



# CANDLEWOOD LAKE AUTHORITY

Member Municipalities: Brookfield • Danbury • New Fairfield • New Milford • Sherman

PO BOX 37 • SHERMAN, CT 06784 • P (860) 354-6928 • F (860) 350-5611

## Minutes of SPECIAL BOD Meeting August 24, 2022 - 7:00PM ZOOM

### ATTENDING:

P. Schaer Sherman (7:06pm)  
D. Cushnie Sherman (7:08pm)  
M. O'Connor Sherman

J. Main New Fairfield  
J. Archer New Fairfield

M. Gaffey Brookfield  
B. Lohan Brookfield  
W. Meikle Brookfield

C. Robinson Danbury  
D. Rosemark (phone) Danbury

S. Kluge New Milford  
M. Toussaint New Milford

M. Howarth, Executive Director  
Neil Stalter, Director of Ecology  
J. Usher, Administrative Coordinator  
Chief Nick Mellas (phone)

Recorder: Jeannine Usher

Guests: 3

Chairman, Marianne Gaffey called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

none

### CONSENT AGENDA

Bill Lohan made a motion to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Martin O'Connor with all voting in favor.

### CLAMP (Chief Nick Mellas)

- 5 new captains were approved this year.
- Boats and facility are running great.
- Not many rain outs.
- Crisis Intervention Team Leader from Danbury Fire Department was invited to Patrol Officer in service training session for peer support and was well-received.
- Chief Mellas worked with Brookfield PD and FD, who came up with a process that helps speed routing of 911 calls coming in off the lake. He will look to collaborate with the other lake towns to duplicate the process.

### ABSENT:

B. Licht New Fairfield

E. Siergiej Danbury

J. Wodarski New Milford

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BY: 

### **PUBLIC SAFETY (Mark Howarth)**

- Chief Nick Mellas will attend Crisis Intervention Counselor Training at Yale University in September.
- Mark Howarth received an update on the Silver Ships boat. Suzuki is shipping the 300 HP motors now, so we are going to keep with the 300. Our motor has not shipped yet. We anticipate the boat will be delivered in time for the 2023 season.
- Public Safety meeting was earlier today. One of the topics was a discussion on potentially equipping some of our boats with night vision and/or FLIR heat sensing cameras. The Public Safety committee plans to explore these options and potential funding for them.
- We are discussing creating a more detailed map for our website with a QR code to assist people.
- The team is considering attending the National Association Safe Boating Conference in late September in New Hampshire as it may be a good learning opportunity for the CLA.

### **EQUIPMENT & FACILITIES (Doug Cushnie and Michael Gasperino)**

Operations Manager, Michael Gasperino has been very busy, maintaining CLA boats and the base due to increased activity. Michael provided an update on the projects he is doing on our work boat to maintain and upgrade the boat. Michael recently completed the boat count. The amounts appear to be about the same as 2022.

### **WATERSHED MANAGEMENT (Steve Kluge and Neil Stalter)**

- The Lake Stewards will be out until Labor Day weekend. So far, the stewards have inspected nearly 500 boats.
- Zebra Mussels update – we have not had any not positive veliger analyses, but there have been positive DNA samples which could be an indication of reproduction.
- FirstLight advised the CLA and DEEP that they plan to eliminate their voluntary restriction on pumping Housatonic River water into the lake during the summer. We expressed that we believe this decision is premature and that we asked to keep the voluntary restriction in place until at least the end of the season in 2024 to allow for more zebra mussel population study. The public was advised in the newsletter and social media. Letters were sent to the town CEOs and state representatives notifying them of this plan, and the CLA disagreement and recommendation.
- Neil discussed the lack of vegetation in the lake and screen-shared to discuss the “stable state” theory in more detail.

### **PUBLIC AWARENESS (Mark Howarth)**

- New Patrol page was created on the website.
- A fundraising post went out on social media.
- Newsletter went out which included information on the zebra mussels, lake vegetation, permits for buoys and a Safe Boating class.
- Cathy Donahue recently accompanied the lake patrol on a ride along.

### **ADJOURN**

*Steve Kluge made a motion to adjourn seconded by Will Meikle, with all voting in favor.* The meeting adjourned at 7:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,

 Recoverable Signature

**X** Martin O'Connor/JU

Martin O'Connor/JU

Secretary

Signed by: 45babc2b-7a56-4437-918f-c5251bd79aee

Martin O'Connor, Secretary

Jeannine Usher, Administrative Coordinator

*These minutes are not considered official until they have been approved at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Candlewood Lake Authority.*