

**TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON
CONSERVATION-LAKE COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING**

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2023

7:00 PM

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

MINUTES

Present: Chairman Chuck Yenknor, Vice Chairman Jack Solomon (left at 8:15 P.M.), John Purple (left at 8:00 P.M.), Marty Podskoch, Cheryl Lobo, Wes Jenks, Jason Hartling, and Derek Johnson with Acting Recreation Director Shawn Mullen.

Absent: Victor Rodriguez.

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 6-0 in favor.*

Approvals:

- a. Minutes of Regular Meeting: August 10, 2023 and September 14, 2023:** *A motion was made by Mr. Podskoch, seconded by Mr. Solomon, to approve the regular meeting minutes of August 10th and September 14th with no changes. Voted 6-0 in favor.*

Public Remarks: None

Communications and Liaison Reports: The reporting requirements for the finished 319 grant projects has been completed. Six projects are done and at the next phase for the projects. The final report for all of the completed projects will be due by April 2024. The commission wasn't awarded another 319 grant from the current round of grants. The members could look into applying for the next round of grants. It was suggested that the members receive an update on the remaining amount of money left in the grant. An article for the Lake Smart Program was submitted to the Events Magazine about the family awarded on Clark Hill Road. The sub-committee met to discuss the criteria for awarding home owners associations for the Lake Smart Program. The new criteria would bring into consideration of the two different types of HOA's. The award would depend on the type of HOA that is being awarded. One type of HOA that could be awarded has outside common areas. Projects could go before both the Friends of the Lake Association and Conservation Lake Commission for possible funding. The Friends of the Lake could provide some grant funding for the projects that they approve. The members would need to talk to the Friends of the Lake Association about the new criteria. The awards would be voted on

and given out by the Lake Commission. And any possible funding needed could come from the Friends of the Lake Association. There could be potential grant money for case to case projects to help the lake and watershed properties. The members want to recognize the HOA's that take initiative for being/ becoming Lake Smart. The members suggested to start publicizing the new criteria to the HOA's in town. It was suggested that the members get a better sense of the next round of grants. Next projects need to be identified for the upcoming grants.

A motion was made by Mr. Jenks, seconded by Mr. Solomon, to approve of the new awards structure for Home Owners Associations in town. Voted 7-0 in favor.

Presentation: None

Plan Reviews

- a. **5 Clearwater Condo – Deck Expansion:** The expanded deck would use 2x6 pressure treated decking. There would be no effect on the run-off into the lake. There will be retaining walls surrounding the deck. *A motion was made by Mr. Jenks, seconded by Ms. Lobo, to approve of the plan review with no further comments to Planning and Zoning. Voted 7-0 in favor.*
- b. **83A North Main Street – Grade & Landscape Slope:** The existing retaining wall failed, so the property owner wants to make a more gradual slope in place of the wall. There are erosion controls in place and silt fences would be used if needed. *A motion was made by Mr. Jenks, seconded by Ms. Lobo, to approve of the plan review with no further recommendations to Planning and Zoning. Voted 7-0 in favor.*

Watershed Project(s)/Federal Funding Update: There was discussion of inquiring with Hillary whether she would be completing her contracted timeframe with the town. There is still some grant money allocated for her expenses for helping with the next grant cycle. It was suggested to form a list of projects for the next round of grant funding.

Budget Update: The commission needs to know what the capital budget account is and how much money is left in the account. The members would like to get updated budget reports for each monthly meeting.

Old Business

- a. **Sub-Committee Report on Education/Lake Smart Program Sub-Committee Update:** Discussed earlier in the meeting.
- b. **Advisory Panel Update:** No update.
- c. **Discussion of Invasive Plants:** An invasive plants report of the lake was provided by the new limnologist. The plants have been in the lake for a couple of years. The members discussed requesting Lakes & Ponds to apply for a permit to perform a treatment for hydrilla in the lake. The applicator of the treatment applies for the permit. The members discussed the drawdown of the lake. *A motion was made by Mr. Jenks, seconded by Mr. Solomon, to approve of the lake being drawn down as low as possible in coordination with interested parties for the purpose of mitigating the shoreline erosion and eradicating hydrilla in the lake. Voted 7-0 in favor.*
- d. **Update from GZA on Water Quality Testing:** There was a bloom of blue green algae in the lake. The water was warm when the bloom occurred. But the algae bloom has dissipated. GZA is testing the lake. There is past testing data and reporting information

on the flash drive and in the paperwork handed over by NEAR. All of the data and paperwork have been given to the new limnologist for reviewing and analyzing. It was suggested to schedule the release of the test results a week before the monthly meetings so the members can review them for the meeting. The aeration will be turned off at the end of October or the beginning of November.

New Business: There is a new system for the bio blast treatment from John Tucci. Instead of one big treatment all at once, it would be introduced gradually and continuously into the lake over a period of time. This new treatment could be included in Mr. Tucci's budget proposal for next year. The members also discussed the Aquaflex samples. There are samples in Christopher Brook that had sections taken to test at 2 weeks and then 4 weeks. The sections were tested and shows that it picks up minimal amounts of phosphorous from the water. The members suggested using the items in certain areas with more infiltration than other areas. The testing is still on going. There was discussion about landscaping companies in town using phosphorous fertilizer in lakefront and watershed properties. True Green is a landscape company in town. A letter was sent to the commission from Paul Catalano about the fertilizer issue. There was discussion of drafting a possible ordinance in town with a fine for using phosphorous fertilizer on watershed and lakefront properties. It is illegal by state ordinance to use such fertilizers in the watershed. It was suggested to have the fine being applied to the applicator and not the homeowner. The fine would be more specific to the landscaping companies in town and surrounding towns. The members discussed forming a sub-committee to draft an ordinance and handle the fines. Mr. Hartling and Mr. Johnson both volunteered to help on the sub-committee. The sub-committee will meet to discuss and draft the ordinance to bring something to review by next month's meeting. There was a suggestion that if any members receive communication from the public, they should disclose the communication with the rest of the commission. This would help to keep the members in the loop and have the whole commission informed.

Public Remarks: Paul Catalano- Mr. Catalano was present at the meeting. He wanted to express his appreciation and understanding on the fertilizer issue in the watershed.

Adjournment: *A motion was made by Chairman Yenknier to adjourn the meeting at 8:54 P.M. Voted 6-0 in favor.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Katrina Aligata

Recording Clerk