



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

July 14, 2021 7:30PM

via ZOOM due to COVID-19

Attending:

P. Schaer	Sherman
D. Cushnie	Sherman
M. O'Connor	Sherman
B. Licht	New Fairfield
J. Archer	New Fairfield
M. Gaffey	Brookfield
B. Lohan	Brookfield
W. Meikle	Brookfield
C. Robinson	Danbury
E. Siergiej	Danbury
D. Rosemark (phone)	Danbury
S. Kluge	New Milford
J. Wodarski	New Milford

Absent:

J. Main	New Fairfield
M. Toussaint	New Milford

M. Howarth, Executive Director
N. Stalter, Director of Ecology & Environmental Science
J. Usher, Administrative Coordinator
N. Mellas, Chief, CLAMP

Recorder: Jeannine Usher

Guests: 4

Chairman, Marianne Gaffey called the meeting to order at 7:31pm.

PUBLIC COMMENT

none

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Will Meikle made a motion to add the following item to the agenda under Public Safety: several purchases for Public Safety against capital improvement, seconded by Joe Wodarski with all voting in favor. This will be covered under Public Safety.

TREASURER'S REPORT (Bill Lohan)

Bill Lohan made a motion to move \$5,000 from line item 551 Grass Carp, and transfer to the Capital Improvement fund for the grass carp project, seconded by Mr. Meikle with all voting in favor.

Bill Lohan made a motion that the CLA will pay 80% of health and life insurance premium, and employees will pay 20% of the policy premium effective July 1, 2021, seconded by Mr. Meikle with all voting in favor.

Chairman Gaffey reminded delegates that insurance, benefits and salaries will be reviewed this winter.

The CLA Income is \$28,000 better than budget due largely to contributions and sponsorships. All committees are presently under budget for the year with a projected \$53K surplus.

Bill Lohan made a motion to the budget to approve the actuals based on the following line items in the table below, for a total of \$17,764.78, seconded by Martin O'Connor with all voting in favor.

LINE NO	ACCOUNT	BUDGET	ACTUALS	OVER BUDGET
110	ADMIN WAGES	\$ 28,652.00	\$ 31,897.38	\$ 3,245.38
113	INSURANCE LIA	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 37,180.00	\$ 2,180.00
417	FUND RAISING	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 8,162.22	\$ 3,162.22
300	LP WAGES OFF WATER	\$ -	\$ 2,720.60	\$ 2,720.60
300	LP WAGES ADMIN	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 11,221.92	\$ 4,221.92
511	LAKE MONITORING	\$ 12,500.00	\$ 14,844.86	\$ 2,344.86
TOTALS		\$ 88,152.00	\$ 105,916.78	\$ 17,764.78

CLAMP (Chief Nick Mellas)

- Over 500 contacts have been made.
- 4 Fires
- 3 Medical
- 0 Missed Shifts

Upcoming events the Patrol will provide support at the New Fairfield Light Parade and VFW Boat Parade.

PUBLIC SAFETY (Joe Wodarski)

Mr. Meikle made a motion to approve the following expenses, for a total of \$5,886, seconded by Bill Licht with all voting in favor.

1. *Silver Ships spare prop - \$1,300*
2. *Radio scanners for the Robalo and Aqua Sport - \$3,095*
3. *One additional AED device for 3rd Patrol boat - \$1300*

Joe Wodarski and Bill Licht are now acting as Co-Chairs of the Public Safety Committee. This change will officially be approved at the next Executive Meeting.

Mark Howarth noted that a quote for the second Silver Ships boat was received, and an order will be placed shortly to help ensure delivery by the start of next season.

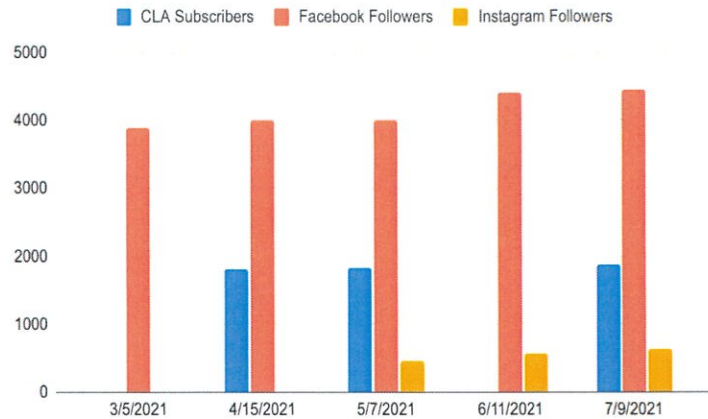
EQUIPMENT & FACILITIES (Doug Cushnie)

All is going well at the base. Mike Gasperino has been very busy making a lot of progress. Doug is putting less time in since Mike has started.

PUBLIC AWARENESS (Joan Archer)

Vice Chairman Joan Archer shared the following statistics developed by Cathy Donohue:

CLA Subscribers, Facebook Followers and Instagram Followers



- Water Quality posts are being shared on social media.
- We are coordinating/sharing posts with DEEP now.

WATERSHED MANAGEMENT (Steve Kluge)

Steve Kluge shared water temps: Warmest is at 76 degrees. The coldest water temp was 43 degrees at bottom of New Milford Bay.

Neil Stalter provided a zebra mussel update. The Lake Steward program is going great. The stewards are enjoying the work.

Ed Siergiej noted that once permit approval is received work on Phase 1 of the Sand Island Rehabilitation Project can begin, hopefully following the end of the boating season. A detailed map of the project was screen shared.

Ed Siergiej made a motion to approve \$5,000 for Phase 1 of the Sand Island Restoration Project, with Funding to come from [1]. \$2,000 buffer garden account and [2]. \$5,000 from HMS Grant, contingent on FirstLight permit approval, seconded by Steve Kluge with all voting in favor.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Gaffey advised delegates to be aware of anticipated added patrol shifts.

The meeting adjourned at 8:48pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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.

July 14, 2021
CLA Chair Report

1. Three towns (New Milford, New Fairfield and Sherman) passed our budget for the 2021-2022 fiscal year so we are starting this year with a fully funded budget. Many, many thanks to the towns for their significant support.
2. We are ordering a 2nd Silver Ships to bring our fleet to 4 patrol boats by the next boating season.
3. Our first Silver Ships – Candlewood One – was commissioned on June 16th at the Sherman Base. Len Greene (FL) and Mark H officially poured the champagne, we were joined by town leaders, DEEP and First Light for a great celebration. Many thanks to the Sherman and Brookfield Fire Departments for showering Nick and Henry with their fire boat



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4. In response to the increasing workload on the Public Safety Committee, Joe Wodarski and Bill Licht will be Co-Chairs of the committee. Bill will be an “acting co-chair” until the next Executive meeting when he will be formally recognized. Thank you to Joe for his long term commitment to the CLA and thank you to Bill for stepping up to help.
5. CLAMP has been very busy on the lake since Memorial Day with additional patrols and the use of our PWC’s. Many thanks to Chief Mellas and all of the patrol for their professional response to a challenging season.
6. The Lake Stewards program has been launched and been very successful. Watershed will provide more detailed information about their successes.



7. The CLA will continue to meet by ZOOM at this time. We will work on arranging opportunities for the BOD to spend some time in person this Fall.

Marianne Gaffey



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July 14, 2021

Executive Director

Mark Howarth

Monthly Report

Marine Patrol Boat Commissioning

On June 16th, we had the commissioning ceremony for our new Silver Ships Marine Patrol boat, Candlewood One. It was attended by FirstLight, a number of our town leaders, CT DEEP, CLA delegates and staff, and supported by both the Sherman and Brookfield Fire Departments. We had a great morning...many thanks to all who spoke at the event and to Joan, Marianne and all involved for their hard work to put this together.



Lake Stewards

As noted in other reports, all is going well with our Stewards who are now also operating at the two State launches on the lake, after completing training with the CT DEEP. I had the opportunity to spend some more time with them in June and was impressed with how well they operate and interact with the boaters.

We have our Lake Steward staff rounded out for the summer and have received the printed tablecloth covers that complement the other program pieces seen below, all of which support this important program.



Marine Patrol

After a lot of off-season work and planning the CLA Marine Patrol, under the leadership of Chief Mellas, is doing a great job both on and off the water, helping to keep our boaters and the public safe. Their increased presence on the water and presence at the boat ramps are just two of the initiatives they have implemented that have made a positive impact.

Year End

I have been working with our bookkeeper, auditor and others on some year-end processes as we are closing out FY 20/21 and have moved into FY 21/22.

Summer Newsletter

We are working on the contents for a summer newsletter and should have that out to our e-newsletter group shortly.

Return to Office

We are back in the office as a staff, with Neil and I working 3 days in the office and 2 days remote. It's great to be together again and I enjoy being able to talk to Jeannine and Neil without having to Zoom or call.



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J. Neil Stalter

Director of Ecology and Environmental Education

Candlewood Lake Authority

Re: July Meeting: Monthly Report

Date: 7/14/2021

- I am back working in the New Milford office Monday-Wednesday, and working remotely Thur/Fri, so feel free to stop by and say hello!
- Our Lake Steward Program is going full steam ahead! Our stewards are doing excellent work and started appearing at the state launches July 4th weekend. They are making many contacts with boaters to educate on invasive species prevention and gathering important data to inform our future education and management initiatives in the future.
- Our normal water quality monitoring program has begun and is continuing in earnest. Thanks especially to Steve Kluge, whose help is allowing us to get a second entire sampling of Candlewood and Squantz every month, giving us an even better view at the water chemistry and dynamics over the course of the season.
 - The E. Coli sampling with the New Fairfield seniors has begun and is progressing wonderfully! We make the public health departments and parks & Rec. departments of every town aware of the results ever week.



- The Blue-Green algae sampling via WestConn has begun with Dr. Wong's lab. The first two weeks' results were both very low, and we will be posting the results of this analysis weekly to our Facebook and Instagram.
- I took the first additional samples for Zebra Mussel eDNA near the Hollywyle cove area where they were discovered over the winter, and Lattins Cove – all 5 samples came back negative. We will do 45 additional samplings over the course of the summer.
- I have begun work with Ed Siergiej on planning/prepping for phase 1 of a sand island rehabilitation project. We scouted the location with FirstLight and have submitted a permit application to them. We hope to approve funding necessary to begin the project this fall with a hope of having substantial portions complete by Spring/Early summer 2022.
- We have contracted with AER to begin work on developing an experimental design for nutrient budget development, a requirement for a thorough Lake Management Plan.
- I am working with FirstLight on coordinating their boat count flyovers for this year, and 1-2 have been completed out of the 6 for the season. We are focused on weekend days with good weather, of which there haven't been too many this year! We should be getting data soon on the first few counts.
- We are planning for a water quality/invasive species "check-in" webinar in early August – and will advertise on our social media platforms.
- I sent out the DIY Zebra Mussel "hotel" instructions for interested volunteers to get involved!
- We are continuing to work on our social media/public education initiatives to better reach the community online – thanks especially to help from Cathy Donahue and Jeannine on making our web presence better and more substantial!
- I had a wonderful wedding and honeymoon at the beginning of June!

