline Management Manual. In accordance with the Director's orders in FERC's March 27, 2013 Order Modifying and Approving the Shoreline Management Plan we have reviewed the documents and provided comments or questions on each below. In the FERC order, for example, the Commission writes "*Prior to filing each annual report, the licensee must provide a draft copy to the CTDEP and Candlewood Authority (or other applicable lake authority) for a 30-day comment period. The report should include specific descriptions on how the stakeholders' comments were incorporated in determining the appropriate buffer or reasons why such comments were not incorporated.*" Similar language was found in FERC's Order with regards to the CLA and the Annual Pumpout & Sanitary Facilities Report and a Vegetated Buffer Plan which presumably is contained within the draft Shoreline Management Manual.

No draft minutes of our November 6, 2013 meeting of the Lake Advisory Committee were ever received by our agency, as has been the practice in the past, so we have not provided specific comment on that meeting but do mention a concern expressed at the meeting in the context of the draft Annual Pumpout and Sanitary Facilities Report. We recommend circulating for comment minutes from the meeting since they included important information on both shoreline and recreation issues. We look forward to learning of your responses to comments and questions below.

Draft Annual Vegetated Buffer Progress Report

1. As noted in the Ordering Paragraph (E) the report shall include any changes to property ownership that would trigger the licensee to require a landowner to install a vegetated buffer. We did not observe any discussion or listings of changes to property ownership. We conducted a preliminary review and found that as many as 50 transfers of properties have occurred on properties abutting the project on Candlewood Lake since March 28, 2013. Can you provide

detail on how you plan to fulfill this FERC requirement? We are happy to share our list upon your request.

2. While this report focuses on progress within the last year, there have been permits issued by FirstLight since receiving your 2004 FERC license where a buffer was required but little to no implantation has taken place. It would be helpful if FirstLight included in future annual reports information on these kinds of situations, i.e. where buffers are required but little to no implementation has taken place, and FirstLight's actions taken to address them if members of the Lake Advisory Committee provide information on where these sites are located? Is there a way that FirstLight can provide more frequent updates on these, e.g. quarterly or semiannually, rather than yearly?
3. While the list in Attachment B provides some information (e.g. trigger, existing % vegetated buffer, permitted % vegetated buffer, etc.) the report in general is lacking detail on ecological quality of the buffers being required, i.e. is there a mix of trees, shrubs and ground covers. Does FirstLight maintain paper or electronic copies of buffer plans and are they available from you upon request by members of the Lake Advisory Committee? If not, can you provide detail on how performance is assessed so we have a better understanding of the process criteria?

Draft Annual Pumpout and Sanitary Facilities Report

We are in general very supportive of FirstLight's efforts in providing sanitary facilities on Candlewood Lake and look forward to hearing about the expanded cooperative program for the 2014 season. We do have two comments related to the draft Pumpout Annual Report.

1. One concern expressed at the LAC meeting held on November 6th was that the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's deployment of a pumpout boat may be discontinued due to lack of use by the public. We've since discussed this with CT Boating Director Eleanor Mariani who assured us that the pumpout boat will be operating on Candlewood in 2014.
2. At the time of receiving this draft report only one commercial entity of the eight listed and one local municipal entity of the five listed had signed off on the letter agreeing to let the public use their sanitary facilities. Has this improved since our meeting?

Draft Shoreline Management Manual

As you may be aware, we created a 12-page guidance document for the lakefront public on riparian buffers in 2005 with funding from the CT DEEP and a local community foundation, which was included in the Shoreline Management Plan submitted to FERC in 2006.¹ As such we can appreciate the level of detail provided in the 100-page draft Shoreline Management Manual. When finished, the document would be a valuable asset for homeowners and contractors installing buffers or other structures below the 440. However, because of the document's size, inclusion of content beyond a vegetated buffer plan, and lack of adequate time to review it, we cannot be sure it meets the

¹ See Appendix G of Northeast Generation Co's Shoreline Management Plan for the Housatonic River Hydro under P-2576 (FERC submittal no. 20060727-5032, July 27, 2006) at P 91

conditions outlined in Section 28 of FERC's March 27, 2013 order on the SMP. We are unsure of how some critical components are addressed within the body of the document. Can FirstLight identify in the document where it provides:

1. Provisions to install vegetated buffers of up to 200 feet on shoreline lands that it owns at each development within two years of the date of this order, including any proposed vegetation (types, quantity, and location);
2. Maps that identify the shoreline lands subject to this plan and explain which buffers would be installed by the licensee, which would be installed by adjacent landowners over time as property changes occur, and which properties (e.g., Squantz Pond) would be subject to the reduced buffer rules; and
3. Clarification that the required buffers would only be required inside the project boundary?

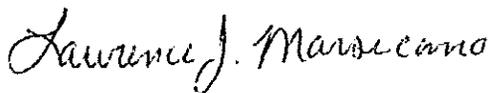
Additionally we believe this document, as presented, is in great need of clarifications, revisions and editing. Images in many cases are poor in quality or so small that associated text is barely readable. There are also a number of photographs of what appear to be acceptable buffers that we don't believe help establish environmentally appropriate precedents (e.g. page 5 and 12).

We also have questions regarding your guidance for implementation. For example, we were unable to determine specific criteria detailing what is required that would provide FirstLight and other stakeholders some measures to assess performance and compliance, e.g. planting plans.

In summary, there is great potential in this document to provide practical guidance to lakefront homeowners wishing to install a buffer or do other work below the 440. When completed it will go a long way to prevent future conflicts and unintended violations in regards to shoreline management issues, but it needs considerable work. We also encourage FirstLight to revisit the objectives of the Vegetated Buffer Plan as outlined by FERC. We appreciate the effort and the considerable amount of work involved in developing the current draft version of the document so far. We recognize this is a work in progress and would be willing to participate in workshops, should you seek stakeholder input, to improve the document and help identify errors in punctuation, grammar, etc., photographs of concern, and areas in need of clarification.

Sincerely yours,

CANDLEWOOD LAKE AUTHORITY



Laurence J. Marsicano
Executive Director

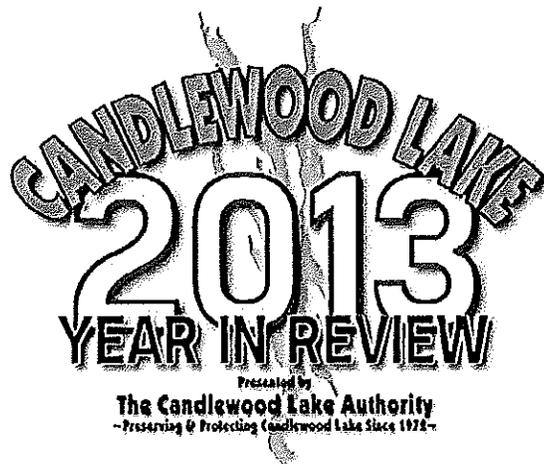


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January 8, 2014
Public Education
Mark Howarth

Year In Review Email:



The 2013 Candlewood Lake Year In Review email was sent out on December 24th, 2013 and served to recap what happened on Candlewood Lake this past year. It covered environmental topics such as our research into milfoil control options, the zebra mussel prevention effort and the presence of the algae blooms this year.

It also covered the season's public safety effort from our Marine Patrol. Lastly, it included a recap of the major events the CLA did for the year: Project CLEAR, Village Fair Days and the Dragon Boat Race.

To view the message via your web browser go to:

<http://www.icontact-archive.com/HJfY9l0NQYSQqba7g97DvlgA6HR9-Sz8?w=3>

Appeal Letter:

The 2013 appeal letter went out in early December and we have been receiving donations since it went out.

Electronic Appeal:

This year, in addition to our written appeal letter, we also sent out an electronic appeal "reminder". It wasn't a full electronic appeal letter, as that would have been redundant to many of our readers who already received our written, mailed appeal. Instead, the electronic appeal, which was emailed out on December 27th, served as a reminder to

those who wished to make a donation in the 2013 calendar year, that they could do so online if they so chose.

With more and more people preferring to have the ability to easily donate online instead of writing and mailing a check, we knew we had to make this an option for our readers. We launched our online donation system last year, but started to advertise it more this year. 28 of our donations this year so far have come via our online donation system, compared to 8 last year at this time.

To view the message via your web browser go to:

<http://www.icontact-archive.com/HJfY9I0NQYSQqba7g97DvjoBYPQrdUJD?w=3>

Merchandise Sales:

We were very busy this year again, packing orders for our merchandise sales this holiday season. We processed over 50 orders and our sales this year surpassed our sales from last year, or first year offering online sales.