

**TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON
CONSERVATION-LAKE COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY, APRIL 14, 2022**

7:00 PM

TOWN HALL 2ND FLOOR MEETING ROOM #201 AND VIA ZOOM

MINUTES

Present: Marty Podskoch, Jack Solomon, John Purple, Chuck Yenknor, Victor Rodriguez (arrived at 7:05 P.M.), Wes Jenks (left at 8:18 P.M.) and Nico Guerrero (arrived at 7:01 P.M.) with Parks & Rec Director Jeremy Hall.

Absent: Cheryl Lobo

Call to Order: Chairman Yenknor called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. at the Town Hall in the 2nd floor meeting room and via Zoom.

Adoption of Agenda: *A motion was made by Mr. Solomon, seconded by Mr. Podskoch, to adopt the agenda as submitted. Voted 5-0 in favor.*

Approvals:

- a. Minutes of Regular Meeting: March 10, 2022:** *A motion was made by Mr. Solomon, seconded by Mr. Podskoch, to approve of the March 10, 2022 regular meeting minutes with no changes. Voted 6-0 in favor.*

Public Remarks: None

Communications and Liaison Reports: The budget is being voted on in the next couple of weeks. The Board of Finance was updated on the budget and what projects and programs the commission has done in the past year or two. The Board of Finance approved the budget and will need to go before the Town Council for approval before going to the town referendum in the second week of May for voting. The capital expenses is the same and intact for the budget. The aeration system was turned on today and, so far, there are no hiccups. Mr. Podskoch was appointed as the Friends of Lake Pocotopaug liaison for the commission.

Presentations: No official presentation. The members discussed the meeting with Ponds and Lakes at Sear's Park with Chairman Yenknor and Mr. Hall. They are the company that distributes or administers the in-lake treatments that was presented at the previous month's meeting. The Chairman asked for recommendations and quotes for the services provided. For the in-lake treatment. Two possible treatments would be copper sulfate and the other would be an algaecide for the lake. Nick from Ponds and Lakes will be presenting at next month's meeting. He will have the different treatment options, materials/ products, and costs for each for the members to consider.

Plan Reviews

- a. **59 East High Street – Landscape Renovation:** The homeowner wants to extend the driveway, add stone steps on house, retaining wall, and add in a stone walkway. The existing shed moved closer to the water front. All building on the property needs to stay within the same footprint. The walkway will use pavers and the driveway will be crushed stone. *A motion was made by Mr. Podskoch, seconded by Mr. Solomon, to approve the plan review with the stipulation that the shed should be guttered and runoff from the shed roof should filter through a rain garden. The shed should also be checked to see if it can even be moved to where it is in the plans. Voted 7-0 in favor.*
- b. **45 Lake Drive – Driveway:** The homeowner joined the meeting to present and answer questions from the members. The owner wants to add permeable pavers instead of black top for their driveway. The water from the street flows onto the property. The preparations are already done, the owner wants to start the project once the approval has been obtained. It was suggested to pipe the water from the road and the run-off from the roof into a rain garden on the property. *A motion was made by Mr. Podskoch, seconded by Mr. Solomon, to recommend moving forward with the project with the addition of the rain garden to filter the run-off water flowing on the property. Voted 7-0 in favor.*
- c. **53 Day Point Road – Cottage Demolition:** Ed Basile joined the zoom call to answer any questions the members have about the plan. The owner wants to demolish the existing cottage on the property. There is a plan to build something else but waiting for the price of materials to decrease. The cottage is not on a foundation and there would be no disturbances on the property by taking the building down. There are no utilities connected to the cottage. A contractor will be demoing the cottage and using a 30 yard dumpster. There will be silt fences used around the property to protect the dirt and the lake from infiltration while the big machines are being used. Grass seed will be planted after the entirety of the cottage has been removed. *A motion was made by Mr. Podskoch, seconded by Mr. Solomon, to approve of the plan review as written with the use of silt fences to protect the property during the demo. Voted 7-0 in favor.*

Watershed Project(s)/Federal Funding Update: DEEP is still reviewing the work plan and seems to be moving around internally. On track to the RFP sent out in mid-May and the start time for the projects would be July or August. A meeting was held with the two engineers, Mr. Hall, Jeremy DeCarli, and Hillary a few days ago to discuss the RFP process and how to move the project forward. All paperwork should be finalized and the projects will be released to everyone with the scope of work for the Bay Road and Spellman Point projects. No update on latest grant applied to by the commission.

Old Business

- a. **Sub-Committee Report on Education/Lake Smart Program Sub-Committee Update:** Dr. Dietz will be speaking at the Town Hall at 7 PM about water flow and rain gardens. He will also be talking about different fertilizers that can be used on waterfront properties and in the watershed. Paul's and Sandy's is stocking lake friendly fertilizer for waterfront and watershed residents. The members discussed how to talk and discuss diplomatically with local and chain businesses in town on the fertilizer being used around the lake. The members need to consider store policy for what brands are carried in chain stores in town. *A motion was made by Mr. Solomon, seconded by Mr. Podskoch, to*

approve a \$200 honorarium to Dr. Dietz for speaking at the Town Hall. Voted 7-0 in favor.

- b. Advisory Panel Update:** There wasn't a meeting this month and one for next month is being set up.

New Business

- a. Review Proposal for Funding Shoreline Dredging:** The Town Manager and Mr. Hall discussed a dredging plan for ponds by Christopher Brook and Hawthorne. It was suggested to put money aside from capital funding each year to start shoreline dredging annually. The dredging would take out about 3-5 feet of material from the shoreline. The plan is to be able to dredge every year around the same time. The contractor in charge of dredging would be Matt from New England Aquatics. There was also discussion of having the dredging in different areas around the lake. It would clean up the shoreline areas and would remove some phosphates as well. All materials taken from the lake would be disposed of in a landfill unless there are contaminants found. There is a different process for disposing of the contaminated materials and an additional cost as well. The dredging would also have to go through the inland wetland permitting process to start the dredging. The cost to dredge is \$10,000 for a 20X40 yard area as priced for the Hawthorne Road project. The members will review the plan and get the contractor to attend next month's meeting.
- b. Friends of Lake Pocotopaug Liaison Report:** Mr. Podskoch gave an update from the last Friends of Lake Pocotopaug meeting to the commission members. It was suggested to get an article about the Lake Smart program ready to submit to the Rivereast. The members discussed the need for someone to post on social media about the commission and to spread the information for the Lake Smart program to gain more interest and spread awareness.

Public Remarks: Brian Eastman- Mr. Eastman voiced his concern about the use of fertilizer in waterfront and watershed residents. The landscaping companies also need to be monitored and taken into consideration when dealing with the fertilizer issues. Mr. Eastman also asked how the shoreline will be dredged. Will the equipment be on a barge and scooping the materials out of the water/ lake? He also asked whether there would be any harm to the lake or residents if the lake level was dropped low like this past winter every other year.

Adjournment: *A motion was made by Mr. Yenker, seconded by Mr. Podskoch, to adjourn the meeting at 8:24 P.M. Voted 6-0 in favor.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Katrina Aligata

Recording Clerk