

Minutes of the Lake Hopatcong Commission

September 16, 2016

A meeting of the Lake Hopatcong Commission was held on September 16, 2016 at the Jefferson High School, 1010 Weldon Rd. Oak Ridge New Jersey. At approximately 7:00p.m., Acting Chair McCarthy called the Meeting to order. He states that the meeting is being held in accordance with the "Open Public Meetings Act."

Salute to the Flag: Daniel McCarthy (acting chairman) and all those in attendance joined in a flag salute.

Moment of Silence: Daniel McCarthy asked for a moment of silence for our armed forces.

Roll Call:

Present: Eric Wilsusen, Fred Steinbaum, Daniel McCarthy, Robert Tessier, Kerry Kirk-Pflugh, Joel Servoss, Mark Crowley, Mark Fisch, Anne Seibert-Pravs, Alt. Arthur Clarke

Absent: Richard Zoschak, Mark Fisch, David Jarvis, Alt. Commissioner Morris

Speakers: NJDEP Kerry Kirk-Pflugh

Acting Chair McCarthy declares a quorum. He explains that they will skip the minutes from the last meeting, and have a very short commission meeting. Commissioner Steinbaum reports on the supplemental funding committee. He explains that the Commission has had no money and no budget for many years from the State. The Commission was advised that they need to supply a new budget, which they are working on and they are hoping for funding beginning in the next fiscal year. He adds that they have no assurance of the budget passing, but they are hoping to be granted approval.

Weed Harvesting Update

Melissa Castalan the Lake Hopatcong State Park Superintendent reports that as of September 15th they have harvested 3,222 cubic yards of weeds. They had another truck driver start today so there are now two people hauling weeds off of the lake. They have had some break downs, but the staff has been working hard to get the harvesters back out on the water. The harvesters have been working around the Halsey Island and Racoon Island sections of the lake.

Old Business

Acting Chair McCarthy addresses the motion for the ongoing MOU with Lake Musconetcong. Commissioner Steinbaum moves, and it is seconded. Commissioner McCarthy moves to keep the MOUs for another month. **A roll call vote is held.**

Commissioner Steinbaum – Yes
Commissioner Kirk-Pflugh - Yes
Commissioner Tessier - Yes
Commissioner Servoss - Yes

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Commissioner Fisch - Yes
Commissioner Pravs - Yes
Commissioner Crowley - Yes
Acting Chair McCarthy – Yes

Acting Chair McCarthy turns the meeting to Fred of Princeton Hydro for a grant update. Fred explains that the existing 319 grant ends at the end of this month. After that they have 60 days to submit the final report, which they expect to submit within two months of the grant end. The grant covered installation of storm water structures in Roxbury, two floating islands, four structures in Jefferson and a bio filtration system in the state park, and six years of water quality monitoring, a year of cyanobacteria testing, and a year of testing to identify sites for potential dredging. The report will be submitted to the Commission, Lake Hopatcong Foundation as well as the NJDEP.

Commissioner Steinbaum asks if there is any funding available currently. Fred of Princeton Hydro answers that there is not funding at this time.

Commissioner Kirk-Pflugh comments that she has been the NJDEP liaison to the Commission for the past 6 years. After tonight she will be stepping down due to the fact that she has accepted a position in the Department as Director of Local Government Assistance. She adds that she has had an incredible experience working with the Commission and will continue to work for Lake Hopatcong. A replacement has not been named.

Acting Chair McCarthy comments that the next meeting will be October 17th at Mount Arlington. The Commission will vote on the budget at that time and according to their statute they will need of eight affirmative votes out of eleven to pass the budget.

Commissioner McCarthy turns the meeting over to Commissioner Kirk-Pflugh. NJDEP will record the remainder of the meeting minutes.