



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 CLA Regular Meeting Wednesday, December 13, 2023 - 7:00PM via ZOOM

ATTENDING:

| | |
|--------------|---------------|
| D. Cushnie | Sherman |
| M. O'Connor | Sherman |
| | |
| J. Archer | New Fairfield |
| | |
| M. Gaffey | Brookfield |
| W. Meikle | Brookfield |
| B. Lohan | Brookfield |
| | |
| C. Robinson | Danbury |
| D. Rosemark | Danbury |
| | |
| S. Kluge | New Milford |
| M. Toussaint | New Milford |

ABSENT:

| | |
|-------------|---------------|
| P. Schaer | Sherman |
| | |
| B. Licht | New Fairfield |
| J. Main | New Fairfield |
| | |
| E. Siergiej | Danbury |
| | |
| J. Wodarski | New Milford |

M. Howarth, Executive Director
N. Stalter, Director of Ecology and Environmental Science
D. Wright, Administrative Coordinator
M. Gasperino, Operations Manager

Recorder: D. Wright

Guests: 3

Chairman, Marianne Gaffey, called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.

PUBLIC COMMENT

none

CONSENT AGENDA

It was noted there were no financials in this month's consent agenda due to technical issues that resulted from the office move.

Marianne Gaffey made a motion to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Steve Kluge, all voting in favor.

Bill Lohan made a motion to add George Sinnamon, CLA Auditor, to the agenda, Will Meikle seconded, all voting in favor.

George provided an update on the 2023 audit. Martin asked if it was a clean audit with no concerns with operations or the management of funds. George confirmed there were no concerns or issues and all records were documented well. He recommended next year the records be provided sooner.

Bill Lohan made a motion to accept the audit as submitted, Mark Toussaint seconded, all voting in favor.

PUBLIC SAFETY (Mark Howarth)

Mark H. provided an update on Public Safety. The season is wrapped up, resumes have been received for the LPO position and interviews are expected to proceed in January. EnCon will be providing training dates and expanded training topics and will provide soon. LPO evaluations are currently in progress.

EQUIPMENT & FACILITIES (Doug Cushnie)

Doug reported that the ARK will be winterized by Echo Bay. New Fairfield has decided they no longer need the old Fire Boat which we were going to transfer back to them.

Doug Cushnie made a motion to transport the boat to Echo Bay and let them put a number on it and consign it through them, Marianne Gaffey seconded, all voting in favor.

Mark H. discussed the new office space in New Fairfield. As of 5pm this evening the internet service was installed, and a few final steps need to be done and the internet should be up and running. Mark mentioned we continue to unpack and organize but after being off the water for 15 years, being back on the lake is great. Prior space in New Milford served us well and the Landlord was very positive while we were there and on our exit.

PUBLIC AWARENESS (Joan Archer)

Annual Report/Appeal went out in print form and has been posted on website and on social media. More information on other projects will be presented at next month's meeting.

WATERSHED MANAGEMENT (Neil Stalter)

Neil discussed the office move and that has been the focus. The new space will work out well as the lab equipment and water equipment live there and the research boat will be there as well.

The grant that funds the Lake Steward program is open now and submissions are due January 6. The Lake Steward program is funded for next year and we will be applying for 2025. The Lake Steward report should be completed soon and will be submitted to DEEP. First Light Nuisance Plant report has been received and we will be discussing it at the watershed meeting next week. We are planning a webinar to educate the community about zebra mussels next month. We met with the AP Environmental science teacher at Danbury High School and discussed ways to get involved and collaborate with the school.

BOARD ELECTIONS

Marianne discussed electing new officers for the Board.

Slate has been nominated:

Martin O'Connor, Chair

Marianne Gaffey, Vice Chair

Will Meikle, Treasurer

Joan Archer, Secretary

Marianne asked if anyone would like to make any other nominations which no one had any input.

*Marianne Gaffey made a motion that the slate as presented be voted for officers for next year, **Bill Lohan** seconded, all in favor.*

ADJOURN

*Will Meikle made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by **Steve Kluge**, all voting in favor.*

The meeting adjourned at 7:33pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Archer ^{DW}

Joan Archer, Secretary

Dee Wright, Administrative Coordinator

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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Marianne Gaffey, Chair
Candlewood Lake Authority
December 13, 2023

State of the Lake/Annual Appeal

Thank you to Joan and all the staff for writing, editing, and designing the State of the Lake report. The biggest thank you is to Mark for doing all the graphic work in the middle of organizing the office move. The newsletter is informative, engaging, and very well written. The newsletter is being delivered this week and is available on the website.

New Office

The CLA is now back in offices on the lake! The staff has done a great job cleaning out, organizing, and moving. Some of the highlights include Neil's own Science Lab, a conference room, a desk and office area for Nick, and several dock spaces right outside our door. Many thanks to Martin for all his work in making this happen.

Stop by and check out the great view of the lake!

Audit

The draft of the audit is ready and has been distributed to the BOD.

Marianne Gaffey
December 13, 2023



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December 13, 2023
Executive Director
Mark Howarth

Monthly Report

My time since my last report has been largely dedicated to two tasks. Creating our annual report to be mailed to area residents and moving our CLA administrative office from New Milford to New Fairfield.

- Our Annual Report and “State of the Lake” appeal is now in the mailboxes of residents around the lake. We focused on trying to provide a very informative and visually attractive piece that the homeowners would enjoy receiving. Many people had a hand in making this happen - thank you to Joan, Marianne and everyone who contributed to this project. The document is at the end of my report.
- Much of our time the past couple of weeks has been devoted to preparing for and moving to our new office. We have moved our administrative office from New Milford to New Fairfield and I am excited to have this office on the lake for the CLA. There is still unpacking, filing and some setting up to do and we are still trying to get our internet provider to successfully install internet services there. We have had a lot of challenges with our internet provider and this install, but we are hopeful that by the time of this meeting they will have fixed the issues and we will be up and running with internet from our new location. We look forward to showing our new office once we have completed the move-in process.
- I went to the Danbury Budget Kick Off Meeting on December 11th and we will be sending our approved proposed FY 24/25 budget to the towns this month.
- We have received a draft of our annual audit from our auditor and we have been reviewing that in anticipation of presenting it to the board for a vote.



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J. Neil Stalter

Director of Ecology and Environmental Education

Candlewood Lake Authority

Re: December Monthly Report

Date: 12/13/2023

- Our primary activity this month has been preparation and completion of the move to the new office at the Candlewood Isle Causeway! I'm very excited about the new office and our new space on the water.



- We have received all of the water quality monitoring sample results back from the UCONN lab in a very timely fashion!
- Work is continuing on the final reports for the stewards over the past 2 years as well as the water quality monitoring.
 - The move and some IT issues have slowed work on the reports a little, but the steward report will be done soon, while the water quality report should be finished in January.
- The DEEP AIS grant funding cycle for the lake steward program is open once again. Because we planned ahead last year, we will be submitting an application to the program for funding for the **2025** season, as we are fully funded through 2024. Once the report is

finished and submitted, we will be reimbursed for the remaining costs of the 2023 program.

- We submitted the year-end report outlining all the work of the CLA (both the environmental and public safety side) and it looks great! Major thanks to Mark H., Joan, Marianne, and everyone else who helped make it a really nice report this year.
 - Those have been posted to the website and mailed to the mailing list.

- We received the 2023 Nuisance Plant report conducted by NEAR from FirstLight for 30 day consultation this month. While I have not completed my comprehensive review and any comments, there are no surprises in the report. I will forward it to the board before the watershed management meeting next week where will discuss in more detail.
 - The big finding, apart from rare instances of milfoil and some other plants in Candlewood, was the discovery of Hydrilla in Lillinonah, which was discussed at the board meeting last month.

- I hope everyone had a happy and safe Thanksgiving, and has a relaxing holiday season!