



CANDLEWOOD LAKE AUTHORITY

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

Minutes of Regular Meeting April 9, 2014

Attending:

| | |
|-------------|---------------|
| H. Berger | Sherman |
| P. Schaer | Sherman |
| J. Hodge | New Fairfield |
| J. Wodarski | New Milford |
| M Toussaint | New Milford |
| E. Siergiej | Danbury |
| J. Murphy | Brookfield |
| W. Lohan | Brookfield |
| B. Brown | Brookfield |
| C. Robinson | Danbury |

Absent:

| | |
|-------------|---------------|
| B. Kemble | New Fairfield |
| E. Hayes | Sherman |
| H. Mayer | New Milford |
| N. Gyle | New Fairfield |
| D. Rosemark | Danbury |

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

Recorder: H. Berger

Guests: M. Propper, Danbury
S. Wodarski, New Milford

Phyllis Schaer, Chairman, called the regular meeting of the Candlewood Lake Authority to order at 7:30 P.M. at Brookfield Town Hall, Brookfield, CT. She welcomed the guests.

Secretary's Report: Howie Berger, Secretary, noted there were no corrections to the minutes of the March meeting. Jerry Murphy moved that the minutes of the March 12, 2014 meeting be accepted as written, seconded by Bill Brown and voted with all in favor and John Hodge abstained. Motion carried, minutes accepted.

Chairman's Report: Mrs. Schaer presented Howie Berger, former Chairman, with a token of gratitude for his leadership and guidance for the 4 years he served as Chairman. Mr. Berger thanked the delegates.

Mrs. Schaer thanked the staff and delegates for all their efforts for the State of Lake meeting - it was a huge success and possibly it will be an annual event. A new brochure is being prepared for distribution to local Realtors for new waterfront homeowners. She noted that the budget is still going through the process in the Towns and she will report once it is finalized. She has met with the CEO's of New Fairfield, Danbury, New Milford and Sherman and is planning to meet with the CEO of Brookfield soon. It was suggested that there should be joint meetings of the CEO's, CLA and FirstLight. The CLA has commented on the Overcrowding Plan and the

RECEIVED FOR RECORD
DANBURY TOWN CLERK

2014 APR 14 P 12:37

BY: 

Vegetated Buffer Plan – it was noted that the CLA's comments were not included in the VBF submittal to FERC and if FirstLight does not make a supplemental filing then the CLA will have to file the comments separately. Funding for AIS (Aquatic Invasive Species) is moving through the legislature. The consultant report that the Towns are having done is still not complete.

At the Executive Committee meeting they discussed the MOU with DEEP regarding the Lake Patrol, which will be up for renewal after this season. They also discussed recommending a Septic Inspection / Walkover Program similar to New Fairfield to the other towns, starting in Sherman. Mr. Hodge noted that Small Cities Grants are available for funding failing systems that the homeowner's cannot afford to repair/replace. These funds are paid back at the sale of the property.

The Clean Up is scheduled for May 17th (rain date May 18) discussion followed – Mr. Hodge noted that he will not be available on that day but will do all he can to help before hand with the preparations. Discussion continued noting that if possible between now and the date of the Clean Up a tour of the lake should be made to check on the areas that need the most attention.

Vice Chairman's Report: Mark Toussaint noted that the State of the Lake meeting was very successful and his report would be covered under Public Awareness.

Treasurer's Report: Bill Lohan, Treasurer, noted there were no questions on the Report of Income and Expenses for the month ended March 31, 2014. With none, Jerry Murphy moved to accept the Treasurer's Report of Income and Expenses for the month ended March 31, 2014 as presented, motion seconded by Bill Brown and voted with all in favor. Treasurer's Report of Income and Expenses for the month ended March 31, 2014 has been accepted and filed for audit.

John Hodge brought up the idea for the delegates to have a meeting to discuss the budget and deficit funding. Without cutting spending there will be no reserves to cover the annual shortfalls. Discussion followed noting that the problem has been the Towns cutting the budget request as the CLA presents a barebones budget and has opted not to cut programs or curtail the Lake Patrol. Ed Siergiej noted that creating a 501C-3 as a fundraising arm of the CLA has been discussed and it may be time to look more seriously at this option. One other idea was for the Towns to ask the State for help in funding the Lake Patrol – this was called valid but unrealistic. Also the delegates need to argue for the CLA budget with their respective Towns.

Executive Director: Mr. Marsicano advised that his report is attached to these minutes. He noted that items covered were FERC/FirstLight Plans, Clean Up, Senate Bill 466 AIS program moving forward, Grants received from Meserve for water quality instruments and Women's Club of Danbury/New Fairfield for publication printing, State of the Lake meeting, Project CLEAR has begun and Dan Rosemark and he will be showing the Seadoo to a perspective buyer at the end of the week.

Committee Reports:

Public Safety: Jerry Murphy, Co-Chair, reported that the committee had met and noted some concerns with the DEEP training schedule, Chief Vane advised that out of 15 applicants all 5 POST certified and 3 other applicants have dropped out because of conflicts with the training schedule leaving only 7 new officers presently attending training. Some of the items will be addressed when the MOU is renewed later this year.

Equipment/Facilities: Ed Siergiej, Committee Chairman, reported that the two patrol boats are being re-lettered – McKee II is done and McKee I is next. He advised that he has some real concerns about the funds needed to the end of the fiscal year – a decision needs to be made in the next month or so.

Jerry Murphy noted that FirstLight has begun removing the unregistered buoys from the lake.

Public Awareness: Mark Toussaint, Co-Chair reported that the committee had met and the committee has agreed on ramping up the CLA use of Twitter and setting a policy for its use. Also the Clean Up and Dragon Boat Race events need help and volunteers.

Public Education Director: Mark Howarth, Public Education Director, report attached to these minutes. He noted that he had sent out a survey after the State of the Lake meeting and had a good response (48%) and the feedback was all good as well as to make it an annual event. An E-Newsletter went out last week and another will be going out this week. The new Tri-folds are ready and he asked the delegates to let him know of any businesses for prospective sponsors for the CLA events. He noted that he is working on using Twitter to bring the CLA to a whole new "younger" audience, that Clean Up registration will be on line shortly and all boat captains and crew must register there.

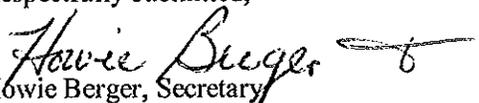
Watershed Management: In the absence of the Chairman, there was no report.

Any and All Business:

Mr. Proper from the Audience asked about the Overcrowding Plan, Pine Island and the Carp.

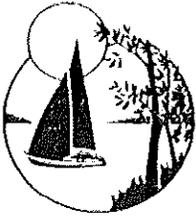
With no further business to come before the Candlewood Lake Authority, Jerry Murphy moved to adjourn, seconded by Chris Robinson. Meeting adjourned at 9:16 P. M.

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.



CANDLEWOOD LAKE AUTHORITY

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

Executive Director's Report April 9, 2014 Larry Marsicano

The following report summarizes activities of March 10, 2014 to April 8, 2014.

FERC / FIRSTLIGHT

In my March report I noted that we had not received the revised Vegetated Buffer Plan from FirstLight for revision. That was true at the time on March 10th when I was completing my report. We had only learned that the November 2013 edition was revised on March 4th from discussions with the CT DEEP. However, later on March 10th Mr. Richard Laudenat from FirstLight did deliver the report on disk. No instructions on submitting comment to FirstLight were provided, but Mr. Laudenat did note that it was a working document.

We did prepare comments as per the March 27, 2013 FERC order, but before submitting to FirstLight, FirstLight submitted their plan to FERC on March 27th. We nonetheless submitted our comments, both on the revised VBP and the original (which we had originally submitted to FirstLight back in December) on March 28th with a request that they resubmit or append their submittal to FERC. We have not heard back from FirstLight since then.

A meeting of the Technical Committee under the Nuisance Species Monitoring Plan was held on March 24th. The meeting was to review the 2013 mapping of the milfoil (approximately 250 acres) by the CAES and a report by Ethan Nedeau for FirstLight on zebra mussels. Drafts of these reports were received by our office from the US Fish and Wildlife Service because of unresolved communication issues FirstLight has.

JMM CANDLEWOOD LAKE CLEAN UP

Preparations are underway for the 2014 John Marsicano Memorial Candlewood Lake Clean Up. A conference call was held with First Selectman Susan Chapman, John Hodge, Phyllis and me to discuss the use of the New Fairfield Town docks and beach. In addition to providing the facilities, New Fairfield is also providing a grill. A fleet of boats is being developed but we still

need more. Mark should have online registration available soon as well as sponsorship information. I have contacted the restaurants who are all onboard as they have in the past.

SB 466 – AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT GRANT AND PREVENTION AND EDUCATION PROGRAM

As discussed in recent past reports, legislation was proposed this session to establish an AIS program. On March 17th Environment Committee held a public hearing which included the legislation. Oral and written testimony was provided. The bill was voted on favorably by the Committee and has since begun to move through the legislative process, most recently being put on the Senate Calendar and receiving a file number.

In addition we learned on March 27th that the Appropriations Committee included in their proposed FY 2015 Midterm Adjustments Budget funding for the AIS program. From that budget:

Background

There are currently 118 boat ramps (96 inland) that are inspected by 19 seasonal staff that inspect vessels for aquatic invasive species (AIS) and educate the public on prevention.

Committee

Provide funding of \$424,600 and 10 positions in the boating division for AIS prevention and program management. Of this \$424,600 total: (1) \$91,267 is provided for 10 seasonal staff persons (costing \$54,600) and \$36,667 is provided for expenses for the additional staff (vehicle rentals, fuel, and uniforms), in addition to outreach materials; (2) \$200,000 is provided for grants to municipalities; (3) \$66,667 for rapid response to new infestations of AIS and management of current species; and (4) \$66,667 is provided for grant administration and program management, including an environmental intern.

GRANTS

In mid-March we learned that our grant application to the Women's Club of Danbury/New Fairfield was approved and awarded \$500 dollars which will be used towards the printing of the revamped CLA trifold.

Also in mid-March we learned that our grant application to the Meserve Memorial Fund was approved and awarded \$6,000 dollars to be used towards the purchase of new water quality monitoring equipment.

STATE OF THE LAKE

Power Point Presentations were developed and presented the State of the Lake event held at the Candlewood Isle Clubhouse on Saturday, March 15. The presentations were on milfoil management options, zebra mussels and water quality/blue-green algae. Public Awareness and Mark should be congratulated for putting together an excellent program that was well attended and well received.

PROJECT CLEAR

The 2014 Project CLEAR program began on April 2nd with ~125 students and teachers meeting at the Kellogg Environmental Center from 8:45am to 12:45pm. We developed a Power Point Presentation and lesson on the chemical, physical and biological aspects of lake water quality which was provided to each of four large groups of students.



CANDLEWOOD LAKE AUTHORITY

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

April 9, 2014
Public Education
Mark Howarth

State of the Lake:



On March 15th the CLA held the 2014 State of the Lake forum, a meeting for community leadership representatives here on Candlewood Lake.

The event was very well attended, with around 80 participants representing around 40 different communities or groups.

The primary presenters for the event were Phyllis and Larry who presented on three main topics (milfoil/grass carp, zebra mussel preventions, water quality/algae blooms), with Jerry Murphy following and presenting about the Marina Patrol. After the presentations the forum moved into a question and answer portion with the attendees where many good points were brought forward and questions were raised.

Following the event, we sent the attendees out an online survey and received 40 back, roughly a 50% return rate. The overall impression from survey respondents was that this was a very worthwhile event and all 40 (100%) answered "yes" to the question of whether or not this should become an annual event. Those who filled out the online

surveys also provided some great feedback about what they liked in particular and what we could potentially change and improve on for future years.

eNewsletter:

We sent out an eNewsletter in early April. Topics covered included:

- 2014 Clean Up Announcement
- State of the Lake Recap
- Spring Yard Care Tips
- Soil Testing Day Announcement
- Ice Dive To Recover Snowmobile
- Differentiating Between Zebra Mussels, Natives and Asian Clams
- CLA Meeting With Brookfield WPCA

Sponsor Tri-folds:

We have designed new 2014 Dual Sponsor Tri Folds. These will be mailed to potential sponsors for the Clean Up and Dragon Boat Races. We are always looking to introduce our events and the benefits of sponsorship to different businesses and welcome help in doing so.

CLA Tri Fold Printing:

A grant from the Danbury/NF Women's club is being used to print our newly updated CLA Trifold. These will distributed and used to help make the public aware of what we do here at the CLA and the resources we provide for them here on Candlewood.

Social Media Policy:

We have created a draft of a social media policy which will be reviewed in Public Awareness and used by the CLA once a final policy has been agreed upon.

Clean Up Registration:

We have created a new online registration system for the Clean Up this year, which utilizes Jotform, which we use for multiple registrations (such as the Dragon Boat Races) and other needs. This was done in an effort to remove the old online registration off of Howie's servers, which at the time were used to host the old CLA website, but now no longer do.

New Clean Up Logo:

The Clean Up Logo has been updated to improve upon its impact and visibility and is being used in our marketing efforts for the year.



