



CANDLEWOOD LAKE AUTHORITY

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

Minutes of Meeting September 1, 2010

Attending:

B. Kemble	New Fairfield
R. Stroh	New Fairfield
J. Hodge	New Fairfield
H. Mayer	New Milford
M. Toussaint	New Milford
P. Schaer	Sherman (arrived 7:36 PM)
H. Berger	Sherman
G. Dufel	Danbury
F. Cioffi	Brookfield
J. Murphy	Brookfield

Absent:

M. Calandrino	Danbury
R. Guendelsberger -	New Milford
E. Siergiej	Danbury
C. Reppenhagen	Sherman
W. Lohan	Brookfield

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

Recorder: R. Stroh

Guests: Brookfield Patch reporter

Howie Berger, Chairman, called the regular meeting of the Candlewood Lake Authority to order at 7:31 P.M. at Brookfield Town Hall, Brookfield, CT. He welcomed the press.

Secretary's Report: Rich Stroh, Secretary, noted that there were no corrections to the minutes of the August meeting, Harold Mayer moved to accept the minutes of the August 11, 2010 meeting as written, seconded by John Hodge and voted with all in favor, minutes have been accepted.

Chairman's Report – Howie Berger advised on the items that would be covered during the course of the meeting.

Vice-Chairman's Report: Mark Toussaint reported that the Dragon Boat Race was a smashing success.

Phyllis Schaer arrived at 7:36 PM

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Mark Howarth gave a short photo presentation on the 2nd Annual Dragon Boat Race. He noted this year the weather was perfect, there were double the number of teams with 350 participants plus their families, friends and volunteers all who made it a very successful event. He was looking forward to next year. Thank you Mark for planning and organizing such a wonderful event.

Treasurer's Report: Phyllis Schaer, Treasurer, reported that the annual audit for the year ended 6/30/2010 is on going.

Executive Director: Larry Marsicano noted that his report is attached to these minutes. He reviewed a few items namely Eurasian Water milfoil management and research such as the WCSU research, the weevils, and the graphs of drawdown since 1984. Also Attorney Ted Backer has not yet heard back from DEP on the MOA. The Annual Boat count was done and is up slightly to six thousand thirty eight (6038) vessels.

Equipment/Facilities: In the absence of the Committee Chair there was no report.

Public Awareness – Mark Toussaint noted the committee will be meeting later this month. (September 16th)

Public Safety: Rich Stroh committee chair advised nothing to report. Howie Berger noted that the sub-committee that will be working on the new DEP Agreement for the Lake Patrol would begin meeting soon.

Mr. Berger also spoke about indemnification of the Lake Patrol. Atty. Backer had provided a clause that Mr. Berger read to the delegates and asked for its adoption and that it be sent to the CLA insurance provider (CIRMA) for their input. Phyllis Schaer moved to adopt the following indemnification clause: "As authorized by the provisions of Connecticut General Statutes 7-151B(a) the Candlewood Lake Authority shall protect and save harmless any lake patrolman employed by the Authority from financial loss and expense, including reasonable legal fees and costs, if any, arising out of any claim, demand suit or judgment by reason of alleged negligence on the part of such lake patrolman while acting in the scope of such lake patrolman's employment to the extent of the applicable insurance coverage obtained by the Candlewood Lake Authority for Candlewood Lake Patrol Officers." Seconded by Jerry Murphy and voted with all in favor. The clause will be sent to the CIRMA for comment.

Watershed Management: Harold Mayer reported the committee had met and Bob Gates of FirstLight was there to review the history of drawdowns. It was noted that deep drawdown from 1984 to 1995 were consistent in getting the lake down and keeping it down for at least 60 days generally on a biennial basis; after that the drawdowns were less consistent. They discussed this with Mr. Gates and requested he consider the parameters of the earlier drawdowns. Also weather conditions and river flow, among other things, need to be considered when determining the drawdown. The committee recommended that FirstLight reach 419 feet by early January, leave the level down till the end of February and have the water back up by mid April. Mr. Gates seemed

amenable and will bring this back to his company. Jerry Murphy asked if the CLA has the weather data – Mr. Marsicano advised that there are charts of rainfall, snowfall and temperature for many of the years from 2000 to 2010. He noted that temperature and desiccation are the killing factors Mr. Marsicano referred to a literature search that the CLA had done in 1990 on “the effects of drawdown on benthic and macro invertebrates” which shows there is much science on the subject of how drawdowns can effect the ecology of a water body. He also noted that literature that should be considered should either be peer-reviewed scientific journal articles, or publications, websites, etc, from Universities, or state or federal governments.

Mr. Mayer reported on the meeting that Gary Dufel, John Hodge, and Larry Marsicano had with Jim Ginnett of FirstLight. Two primary topics were 1- the importance of an appropriate deep drawdown and 2 - the improvement of trust and a working relationship between FirstLight and the CLA.

Mr. Cioffi asked about the weevil program. Mr. Marsicano advised that the findings are that there has been extensive damage and increased insects in the areas that were stocked. He is waiting for a report from Enviroscience.

Mr. Mayer reported that representatives of NU/CL&P will be visiting the lake for a boat ride to Vaughn’s Neck and Candlewood Mountain on September 28. They have created a draft management plan for their Candlewood Lake properties, i.e. the 1015 acres on Candlewood Lake, it looks very promising. The draft plan indicated that those pieces of property are located in the Highland Regional Area and that Vaughn’s Neck is one of nine Conservation Focal areas within the CT portion of the Highlands. It looks like they want to protect the land.

Old/New Business: None

With no further business to come before the Candlewood Lake Authority, Harold Mayer moved to adjourn, seconded by Bruce Kemble. Meeting adjourned at 8:48 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,



Richard Stroh, Secretary
Frances Frattini, Administrative Coordinator

r/b/s

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 August 4, 2010 Larry Marsicano

The following report summarizes activities August 4, 2010 to August 30, 2010.

EURASIAN WATERMILFOIL MANAGEMENT & RESEARCH

Students made their final visit to Candlewood Lake on August 19th to monitor the weevil stocking and control sites and collect Eurasian watermilfoil samples for analyses in the labs at WCSU. Statistical analyses of the data should be completed later in the fall.

On August 23rd we met on the lake with Dr. Tom Lonergan and Dr. Mitch Wagener of WCSU, and Greg Bugbee from the CAES to discuss research going forward, including research on winter temperature and soil moisture of exposed lake sediments and weevils. Both institutions continue to be committed to contributing to the Eurasian watermilfoil problem and Candlewood Lake.

On August 24th, we provided staff from EnviroScience transportation on the Lake to visit the sites that were stocked this past June. Eurasian watermilfoil samples were collected and are to be analyzed back at their labs. General observations were that there was considerable stem damage at the new stocking site. A report will be submitted to the CLA detailing their analyses in the future.

We have plotted the drawdowns on Candlewood Lake since 1984. Observation of that data confirms much of what was presented in earlier research, i.e. for deep drawdowns target depths were reached by January 1st and the lake remained down for approximately 60 days. The more recent analysis suggests that deep drawdown targets were often mid December.

On the night of August 24th, Watershed Committee met and discussed, among several topics, the Eurasian watermilfoil and drawdowns. Mr. Bob Gates from FirstLight had accepted an invitation to attend the meeting and provide important insights. Mr. Gates helped improve our understanding of constraints on FirstLight in conducting a deep drawdown. A model deep drawdown was discussed and proposed. Mr. Gates asked that we send the proposed model to them in a letter, which we did on Friday (by email), August 27th. Parameters of the deep drawdown that we were requesting were:

- Reach 423.5 foot contour (CL&P datum) by mid December
- Reach your target depth of approximately the 419 foot contour (CL&P datum) by no later than January 7th. Reaching the target depth earlier would be even better to avoid snow cover.

- Keep the depth of the water surface around the 419 foot contour till the end of February
- Reach full lake level by mid April

We are also corresponding with CAES and others to estimate and map how much of this year's milfoil will be exposed and theoretically killed by a deep drawdown.

RECREATION / PUBLIC SAFETY MANAGEMENT

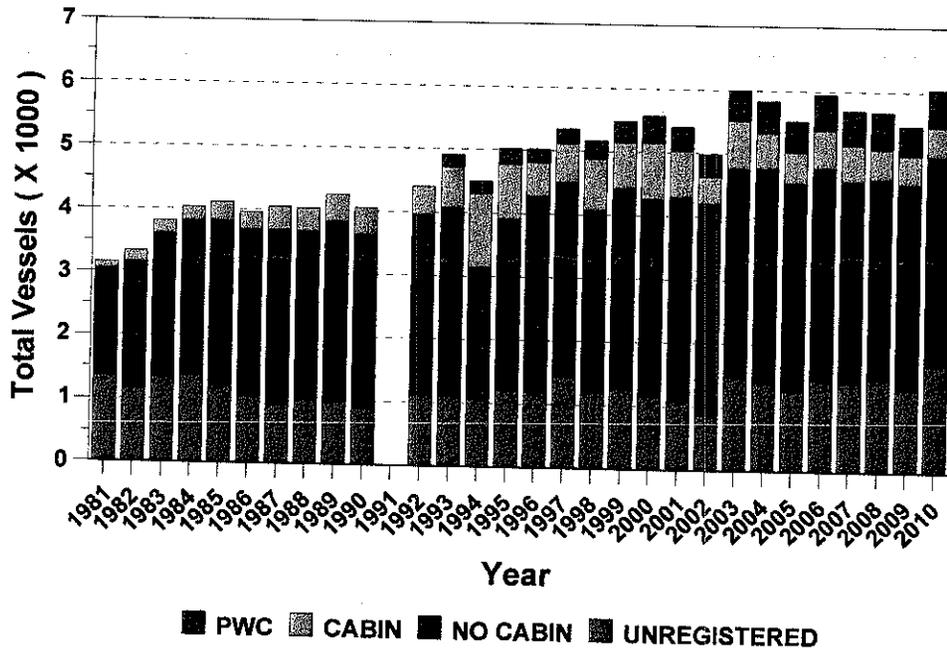
The MOA was signed by the CLA Chairman and sent to the CT DEP shortly after the last board meeting.

2010 DRAGON BOAT RACES

The 2010 Dragon Boat Races held on August 21st were a success thanks in large part to Mark and his committee. Most of the staff spent much of Friday, August 20th preparing and much of the day of event, setting up before and cleaning up after the event. Several of us were also coaches or steersmen for the practices held from August 10th thru 20th.

CANDLEWOOD LAKE BOAT COUNT

The boat count was conducted during the week of August 16th by CLA Operations staff. Total vessels were 6,038 which were over 500 vessels more than last year's count. Much of that was due to an increase in unregistered vessels counted. Registered vessels increased by 195 vessels over last year with 100 of those being additional personal water craft. Registered vessels with cabins were up 29 and without cabins up by 66 over last year.



WATER QUALITY MONITORING

Water quality monitoring of Candlewood Lake and Squantz Pond was conducted by CLA staff on August 26th. Bacteria monitoring has been conducted weekly by the New Fairfield Senior Environmental Corps.

MEETING WITH JIM GINETTI OF FIRSTLIGHT

On August 16th, Gary Dufel, John Hodge and I met for lunch with Jim Ginnetti of FirstLight to discuss the importance of an appropriate deep drawdown and trust and working relationships that have decayed during the development of the SMP. There will be efforts in the future to work on trust issues on both sides. A meeting between FirstLight and CLA is tentatively scheduled for sometime in September to open the lines of communication. Thanks are owed to John Hodge who set up the meeting and Gary Dufel who rearranged his schedule several times to make the meeting and professionally represent the Authority.

MEETING WITH CL&P

In June I reported that Harold Mayer and I had met with representatives of CL&P at their offices to discuss the future of Vaughn's Neck, Candlewood Mountain and the large CL&P-owned islands. During that meeting Harold had extended an invitation to their Director of Environmental & Property Management, Ms. Srividya Madhusudhan, and others to tour the lake and Vaughn's Neck as our guests. This past month we have been able to set a date for the tour that will take place on September 28th. I also received a call from Mr. Jeff Borne of CL&P who oversees the management of Candlewood Lake properties. Mr. Borne informed me that he will be sending along a draft of their Candlewood Lake Properties Management Plan Vaughn's for our review. I have received the plan and we have started our review.



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September 1, 2010
Public Education
Mark Howarth

2010 Dragon Boat Races:

The 2010 dragon boat races were held on August 21st at Lynn Deming Park in New Milford. We had 16 teams made up of nearly 350 competitors, plus a number of spectators and many volunteers, who were at the park for the day. The weather was great and everything seemed to go very smoothly that day. Feedback from the teams were that they had a great time and racing, spending time with their teammates and enjoying the park and Candlewood Lake for the day.

We also had performances by Curtis Thompson, who sang our National Anthem, as well as the UCONN Taiko Drummers, who performed in the opening ceremonies, and performed at other points throughout the event.

The event was capped with an awards ceremony, with the Isle Stokers from Candlewood Isle claiming 1st place, followed by the Beasts of the East from Candlewood East Marina coming in 2nd. In 3rd was Sale-N-Buy from Independent Realty Group.

The whole day was very festive, with some teams showing up in costume or with a team theme, decorating their team tents and adding to the fun that day. We were encouraged by the stories of both community and sharing among teams that went on that day and look forward to what next year has in store.

Candlewood Lake Publication:

Our Candlewood Lake Publication is ready for printing and will be distributed along with the Candlewood Watershed Initiative's storm drain marking program's, door-hanger information kits in the neighborhoods in which storm drain marking is being done. It will also be distributed through other avenues over time.