



# CANDLEWOOD LAKE AUTHORITY

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

## Minutes of Regular Meeting

June 12, 2019

### Attending:

P. Schaer	Sherman
G. Linkletter	Sherman
D. Cushnie	Sherman
C. Robinson	Danbury
B. Licht	New Fairfield
J. Main	New Fairfield
J. Wodarski	New Milford
M. Toussaint	New Milford
S. Kluge	New Milford (electronic)
D. Rosemark	Danbury (electronic)
J. Murphy	Brookfield
W. Lohan	Brookfield

### Absent:

J. Archer	New Fairfield
E. Siergiej	Danbury
M. Gaffey	Brookfield

M. Howarth, Executive Director  
J. Neil Stalter, Director of Ecology and Environmental Education  
F. Frattini, CLA Administrative Coordinator (electronic)  
R. Barnard – CLAMP Chief of Marine Enforcement

Recorder: J. Neil Stalter

Guests: Four members of the public

Chairman, Phyllis Schaer, called the regular meeting of the Candlewood Lake Authority to order at 7:32 P.M. at Brookfield Town Hall Brookfield, CT. She welcomed the guests and advised that the new delegate for the Town of Brookfield Marianne Gaffey was traveling and looks forward to welcoming here next month.

**Public Comment:** None

**Secretary's Report:** *Jerry Murphy made a motion to accept the minutes of the May 8, 2019 meeting as written, seconded by Bill Lohan; motion was voted with all in favor. Motion carried, and minutes have been accepted as written.*

**Candlewood Lake Authority Marine Patrol:** Chief Ron Barnard advised that all is going well. Activity seems to be down, but equipment is running well and all shifts have been covered. Their wish is for a new boat to replace the old boat and for that old boat to become a supervisor's boat. Fireworks should be covered but not sure how much manpower DEEP will have out this year. He noted that they have been handing out the whistles and they are well received. Also, they may schedule additional patrols on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

**Chairman's Report:** Chairman Phyllis Schaer reported that she, Mark Howarth and Neil Stalter had attended a Realtors Meeting and that Mr. Howarth and Mr. Stalter did a very good job presenting on the Lake Authority and handing out the new Homeowners Guides. FLPR was also there and they did a good job explaining the 'project boundary', among other things, to the local realtors.

Mrs. Schaer noted that a letter has been received from the attorney who she did the review of the SMP comments – Mr. Stalter read the letter and it is attached to these minutes.

Mrs. Schaer advised that the Aquatic Invasive Species Fund Bill had passed the state legislature. The Boat decontamination program may be a possible idea to apply for from the new fund.

State of the Lake will be July 13<sup>th</sup> in New Fairfield

The Nuisance Plant Monitoring Final Report has been received. The majority of the Technical Committee has approved NorthEast Aquatic Research (NEAR) for the 2019 Nuisance Plant Monitoring but Candlewood would prefer to have the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES) to do the monitoring on Candlewood. Mrs. Schaer noted that she would like to meet with FLPR to see if a compromise might be possible to have CAES do Candlewood and NEAR do Lakes Zoar and Lillinonah. CAES understands that this would mean that the reporting would have to be split and would try to keep the cost to where there would be not additional cost to FLPR.

Mrs. Schaer appointed a Sub-Committee to the Watershed Management Committee for the purpose of working on the Lake Management Plan – Members will be Phyllis Schaer, Steve Kluge, Jeff Main, Mark Howarth and Neil Stalter, they will be asking stakeholders i.e. the Five Towns, DEEP, FLPR, Eversource, etc. to send a representative. Mrs. Schaer noted that there are a number of lake management plans and documents that the Authority already has that need to be reviewed. There should be one cohesive document. She noted that the sub-committee is planning to have an outline for a new Lake Management plan by the end of the year.

Mrs. Schaer reported that pollinator gardens as sample buffers around the lake have been suggested. Jeff Main is working on planting pollinators at the Sherman Base Buffer Garden; they suggested that others could be at the New Fairfield Town Park and the Danbury Town Park and possibly the other towns as well. Sue Slater, Brookfield Selectman advised the delegates that she will forward an email on Brookfield 's pollinator pathway committee.

The Vegetated Buffer Report was received this week and is being reviewed by Neil Stalter, he noted that he would have his comments for the Watershed Management Committee meeting next week. He did note that it appears that the additional column that the Lake Authority had requested has not been included but it did include a satellite imagery study that FLPR believes should be considered sufficient for that request, but it was lake wide not property specific. This may be an item that the CLA will reassert that there is a need for this added column. Mr. Howarth noted that the comment period will end on July 9<sup>th</sup> and the next CLA meeting is July 10<sup>th</sup> so he will ask for a formal extension to allow the delegates to review the comments at the July 10<sup>th</sup> monthly meeting. It was noted that the reporting requirement might change under the new SMP. Discussion followed on the buffer requirements and that under the new proposed SMP it would trigger when a homeowner applies to FLPR for a permit not on a sale.

Mrs. Schaer noted that the new informational buoys are out, it was suggested that the CLA be more active in the CFL by attending their quarterly meetings, and finally she advised that Frances Frattini will be leaving as Administrative Coordinator after this her forty-first season with the CLA and that the HR committee will be tasked with looking for a replacement.

**Vice-Chairman's Report:** Vice Chairman, Mark Toussaint, noted he had nothing at this time.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Bill Lohan advised that we have completed eleven months of the fiscal year and Profit and Loss Budget vs. Actual for May 31, 2019 has income at 96% of budget and expenses year to date are Admin at 82% of budget, Equipment/Facilities 83% of budget, Public Safety 83% of budget, Public Awareness 73% of budget, and Watershed Management 72% of budget, making overall expenses 80% of budget. *Mr. Lohan reported that there are two line items over budget.* There is still \$9,900.00 due from the Town of New Milford and it should be received by the end of the fiscal year. He projects that Income will be 97% of budget for the fiscal year ending June 30<sup>th</sup>. Overall after June expenses he projects that the CLA could end the year with between 19,000/31,000 surplus. He did note that some of this may be needed for the new hire, grass carp and the Capital Project Fund. Mrs. Schaer asked about the contingency fund that was suggested by the Auditor – Mr. Lohan noted that in the Audit it would be the undesignated funds. Mrs. Schaer noted that some funds may be needed for the Boat Decontamination Program this year, funds to cover checking if the unit is operational and funds to purchase the containment mat – discussion followed. *Chris Robinson made a motion to approve the estimated cost of five hundred (\$500.00) dollars to determine if the decontamination unit is operational, seconded by Jerry Murphy and voted with all in favor, and George Linkletter opposed. Motion carried.* Discussion continued and *Mrs. Schaer made a motion to approve the purchase of the containment mat for three thousand (\$3,000.00) dollars and training at two hundred fifty (\$250.00) dollars – total not to exceed \$3,250.00 if the decontamination unit is determined to be operational without any additional expense over the \$500.00 approved, seconded by Jerry Murphy, Voted with six in favor and Doug Cushnie, Joe Wodarski, Bill Licht, Chris Robinson and George Linkletter opposed (5) Motion carried by a vote of 6 in favor and 5 opposed.*

*Mr. Lohan advised that transfers totaling \$1,052.99 as of 5/31/2019 all within the same accounts: #1 - from Line #300B Public Safety/Admin \$1,008.66 to Line #314 PS/Tanning, and #2 - from Line #417 PA/Fundraising \$44.33 to Line #141 PA/Subscription Services. Mr. Lohan moved to approve these transfers/adjustments totaling \$1,052.99; Jerry Murphy seconded and voted with all in favor.*

*Mr. Lohan made a motion to accept the report of Profit and Loss Budget vs. Actual for the month ended May 31, 2019 be accepted as presented, seconded by Jeff Main and voted with all in favor. Motion carried and report has been filed for audit.*

**Executive Director's Report:** Mark Howarth advised his report is attached to these minutes and then noted the highlights.

- Clean Up was successful. Thank you to all volunteers and to the New Fairfield Public Works and Town of New Fairfield for allowing us to be at their park again.
- Micro fiber Towels are in production
- Weather Weekend Forecasts
- Water Quality Monitoring
- Sponsors
- Homeowner's Guide Distribution
- Buoys
- State of the Lake is July 13<sup>th</sup>, looking forward to seeing new faces of people who can't attend the traditional April timing.
- Senior Environmental Corps
- Danbury Board of Realtors
- Sherman Memorial Day Parade

**Director of Ecology and Environmental Education:** Neil Stalter noted his report is attached to these minutes. Highlights from his report are:

- Clean Up
- Water Quality Monitoring 2019
  - Sampling done May 29-30
  - Carp Tracking – appears the batteries have run their course, so the Carp Tracking Program is officially ended.
- Scheduling Outreach with local schools
- Boat Wash Station program
- Drone Video
- Creatures of Candlewood – Smallmouth Bass written by our SEE intern
- New Fairfield SEE Student worked with Mr. Stalter for three weeks helping with presentations. On lake sampling, carp tracking, organizing data, etc.
- Reviewing the Nuisance Plant Monitoring Report and Vegetated Buffer Report
- Planning prep on Lake Management Plan

**Committee Reports**

**Public Safety Committee:** Joe Wodarski noted nothing to add at this time

**Equipment/Facilities Committee:** Doug Cushnie reported that Equip/Facil is in summer mode. Looking at some special projects one of which is winter buoy storage. Also addressing the few items covered in the Fire Marshall report for Sherman Base.

**Public Awareness Committee:** George Linkletter, Committee Chairman noted that volunteers are still needed for Village Fair Days and that they may have a site for the Buffer Garden Video.

**Watershed Management Committee:** Mark Toussaint Committee Chairman advised the committee will meet next week.

With no other business, *Jerry Murphy moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Joe Wodarski. Meeting adjourned at 9:26 P. M.*

Respectfully submitted,

Jerry Murphy, Secretary  
Frances Frattini, Administrative Coordinator  
r/b/mh

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



# CANDLEWOOD LAKE AUTHORITY

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**June 10, 2019**  
**Executive Director**  
**Mark Howarth**

## Monthly Report:

- **Clean Up:** We had another successful Candlewood Lake Clean Up. After several weeks of prep work for the Clean Up, on May 18<sup>th</sup> the volunteers arrived and the weather cooperated to make this one of the nicest Clean Up weather days in recent memory. After spending the morning cleaning up the Lake, all of the volunteers gathered at the New Fairfield Town Park for a great cookout lunch, donated by our area restaurants.



We would like to thank the many volunteers, boat captains, sponsors, the Town of New Fairfield and the NF Public Works Department and all those who helped make this another successful clean up.

- **Microfiber Towels:** The towels have been ordered and are in production and we are expecting them at any time so that the Patrol can begin distributing them to boaters on the lake. These small (12" x 10") towels will help to bring awareness to boaters about challenges on the lake.
- **Weather Forecasts:** We have resumed the weekly weekend weather forecasts for Candlewood Lake from Bill Jacquemin. They have been popular over the years and we put them out every Friday for the public.
- **WQ Monitoring:** I joined Neil and our SEE Project Intern, Zack, for the May water quality monitoring on the lake. We had a successful day out there and Neil got to test out our newly equipped and calibrated probe.

**CANDLEWOOD LAKE**  
**WEEKEND WEATHER FORECAST**  
FROM METEOROLOGIST BILL JACQUEMIN  
**EMERGENCIES CALL 911**  
**NON-EMERGENCIES/VIOLATIONS - CT DEEP 860-424-3333**

**TONIGHT:** Mostly clear and cool. Lows 55-60.  
Wind: NE 5 mph, becoming calm.

**SATURDAY:** Sunny and warm. High around 80.  
Wind: N 5 mph, becoming south in the afternoon.

**SATURDAY NIGHT:** Mostly clear and cool. Low near 55.  
Wind: N 5 mph, then calm.

**SUNDAY:** Mostly sunny, warm. Highs 75-80.  
Wind: S 4-8 mph.

**WATER TEMP:** 71 degrees **UV:** Sat 9 / Sun 9 **SUNTAN:** Sat 10 / Sun 8



- **Sponsors:** We completed our sponsor drive leading up to the Clean Up and early season, however we always welcome sponsors any time of the year. Sponsors can join us through our online form on our website or by calling us.
- **Homeowner's Guide Distribution:** Thank you to everyone who has helped distribute the guides in stands to area government buildings, organizations and businesses. We still have many more available for distribution, and we welcome further assistance!
- **Buoys:** We finished our work with the CT DEEP on the regulatory and informational buoys. Doug Cushnie and I went out and deployed the buoys per DEEP's instructions.
  - Gilman Visit: I went to the Gilman buoy factory in CT to pick up a load of buoys and see the factory where we get our marker buoys.
- **State of the Lake:** We are beginning to prepare for the July 13<sup>th</sup> State of the Lake at the Company A Volunteer Firehouse in New Fairfield and we are looking forward to meeting with the public that day, especially those who may not have been able to attend our April events in the past.
- **Senior Environmental Corps:** Neil and I attended the New Fairfield Senior Center's Environmental Corps breakfast on May 14<sup>th</sup>. There we spoke to the group about the Lake and about the E. Coli testing program, which they will be gathering the samples for once again this year as they have for the last 15 years. We thank the Senior Environmental Corps for their dedication to Candlewood Lake!
- **Danbury Board of Realtors:** We were invited to speak at the Danbury Board of Realtors meeting on June 6<sup>th</sup>. It was held at the Candlewood Lake Club and was attended by over 100 area realtors, real estate attorneys and professionals. Neil joined me in presenting to the group and Phyllis was also in attendance. FirstLight was the other presenter that morning. In addition to presenting about what we do here at the CLA, we discussed and handed out our Homeowner's Guides to the group and distributed some of the guides in holders that morning as well to various real estate offices.
- **Sherman Memorial Day Parade:** We had a great time taking part in the Sherman Memorial Day Parade once again! This year, unlike last, we had a perfect day for the parade. The sun was out, the people lined the streets and our Patrol Boat looked great!





# CANDLEWOOD LAKE AUTHORITY

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

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**J. Neil Stalter**

**Director of Ecology and Environmental Education**

**Candlewood Lake Authority**

**Re:** June Meeting: Monthly Report

**Date:** 6/12/19

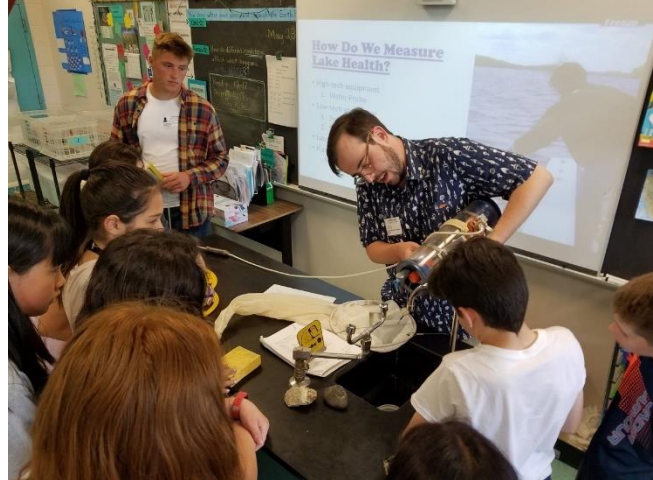
- **Cleanup:** The Cleanup was a great success with beautiful weather, and our volunteers worked very hard to pull a lot of trash and debris out of the lake! Thank you again to all of our volunteers and boat captains.
- **WQ Monitoring 2019:** The first water quality monitoring sampling for 2019 occurred on May 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> and was very successful.
  - At the time of this writing, we have not yet received some of the results from Hydro Technology – my May WQ summary will be written once I receive those results!
  - The new sensor on our monitoring probe seems to be working fabulously! I look forward to comparing the results from that to the results from Hydro Technology in an effort to bring Chl-a sampling fully in house.
  - I am organizing and gathering all of the necessary equipment to bring the Zebra Mussel Veliger sampling in house – there will be two June samplings (one this week, and one during the June WQ monitoring later this month). Following June, ZM samplings and analysis will be monthly and coupled with water quality monitoring sampling.
  - (Please ignore the balding 24-year-old man in the above photograph).
- Zack Theusen, a SEE student from New Fairfield High School joined us for three weeks from May into June. He was a great help with the many things we work on in the office



day-to-day and joined me out on the lake many times for all of the projects and monitoring we are working on.

- Stay tuned to an upcoming issue of the Town Tribune for a Creatures of Candlewood written by Zack about the Smallmouth Bass!

- Zack joined me when we presented to multiple classes of 6<sup>th</sup> graders at Scaghticoke Middle School in New Milford about nutrient pollution, septic tanks, and the tools we use to monitor lake health! We had so much fun and want to thank Mrs. Allison and all the students at Scaghticoke for a really great day!



- We hope to continue to visit schools and present to students about all sorts of topics about limnology, hydrology, and everything Candlewood Lake!

- Dr. Pinou, her daughter, Zack, and I joined Phyllis and Len on their boat to test for Grass Carp signals – unfortunately it seems as if the carp batteries are likely dead, meaning that the tracking program is complete!
- We attempted the first invasive plant sampling of 2019 for our invasive plant monitoring program. Unfortunately, after a few samples in Sherman and New Fairfield, we had some equipment issues. I am working to build a new dedicated rake sampler for this monitoring to use for moving forward.
  - Initial samples were not very dense – providing evidence that there is not much plant matter growing near the shoreline at this point in the season.
- We received the final draft of the 2018 nuisance plant monitoring report. I have had the opportunity to review it and have observed a number of changes and improvements from the previous drafts.
- Continuing to organize our historical water quality data – Zack helped me double check my entries to ensure that our final database will be fully correct and up-to-date.
- Planning and preparations have begun for the Lake Management Plan. Plan to hear more about that as the process progresses and we reach out to other stakeholders.
- Mark and I presented to the board of realtors a little about the CLA, our homeowner’s guide, and future plans. It was a great morning!



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June 6, 2019

VIA EMAIL ONLY

Candlewood Lake Authority  
c/o J. Neil Stalter

**Re: Summary of Review of SMP Comments to FERC; Closure Letter**

Dear Candlewood Lake Authority:

You asked that I prepare a summary of my review of comments that the Candlewood Lake Authority submitted to FERC regarding FirstLight's proposed shoreline management plan (SMP). The specific scope of my review is set out in your May 2, 2019 email to me.

I reviewed FirstLight's proposed SMP with a focus on the sections you specified, FERC rules and guidance on SMPs, the current license issued by FERC on June 23, 2004, the CWA § 401 Water Quality Certification issued by the State of Connecticut, and a deed granting certain access rights to Candlewood Lake. I also conducted legal research, some of which I forwarded to you.

The above review and research was done to inform my review of portions of comments submitted by the Candlewood Lake Authority to FERC dated March 20, 2019 and April 11, 2019. You asked if those comments should be supplemented. In reviewing the comments, I looked for items that had been missed, were incorrect, and that needed to be strengthened or clarified.

I thought that the comments were cogent, well written, and made important and valid points. I did not find any problem warranting supplementation or clarification. The Authority's staff did a great job! I noted a couple tangential areas where the Authority could, in its discretion, make further comment. I understand that that no further comment was submitted.

My review was completed in time to have allowed any further needed comments to be submitted by May 15, 2019. I also made clear I am not licensed to practice law in Connecticut, and that my review did not address any issue involving Connecticut law.

The above-described review and this summary completes my work for you. I enjoyed working with and hope to again work with you.

Sincerely,



Ronald A. Shems