

CANDLEWOOD LAKE AUTHORITY

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

Minutes of Meeting November 4, 2009

Attending:

P. Callahan	New Fairfield
R. Stroh	New Fairfield
R. Guendelsberger	New Milford
C. Reppenhagen	Sherman
S. Murphy	Brookfield
F. Cioffi	Brookfield
H. Berger	Sherman
E. Siergiej	Danbury
P. Schaer	Sherman

Absent:

B. Kemble	New Fairfield
M. Toussaint	New Milford
H. Mayer	New Milford
G. Hofsess	Brookfield
G. Dufel	Danbury

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

Recorder F. Frattini

Guests: M Propper, Danbury

Chairman, Pat Callahan, called the regular meeting of the Candlewood Lake Authority to order at 7:30 P.M. at Brookfield Town Hall, Brookfield, CT.

Mr. Callahan welcomed the guest and he then congratulated Bob Guendelsberger on his reelection to the New Milford Town Council and noted that he had sent congratulations to several of the heads of the other lake towns.

Secretary's Report: In the absence of the Secretary, Frances Frattini, Adm. Coordinator noted that there were no corrections, deletions or additions to the minutes of October 14, 2009. Charlie Reppenhagen moved to accept the minutes as written,

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seconded by Phyllis Schaer and voted with all in favor. Minutes have been accepted as written.

Chairman's Report: Mr. Callahan noted that he heard that the NALMS conference was very good. He advised that next month are the elections and asked the delegates to contact Mrs. Frattini if interested in serving as an officer of the Authority. The Executive Committee will be meeting next week on Thursday.

Vice-Chairman's Report: Howie Berger had nothing to report but noted that the website now has 98 Facebook fans.

Treasurer's Report: In the absence of the Treasurer – there was no report.

Executive Director's Report: Larry Marsicano noted that his report is attached to these minutes. He touched on the Invasive Plant Management/Drawdown presentation that will be part of the Wesconn Science at Night Series on December 10th. He also reported that the Technical Committee teleconferenced yesterday and this winter there will be an off year- the drawdown will be only 4 to 6 feet. The NALMS conference was 'great' and he brought back many pages of notes. He enjoyed seeing Phyllis Schear, Mark Howarth and Jim McAlister's enthusiasm for learning about the management of lakes at the conference.

Public Education Director Report: Mark Howarth reported that he found this year's NALMS conference more educational than last year, the topics were great and he thought the steward program was very good. He has helped with buoy removal – Mr. Marsicano noted that he had also helped and gave kudos to the sophistication of ARK II for the removal. Mr. Howarth continued that Water quality sampling for the season is complete and that an electronic newsletter will be going out soon.

Committee Reports:

Public Safety: Rich Stroh had nothing to report.

Equipment/Facilities: Committee Chair, Ed Siergie, reported the buoys are out and boats will be out this week and docks next week. He advised that the Truck will need new tires and has received three estimates, the will cost around seven hundred (\$700.00) dollars.

Public Awareness: In the absence of the Committee Chair – Mark Howarth read a report from Mark Toussaint, Chairman noting the following:

1. To cut costs PA will move to a single printed newsletter and focus on the email newsletters and an increased focus on marketing via Facebook and Twitter.
2. New Website is live and looks great
3. Looking for opportunities to schedule meetings with the Lake Associations during the off season
4. Fall Appeal sent out – (actually it is at the printer and will be out shortly)

5. Looking into joint sponsor ship for the Clean-up and Dragon Boat Race events.
6. Recommendations on having both events – (DBR is scheduled for August 21, 2010 and the Clean-up will be in May)
7. Watershed Publication – currently working on draft and design. Additional funding is needed for completion.
8. Wesconn seminar series – Milfoil discussion.
- 9.

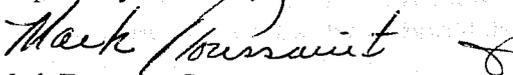
Watershed Management: In the absence of the Committee Chair, Mr. Marsicano reported that the CEOs of New Milford, New Fairfield and Sherman have acknowledged receipt of our letter to make them aware that the CLA is not asking that FERC disapprove the SMP but to approve with a modification that the overcrowding situation needs to be addressed. Once all Towns have been contacted, the CLA will advise Congressman Murphy's office.

Phyllis Schaer thanked the Board for sending her to the Steward Program at NALMS – it was an eye-opening experience and gave her a better understanding of lake issues, it was very worthwhile.

Old/New Business:

With no further business to come before the Candlewood Lake Authority, Mr. Reppenhagen moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Cioffi. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,



Mark Toussaint, Secretary
Frances Frattini, Administrative Coordinator

r/b/t

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 November 2, 2009 Larry Marsicano

The following report summarizes activities from October 8, 2009 to November 2, 2009.

PROJECT CLEAR – CANDLEWOOD LAKE ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS AND RESPONSIBILITY

The first classroom day is scheduled for Friday, November 6th at WCSU. Project CLEAR teachers and administrators, including the CLA, will be meeting with the faculty of the WCSU Science Building on Wednesday, November 4th. This is an informal meeting where WCSU can advise CLEAR staff on use of rooms and facilities at WCSU.

NORTH AMERICAN LAKE MANAGEMENT SOCIETY SYMPOSIUM

Posters and presentations that were authored or co-authored by the CLA were well-received. The conference itself provided a wealth of information, including that on the state of lakes across the country, watershed management, invasive plant management (including biological controls), and educational initiatives. I am currently going through my multiple pages of notes which I will summarize and send out by the next meeting.

In addition to CLA staff attending the technical sessions (Wednesday thru Friday, October 28th thru October 30th) several members of the Candlewood community attended the Lake and Watershed Stewards program sessions on Friday and Saturday, October 30th and 31st, respectively. These included Sherman CLA Delegate Phyllis Schaer and the Candlewood Watershed Initiative's co-chairman, Jim McAlister of New Fairfield.

SHORELINE MANAGEMENT / WATERSHED MANAGEMENT

We will be touring Pine Island on Thursday, November 5th with New Fairfield enforcement officers and FirstLight.

We have received plans for 17 Old Neversink Road in Danbury per the request of Enforcement Officer Dan Baroody. Gary Dufel and I have reviewed the plans and will be submitting comments to the architects who represent the property owner.

RECREATION MANAGEMENT / PUBLIC SAFETY ISSUES

We have completed another piece of our in-use vessel density analyses. Much of that was shared in the poster presented at the NALMS conference and presented at our board meeting. A Lake Advisory Committee (per FirstLight's Recreation Plan) has been scheduled for Monday, November 9th.

INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT / DRAWDOWN

We planned and participated in collections of live Eurasian watermilfoil on Sunday, October 25th. The plants are to be used in additional studies on the effects of desiccation and freezing being studied by Dr. Tom Lonergan at WCSU. Our volunteer divers / "citizen scientists" were Mr. Ray Crawford and Mr. Bill Bowen, both of New Milford, CT. Dr. Lonergan's preliminary report is available on the CLA website.

We are co-planning research with WCUS and CAES looking at soil moisture content of littoral zone sediments during drawdown.

We are partnering with WCSU on coordinating a "Milfoil Summit" currently scheduled for Thursday night, December 10th at WCSU starting at 7 PM. The program will include talks from Dr. Lonergan of WCSU, Mr. Greg Bugbee from the CT Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES), and a roundtable discussion with a Q&A period for attendees. Roundtable participants will include scientists and/or natural resource professionals from the CLA, WCSU, and CAES, as well as representation from FirstLight Power Resources and CLUB*A. We will be working with WCSU on publicizing the event. The event will also be taped, edited and produced by WCSU for future use.

The Technical Committee is scheduled to discuss this winter's drawdown on Tuesday, November 3rd. Members of the Technical Committee include FirstLight, CT DEP, the CLA.

OTHER

I am scheduled to present to the Lake Candlewood Power Squadron on Thursday night, November 19th.

Mark and I assisted in the retrieval of the hazard and regulatory buoys during the week of October 19th. The resources put into maintaining the ARK are well worth it! Also, we retrieved a regulatory buoy in front of someone's home who claimed it was his, despite having our numbers, riggings, etc. It may be necessary to revisit the policy of permanently identifying our buoys.

Also during the week of October 19th, the field work component of the monitoring of Candlewood and Squantz was completed.



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November 4, 2009
Public Education
Mark Howarth

NALMS Conference:

We attended the North American Lake Management Society's Annual International Symposium in Hartford. For three days we were able to sit in on various presentations covering a range of lake management and water quality issues. Below are a sample of some of the presentations I attended.

Water Quality Responses To Land Use Changes In the Lake Sawyer and Little Lake Sawyer Drainage Basins – Did Basin Development Improve Water Quality – Harvey Harper

This talk was about a study in Florida about a lake that had been surrounded by fertilized agricultural fields (row crops) and animal grazing lands. The lake had high nutrient levels and impaired water quality, likely due to the runoff it was receiving. It had only a very small portion of shoreline developed. The farmland was then sold and except for the small wetland areas, all of the land around the lake was developed with housing. When it was developed, they were required to have stormwater treatment measures implemented so as not to adversely impact water quality. Detention ponds, back yard swales, buffers etc. were used to treat stormwater. As a result of a conversion from agricultural lands to those of single-family subdivisions with required stormwater management measures implemented for all homes, total phosphorous loads decreased and there was an improvement of lake status, to oligotrophic, with almost immediate improved water quality. Florida also has a law restricting the sale of fertilizer to those containing no more than 2% phosphorous and no fertilizing with phosphorous is allowed from June to September.

Lake-Level Drawdown as a Management Tool for Aquatic Plants – Lee Lyman

This was an interesting talk, based on Lee's experiences with drawdowns. He recommended that drawdowns start in the latter half of September, ideally and that they progress at a pace of no more than 1 to 2 inches per day in order to give the freshwater organisms (mussels, crawfish etc.) time to move into deeper water to survive the winter. He also suggested that the drawdown level should be maintained until, for instance, 5 consecutive days of 15 degree weather are achieved at which time you raise the water levels, getting the soils to uplift and disrupt the root system, instead of allowing the soils to warm up and thaw.

Examining Shorelines Littorally – Kellie Merrell

This was a discussion about measuring the effects of lakeshore development on the littoral habitat. Kellie stated that lakes with 25% developed land have moderate stress, while lakes with 50% developed land have high stress. This was of particular interest since Candlewood has 58% of its shoreline with residential development and an additional 6% of its shoreline developed by roads, which would place Candlewood well into the high-stress category. She also said that if shoreline buffers are restored, the ecology will improve on 42.5% of lakes.

Role of Nutrient Limitation in Lake Restoration - Management of Nitrogen vs. Phosphorus – Harvey Harper

This was a more technical discussion on the roles and value of ratios of nitrogen to phosphorus in the algal production in lakes, suggesting that what at first may appear to be a nitrogen limited lake from the low N:P ratio, may in fact require a reduction in phosphorus input for lake restoration. Of note, it was stated that nitrogen concentrations increase by a factor of two following watershed development while phosphorus concentrations increase by a factor of 4 to 10 following watershed development.

Potential for stocked watermilfoil weevils (*Euhrychiopsis lecontei*) to sustain populations in Candlewood Lake: a possible biological control of invasive Eurasian watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*) – Andy Oguma

A great presentation by Andy about the weevil program which was started here at Candlewood last summer. He discussed his findings from the first year program, stating that the stocked sites showed higher weevil populations than the control sites throughout the summer and several life cycles, but that further study of the sites in subsequent years will help to determine if weevils are a viable option for controlling milfoil on Candlewood.

Effects of Integrated Pest Management and Weevil-Stocking on Eurasian Watermilfoil – Dr. Michelle Marko

The use of herbicides with weevils was explored through controlled experiments in an outdoor laboratory setting. We learned some interesting information about weevil population cycles (that they tend to peak in mid-August and are low in mid-June) and the ways in which weevils affect milfoil density by preventing nutrients (carbs) from going back into the roots so that the following season there is less sugar in the root structure, producing smaller plants.

The following three topics were part of the Lake Steward Program offered this year:

Everything you wanted to know about phosphorus from a lake management perspective but were afraid to ask – Fred Lubnow

This was the first of several great topics in this program. He covered many scientific areas of phosphorous and discussed the impact that animals such as geese or dogs can have on phosphorous entering a water body.

Understanding Lake Stratification: Why We Measure Water Temperature, Dissolved Oxygen and Water Clarity – George Knocklein

This presentation helped explain why lakes stratify, the role of water clarity and light penetration as well as the properties of water at various temperatures. The link between water clarity, water temperatures and dissolved oxygen was explained and sample lake profiles were used to help illustrate these points.

Overview on Aquatic Plant Management Strategies Used In The Northeast – Marc Bellaud

This covered the pros and cons of the various aquatic plant management techniques, including benthic barriers, mechanical harvesting, herbicides, milfoil weevils and suction harvesting among others.

November E-Newsletter:

An e-newsletter for November is nearly complete and will be sent out shortly. It will highlight our new website and discuss New Fairfield's changes to zoning regulations, further milfoil research at Western Connecticut State University and the 80th Celebration of Candlewood held at the NF Community Center among other topics.

Website:

Work on the website continues as we add features and content. Plans to upgrade and change the home page are in progress.

Buoy Removal:

Spent time on the water helping to remove and clean the speed, hazard and navigational buoys.