



# CANDLEWOOD LAKE AUTHORITY

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

## Minutes of Regular Meeting August 8, 2018

### Attending:

P. Schaer	Sherman
D. Cushnie	Sherman
J. Hodge	New Fairfield
C. Robinson	Danbury
J. Murphy	Brookfield
B. Licht	New Fairfield
J. Wodarski	New Milford (electronic)
D. Rosemark	Danbury (electronic)
W. Lohan	Brookfield

### Absent:

E. Siergiej	Danbury
G. Linkletter	Sherman
J. Main	New Fairfield
B. Brown	Brookfield
M. Toussaint	New Milford
S. Kluge	New Milford

M. Howarth, Executive Director  
J. Neil Stalter, Director of Ecology and Environmental Education  
F. Frattini, CLA Administrative Coordinator  
CLA Marine Patrol –Chief D. Vane and Assistant Chief R. Barnard

Recorder: F. Frattini

Guests: One member of the public.

Chairman, Phyllis Schaer, called the regular meeting of the Candlewood Lake Authority to order at 7:34 P.M. at Brookfield Town Hall Brookfield, CT. She welcomed the guest.

**CLAMP Report:** Chief Doug Vane reported that all is going well; the equipment is working fine and a good season so far.

**Public Comment:** None

**Introduction of Director of Ecology and Environmental Education:** Mrs. Schaer introduced J. Neil Stalter to the delegates. Mr. Stalter advised the delegates that he has had a fantastic first three days. His main area of study is Ecology and Hydrology, he grew up at Conesus Lake (one of the Finger Lakes in New York) and it fostered his love of lakes and forged his career path. He enjoyed the trip to Lake Hopatcong and both lakes can share information. He advised the delegates that he is available to meet in person with any one of them. On behalf of the CLA Mrs. Schaer said, “Welcome to Candlewood “

**Secretary's Report:** Jerry Murphy, Secretary, noted there were no changes to the minutes of July 11, 2018, *Bill Lohan made a motion to accept the minutes of the July 11, 2018 meeting as written, seconded by Jerry Murphy, motion was voted with all in favor. Motion carried, and minutes have been accepted as written.*

Mrs. Schaer asked the delegates to introduce themselves to our new Director of Ecology and Environmental Education.

**Chairman's Report:** Chairman Phyllis Schaer reported on the trip to Lake Hopatcong in New Jersey earlier this week. They would like to be a sister lake to Candlewood as both lakes share many of the same issues and concerns. Mr. Stalter had worked on a Draft Proclamation and read it to the Delegates. It is attached to these minutes. *Bill Lohan made a motion to accept the sister lake designation with Lake Hopatcong, seconded by Chris Robinson and voted with all in favor.* Candlewood now has a sister in New Jersey. It was noted that Lake Hopatcong has a floating classroom and a dock numbering program that is mainly for law enforcement/safety so that someone can identify where he or she are on the lake just by the dock number.

Mrs. Schaer reported that she and Mr. Howarth attended and presented at Leadership Danbury, but due to the thunderstorms they were unable to have the boat ride. For Lakes Awareness week they had a boat tour for some area legislators and local lake representatives. It was a good way to discuss the issues that all lakes in the area face. The idea for the noise regulation was brought up to the legislators and they will take a look at where it might fit. It seems that lake problems are universal.

The Shoreline Management Plan is up for renewal in March 2019 and meetings of the CLA delegates and then with FirstLight Power need to be scheduled to discuss any changes/revisions.

Mrs. Schaer reported that she had learned today that FLPR has hired a different company to do the annual weed mapping. This was done without the knowledge/approval of the Technical Committee. When this was called to the attention of FLPR they noted that they will sort it out. Mrs. Schaer noted that the CLA wants to ensure the continuity and consistency of methods and data collected, including the statistical analysis of such data, as different methodology could affect the Grass Carp Program stocking, and compromise the ability to publish a paper. She noted that Ball Pond was able to publish because their monitoring for twenty years was consistent and done by the same methodology. It was noted that the Ag Station had started the mapping this year and planned to continue even after they learned that FLPR had contracted with someone else to do it. It appears that cost was the reason for the change.

**Vice-Chairman's Report:** Vice Chairman, Mark Toussaint was absent – no report.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Bill Lohan noted this is an interesting time financially, finishing up one year and beginning a new one. The 2017/2018 Audit is almost complete and should have a draft to the delegates before the September meeting. The Auditor has a conflict to attend in September but will be available by phone for any questions. Per the discussion at the July meeting, *Bill Lohan made a motion to transfer in the 2017/2018 fiscal year forty thousand dollars from Line #100 (Exec Dir Wage) to the*

*Capital Improvement Project Fund, seconded by Jerry Murphy and voted with all in favor, Motion carried, and transfer will be made. Mr. Lohan noted that for the 2018 fiscal year Revenue was at 99.9% and Expenses at 81% of budget. At the Executive Committee meeting they discussed recommending transfers totaling \$26,500.00 to various line items as follows - Ten thousand (\$10,000.00) dollars to Line #551 Triploid Grass Carp Project, Twenty-five hundred (\$2,500.00) dollars to Line #115 Office Supplies, Nine thousand (\$9,000.00) dollars to Line #118 Professional Services and Five thousand (\$5,000.00) dollars to Line #531 Professional Development. Bill Lohan made a motion to make additional appropriations from the 2017/2018 Unassigned Fund Balance to the lines outlined above totaling \$26,500.00, motion seconded by Phyllis Schaer. Discussion followed, Mrs. Schaer noted this was done with the advice of the Auditor. Mr. Hodge noted this throws off the budget. Mrs. Schaer advised these are expected expenses that will be incurred in the new fiscal year. Mrs. Schaer again advised that this was done only after conferring with the Auditor. With no further discussion. The motion was voted with all in favor and one opposed (John Hodge). Motion carried – Appropriations will be included in the 2018/2019 budget.*

Mr. Lohan noted that there was no July report, but he does have some preliminary numbers and noted that Brookfield, New Fairfield and Sherman have paid their appropriations in full, New Milford had paid \$70,000.00 with a balance of \$9,900.00 and Danbury has paid their first quarter. FirstLight Power has made their annual donation making that revenue 67% of budget. The year is off to a good start. The donated Chris Craft has finally been sold and the check for \$8,500.00 has been received. Expenses for July are 11% of Budget.

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

Village Fair Days – thank you to all who helped out. Both days closed early due to rain but many residents visited the booth which had an historical theme for the 90<sup>th</sup> birthday of the lake. Blue Green Algae testing is on social media and so far, all have been below the state threshold for toxins. He added that he wanted to welcome and that he is very happy to have Mr. Stalter join the CLA staff. His meetings with CEO's have gone well, he participated in the Lake Awareness Week cruise and distributed pamphlets to the boat ramps for aquatic Invasive Species weekend. He had met with FLPR to discuss a potential partnership on a buffer garden education program. He, with FLPR representatives, attended Girl Scout Camp at Clatter Valley with the Enviroscope. The first results from the Zebra Mussel Hotels reports that they have no guests. The Watershed Committee agrees with the FLPR recommendation for a deep drawdown this year.

The date for the postponed Clean Up was discussed and recommended to be the weekend of October 6<sup>th</sup>, possible a little later in the day, with a cookout, band, and bonfire. This date should be better for New Fairfield and this will be checked into – the delegates agreed that October 6 with a rain date of October 7 is a good idea and that New Fairfield is a more central location. Mrs. Schaer advised that a date for the dedication of memorial bench at Lynn Deming Park still needs to be scheduled.

Mr. Howarth advised that the July Water Quality report had been received from AER and that Mr. Stalter had summarized it for the delegates (it is attached to these

minutes) Mr. Stalter pointed out that in July the Secchi transparency in Squantz was significantly higher than in the lake – he was asked to follow up on that difference.

**Public Safety Committee:** Assistant Chief Ron Barnard reported to the delegates about a program from Lake Salisbury where they are giving whistles to Kayakers, paddle boarders, etc if they do not have one as required. The delegates thought this is good for public relations and Mr. Howarth will investigate this for CLAMP.

**Equipment/Facilities Committee:** Committee Chairman Doug Cushnie reported that everything is in good shape. Clean, Drain and Dry stencils at the boat ramps are being re-painted this week and just Squantz and New Milford are left to be done.

**Pubic Awareness Committee:** Nothing to report.

**Watershed Management Committee:** With Committee Chairman, Mark Toussaint absent – nothing to report.

**Old/New Business:** Mrs. Schaer asked to *take the item concerning outside employment of CLA employees off the table. Jerry Murphy so moved, seconded by Bill Licht and voted with all in favor, motion carried and item was opened for discussion.* Employees should not have outside employment during hours that they are expected to be working for the CLA, a second job should not conflict with their CLA work hours, employees do have flexible work schedules, discussion continued and *it was decided that the CLA Board should be made aware of any second job of a CLA employee and that it should not be during the CLA work hours.* HR committee will review.

Email addresses for delegates (i.e.- [delegate@candlewoodlakeauthority.org](mailto:delegate@candlewoodlakeauthority.org)) was discussed. Any delegate who wants such an address should contact the office as soon as possible.

*John Hodge moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Chris Robinson, meeting adjourned at 8:49 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

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

**August 8, 2018**  
**Executive Director**  
**Mark Howarth**

## **Monthly Report:**

- Village Fair Days: We had a good time at Village Fair Days once again. This year our booth focused on the history of the lake, specifically the construction, in recognition of the lake's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday this year. FirstLight provided us digital files of construction photos which we enlarged for the visitors to see. We also continued to sell our Candlewood merchandise. Despite the rains that came, we still got to visit with many people who stopped at our booth.
- Weekly BGA Testing: Western Connecticut State University has continued to do the weekly blue-green algae testing at the town beaches here on Candlewood Lake. To date, there have been no tests that have come back above the State of CT recommended threshold for cyanobacteria toxins.
- Director of Ecology and Environmental Education: We would like to welcome Neil Stalter to the CLA Staff. He started on August 6<sup>th</sup> and we are excited to have him on board.
- Meetings with CEOs: We had the pleasure of meeting with Mayor Bass of New Milford to discuss Candlewood Lake and the CLA. We had a good exchange of information and ideas related to programs, challenges and looking at the future. We look forward to meeting with the last of our town CEO's this summer.
- Lake's Awareness Week / Invasive Species Weekend: Lake's Awareness Week was July 15-21 and we joined host members from the Connecticut Federation of Lakes, representatives from other area lakes as well as Senator Miner and State Representative Arconti on Candlewood Lake to discuss lake topics and challenges we all face. We also distributed Clean Drain Dry tri-folds to state and local boat rams on the lake for distribution in conjunction with the CT DEEP's Aquatic Invasive Species Awareness Weekend.
- FLPR Meeting: I met with Brian, Lauren and Stu at FirstLight in July. The focus of the meeting was to initiate talks for a potential partnership on a buffer education program. Additionally, we discussed an upcoming educational outing we were doing with FirstLight at Clatter Valley and spoke about the upcoming winter drawdown.
- Clatter Valley w/FLPR: We were asked by FirstLight to join them at Clatter Valley to teach the Girl Scouts at camp that week about water quality using the Enviroscope. It

was a really good morning and the kids were very interested in our demonstrations. Thank you to FirstLight and the Girl Scouts at Clatter Valley for including us.

- **ZM Hotel Program:** The zebra mussel hotel program that the NF SEE Project Interns started up for us is in full swing and we are starting to receive monthly reports from our volunteers. To date, no suspected zebra mussels have been reported.
- **Drawdown:** In March, when the Technical Committee met, it was decided that during the summer we would revisit the planned deep drawdown for this year. The Watershed Committee has recommended that we keep the current plan for a deep drawdown this winter and we have communicated that to FirstLight.
- **Leadership Danbury:** We were invited to take part in Leadership Danbury on July 26<sup>th</sup>. We had lunch with the attendees and spoke to them about Candlewood Lake, focusing on the history of the lake because it's the lake's 90<sup>th</sup> year and we also discussed some of the environmental challenges here. Stu Piermarini from FirstLight Power Resources followed our presentation and spoke to the group as well.
- **Clean Up:** We are hoping to know shortly with a confirmed date and location for our re-scheduled Clean Up. We would like to do it later in September this year after it was canceled in May due to the storm.
- **Monthly WQ Observations:** July Water Quality report was received from AER .



# 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

## MEMO: July Water Quality Observations, 2018

**Date:** Aug 8, 2018

**From:** J. Neil Stalter, CLA Director of Ecology and Environmental Education

**Note:** The below is adapted from the full AER report dated July 30, 2018

**Summary:** Transparency was notably higher in Squantz Pond compared to the four Candlewood Lake sampling sites. This was due, in part, to the deeper concentration of Cyanobacteria (blue-green algae) in Squantz. Candlewood blue-green algae concentrations are more uniform throughout depth (but are not at a worrying level). It is hypothesized that this depth difference might be due to variation in wind patterns on Squantz Pond vs. Candlewood Lake. Zebra Mussel veliger (larva) samples were negative.

**Details:** Sampling was conducted on July 9<sup>th</sup> and July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Transparency (Secchi Depth) at the four Candlewood Lake sites ranged from 2.29m to 2.74m. Squantz Pond transparency was at 4.76m, notably higher than the Candlewood Lake transparency. These measurements agreed with measures of Chlorophyll-a (the lowest measure being in Squantz, the highest being at the New Fairfield site). Much of this difference can be explained by the differences in Cyanobacteria density at different depths in the Squantz vs. Candlewood.

Cyanobacteria in Squantz Pond are concentrated around 6-8m in depth, whereas in Candlewood, they are concentrated around 4-7m, and are uniform throughout the entire water column. These cyanobacteria create Chlorophyll-a, which blocks sunlight from traveling through the water, clouding the water and giving it a greenish hue. It has been observed that wind patterns more heavily affect Squantz Pond over Candlewood Lake, and thus mix the water column more due to rougher water (Siver, Marsicano, et al. 2018). Cyanobacteria likely migrate deeper in the water column (closer to the thermocline) to avoid this water mixing in Squantz—increasing transparency (secchi depth).

Total phosphorous measurements were similar throughout Candlewood and Squantz Pond sites (~22 µg/L), and total nitrogen levels were slightly lower in Squantz Pond compared to Candlewood Lake (340 µg/L vs. ~ 430 µg/L). Zebra Mussel veliger samples taken on July 9<sup>th</sup> were negative, and a second set of samples was taken on July 30<sup>th</sup>. We are waiting for the results from those samples. Surface water temperature was ~27.2°C (~80°F). pH was ~8.7 (slightly acidic). Dissolved oxygen was ~11 mg/L.

# Candlewood Lake and Lake Hopatcong Partnership 2018

---

## *PROCLAMATION*

---

**WHEREAS,** Candlewood Lake, located in Fairfield and Litchfield Counties, CT would like to partner with similar lake organizations sharing a goal of environmental preservation, improvement, and sustainability of freshwater bodies.

**WHEREAS,** Lake Hopatcong, located in Morris and Sussex counties, NJ would like to partner with similar lake organizations sharing a goal of environmental preservation, improvement, and sustainability of freshwater bodies.

**WHEREAS,** These two lakes and their associated organizations will share environmental and public concerns and would pursue a partnership in order to share information, solutions, and strategies on how to best approach our similar problems.

**WHEREAS,** The Candlewood Lake Authority and the Lake Hopatcong Foundation will readily communicate with each other regarding all questions or concerns about the freshwater bodies and communities they are protecting.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** We, the Candlewood Lake Authority Officers, Delegates, and Staff do hereby proclaim Candlewood Lake and Lake Hopatcong to be sister lakes, and their associated organizations to be formal partners in the protection of each freshwater environment.

\*\*\* (Dated August 8, 2018)