

# CANDLEWOOD LAKE AUTHORITY

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

## Minutes of Meeting October 1, 2008

### Attending:

P. Callahan	New Fairfield
R. Stroh	New Fairfield
C. Reppenhagen	Sherman
H. Berger	Sherman
B. Kemble	New Fairfield
F. Cioffi	Brookfield
R. Guendelsberger	New Milford
H. Mayer	New Milford
S. Murphy	Brookfield (7:50 PM)

### Absent:

E. Siergiej	Danbury
G. Dufel	Danbury
G. Hofsess	Brookfield
M. Toussaint	New Milford
S. Conroy	Danbury
K. Mersereau	Sherman

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

Recorder F. Frattini

Guests: L. Johnson, New Milford

Patrick Callahan, Chairman, called the regular meeting of the Candlewood Lake Authority to order at 7:35 P.M. at Brookfield Town Hall, Brookfield, CT. Mr. Callahan welcomed the guest.

Secretary's Report: In the absence of the Secretary, Frances Frattini noted that there were no additions, deletions or corrections to the minutes of September 10, 2008. Charlie Reppenhagen moved to accept the minutes as presented, seconded by Bruce Kemble and voted with all in favor, minutes have been accepted as written.

Chairman's Report: Mr. Callahan reported that the Executive committee will hold a meeting on Monday, October 6 at 7:30 PM at the New Milford Office. He thanked the Treasurer for his actions on moving finances during these difficult times to protect the funds of the CLA. He noted that the CLA's submittal has gone to FERC and a letter advising our CEOs to hold off on finalizing the SMP until the new owner of the lake is in place was sent. He also advised the board that he was contacted by Jim Ginnetti who expressed his displeasure with the submittal and letter. Harold Mayer asked if we (the CLA) knew we were being sued? Mr. Mayer noted that the Mayor had advised him that is the case and that the Town Insurance covers the delegates.

BY: 40

Larry Marsicano advised that this may be related to the fatal accident this past season. Attorney David Bennett is representing someone, his office has called to examine records under FOI – due to the moving we will need to coordinate with him regarding which records and in which office.

Vice Chairman's Report: Mr. Berger, Vice Chairman, had nothing to report.

Treasurer's Report: In the absence of the Treasurer, Frances Frattini noted that it appears that the audit is winding down and should be ready for the November meeting.

Executive Director's Report: Larry Marsicano, Executive Director, noted that his report for the past month would be attached to these minutes. He gave a brief overview of what is written in the report, which covered the following items: Response to FERC on FirstLight Power Resources response to FERC's questions, Project CLEAR and the new program Director, Administrative Offices, visit of the Environmental Review Team to the lake, Cell Tower at Stadley Rough Road in Danbury, Soil testing day in New Fairfield, an FOI request by Attorney Bennett, and other items. He advised that he is presently working on a grant proposal to the Meserve Foundation for a publication for homeowners on BMP's explaining the concept of watershed and principals of how to protect the lake. This will be a CLA project done with help from the grass roots group from New Fairfield who has been working on the Watershed District and were involved with the ERT.

Mr. Reppenhagen asked about housekeeping in the new office space – he was advised that the staff would see how it works and advise if outside help will be needed.

Public Education Director: Mark Howarth's report will be attached to these minutes. Mr. Callahan commended Mr. Howarth on the excellent e-newsletter that recently was distributed – there have been many positive comments about it.

Committee Reports:

Public Safety: Rich Stroh, Committee Chair reported that the patrol is looking to hire ten to fifteen new officers for the 2009 season. He also asked about a dinner for the patrol this year – it was decided that the delegates agreed to go ahead with the dinner. Mrs. Murphy and Mr. Stroh will coordinate.

Watershed Management: Harold Mayer reported that the DEP will be visiting the lake on October 13 as they elected to respond to the issues in the ERT proposal separately and as an agency. They will send representatives from the Water Resource Bureau and Fisheries. Discussion on the recent algae blooms followed. Lowering of the lake has not yet begun.

Public Awareness: In the absence of the Committee Chair there was no report.

Equipment/Facilities: In the absence of the Committee Chair, there was nothing to report.

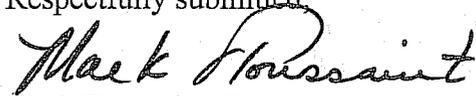
Old/New Business:

Bob Guendelsberger asked if Mr. Callahan had heard from the DEP on the Boat Sticker Program – Mr. Callahan advised that would be on the Executive Committee meeting agenda for Monday night.

Mr. Guendelsberger also noted that he had recently met with Mayor Murphy and representatives of HVA; they discussed Candlewood Lake Water Quality and it was thought that the HVA people could get together with the CLA to push for legislation to make the Towns catch runoff before it reached the water – require that catch basins be cleaned first each year by the State, Towns and private associations.

With no further business to come before the Candlewood Lake Authority, Bruce Kemble moved to adjourn, seconded by Frank Cioffi. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,



Mark Toussaint, Secretary *✗*  
Frances Frattini, Administrative Coordinator

r/b/t

*Executive Director's Report*  
**September 26, 2008**  
**Larry Marsicano**

*The following report summarizes activities between September 10 and September 26, 2008*

**FERC / FirstLight Power Resources**

The CLA submitted *CANDLEWOOD LAKE AUTHORITY'S COMMENTS ON FIRSTLIGHT POWER RESOURCES' RESPONSES TO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUEST* to FERC on September 18<sup>th</sup>. Others who submitted in response to FERC's solicitation for comments included Attorney General Richard Blumenthal, CLUB\*A, Candlewood Isle, Town of New Fairfield, City of Danbury, CT DEP, the Lake Lillinonah Authority, and a number of private citizens.

**PROJECT CLEAR / NSF LETTER OF INTENT (LOI)**

Several meetings occurred. The first on the 12<sup>th</sup> of September was with Dr. Dora Pinou of the Biology / Environmental Science Department at WCSU to discuss my draft LOI to the National Science Foundation (NSF). Letter was also reviewed and we were provided comment by Dr. Tom Philbrick. A final draft was electronically submitted to NSF on by the due date of September 18<sup>th</sup>. Another meeting occurred on September 19<sup>th</sup> and was with Dr. Pinou, Abby Peklo (Director of Interdistrict Grants for Education Connection), and Alberto Mimo (new Project CLEAR Program Manager). Chair of the Department, Tom Lonergan, also attended briefly. Groundwork of a formal relationship with WCSU was established. On the 23<sup>rd</sup>, Dr. Pinou, Ms. Peklo, Mr. Mimo, and I met with the CLEAR teachers to begin planning, setting dates for recruitment, and dates for students to meet. The first of these occurred on September 29<sup>th</sup> at New Milford HS; the next is scheduled for Danbury HS and Bethel HS on October 14<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>, respectively. The first CLEAR meeting with students is scheduled for November.

**CLA ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES**

CLA staff was advised by several Executive Committee members to investigate second-hand, refinished furniture. Research and a visit to a used furniture supplier were conducted and an ample supply of office furniture was purchased for the new offices, thanks in large part to Frances and Mark. Much of the furniture has been delivered. Several pieces should arrive early in the week of September 29<sup>th</sup>. The furniture was in excellent condition and will last a long time. Communication systems have been installed (phone, cable, etc.) and we have begun working at the new offices, while slowly moving files. We will be drafting a letter of thanks for Mr. Jack Farley for his generosity on the rate he provided the CLA.

**ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW TEAM (ERT) VISIT**

On September 16<sup>th</sup> members of the CT ERT met at the Candlewood Isle Clubhouse and later toured Candlewood Lake, Ball Pond and the watershed shared by both water resources. The visit and forthcoming report, precipitated out of the proposal submitted by the CLA and endorsed by the Selectmen of New Fairfield. The proposal was one product of a series of meetings held by the Candlewood Watershed Initiative group, which formed as a result of the WR District proposed by Zoning at the recommendation of the CLA. Members of the CWI include community members who were not supportive of the WR District proposal, member of the Ball Pond community, the staff and members of the CLA. The ERT visit was enlightening. A parallel review by the CT DEP is being discussed; CT DEP elected not to participate in the ERT review but wished to help separately as an agency.

**52 STADLEY ROUGH ROAD (DANBURY) CELL TOWER**

We have received a number of calls by citizens opposed to the proposed cell tower. The City of Danbury has also contacted us about participating in the Siting Council's Public Hearing on October 28<sup>th</sup>. We have agreed to attend and testify if needed, based on the report we submitted on August 1, 2006 on the original cell tower proposal.

### **SOIL TESTING DAY**

We have assisted the CWI in planning the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Soil Testing Day originally scheduled for September 27<sup>th</sup>, but postponed to October 4<sup>th</sup>. For more information, see attached.

### **FOI REQUEST BY ATTORNEY BENNETT**

We have been contacted by Attorney David Bennett's office to make us aware of a request to see our records. We have contacted Attorney Ted Backer and have left a message with CT DEP Sergeant Mark Shaw. It is believed that the records desired are those pertaining to the marine patrol and is related to the accident that occurred on the water this summer. The Executive Committee has by regularly apprised on developments as they occur.

### **OTHER**

An electronic newsletter, designed by Mark, was sent out on September 22<sup>nd</sup>. The publication and new format was well received and we were sent numerous compliments on it.

We are helping out the Danbury and other local Rotary's with there community service event that focuses on water resource protection. We will help Rotarians clean City Island and other locations on the lake.

**1<sup>st</sup> Annual Soil Testing Day - Postponed**  
**Now Saturday, October 4, 8:30 to 2 pm**  
**Outside at Shaw's in New Fairfield**

*Free & easy testing of soil samples from your lawn/garden*

**Provided as a community service to all residents ...**

- To raise awareness of the importance and value of soil testing
- To make the soil sampling procedures less cumbersome and costly
- To underscore the merits of testing *before* fertilizing & planting
- To prevent unnecessary, inappropriate, or over-fertilization
- To help protect the environment from excess nutrient runoff

**Entails 4 simple steps\* ...**

1. Come to Shaw's to pick up a free test packet & instructions
2. Head home and scoop & insert soil samples into container provided
3. Return container to Shaw's by 2 pm for forwarding on to CT lab
4. Receive results and suggestions by mail from lab within ~ 2 weeks

\* You can also access [www.ct.gov/caes/cwp/view.asp?a=2836&q=378202](http://www.ct.gov/caes/cwp/view.asp?a=2836&q=378202) for instructions and the testing lab's address. If inconvenient to pick up or return packet by 2 pm, it can be mailed directly to the lab.

Complimentary information will also be available on environmentally sensitive lawn & garden care to help protect the Candlewood Watershed and other area lakes and streams.

*Sponsored by the Candlewood Watershed Initiative in concert with the Candlewood Lake Authority, Ball Pond Advisory Committee, and the CT Agricultural Experiment Station.*

**Mark Howarth**  
**Public Education**  
**September-October 2008**

**September E-Newsletter:** The e-newsletter, with a new layout and format, was emailed on September 22nd. With this being the first mailing of the new e-newsletter, we were pleased that the response from the public was positive with respect to both the new look and content.

**CLA Office:** We transitioned office staff to the New Milford location in the second half of September, with the most important office materials and equipment having been brought over as well. The office is fully functional and we will continue to complete the finishing touches of the move over time.

**Environmental Review Team:** Spent the day with the assembled Environmental Review Team on September 16<sup>th</sup>. After initially meeting at the Candlewood Lake Club that morning for introductions and initial discussion, we then proceeded to take a short boat tour of parts of Candlewood Lake, followed by a tour of the Ball Pond area by car.

**Soil Testing Day:** We will be working with the Candlewood Watershed Initiative on Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup> outside of Shaw's (rain date from 9/27) in support of the Soil Testing Day event. There will be a table with publications and materials to be handed out along with a backdrop display of information for people to view. We will meet with the public while distributing and then collecting soil testing kits which we will bring to the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station in New Haven where they will test the soil samples and provide recommendations to participants free of charge.

**Website:** Howie has been working on building the framework for a new website that will allow us to display a more updated and professional look and increase what we offer on our site while making it more user-friendly. Upon completion of the framework, I will begin adding content to the site.

**Donor Package:** Continued to work on a donor package by refining and adding to the text and layout to create a professional and effective piece, building on some of the color schemes and design features used in other recent materials.