

Lake Hopatcong Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes – April 12, 2021
Remote Virtual Meeting

I. Opening of Meeting/Open Public Meeting Statement

- a. In accordance with the Open Meeting Law (N.J.S.A. 10:4-9.1), The Lake Hopatcong Commission has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time, and place thereof via electronic notification to the following:

The Lake Hopatcong Commission website (lakehopatcongcommission.org)

II. Salute to the Flag and Moment of Silence

III. Moment of Remembrance for Commissioner Richard Zoschak

Commissioner Crowley states that Richard Zoschak was Roxbury’s first Commissioner he was tireless in everything that he did and loved the lake. He had polio as a child but that did not slow him down. Commissioner Crowley states that he was thankful to have known Rich and to have worked with him. Commissioner McCarthy states that Mr. Zoschak was on the Commission since day one and was a pleasure to work with. He was always involved and will be missed. Chair Smith states that he was an impressive person and he cared a lot about the community.

IV. Roll Call

Present: Mark Crowley, Mark Fisch, Bradley Hoferkamp, Daniel McCarthy, Joshua Osowski, Anne Seibert-Pravs, Fred Steinbaum, Todd Stevens, Ronald Smith

Absent: Robert Tessier, Eric Wilsusen

Alternates Present: Blanca Chevrestt, Ryan Gilfillan, Bill Hirshfeld, Tom Sellaro, Neil Senatore

With nine members present, Chair Smith declares a quorum.

V. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Chair Smith entertains a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Steinbaum makes a motion to approve the minutes, Commissioner McCarthy seconds the motion.

Roll Call:

Crowley	Yes	Pravs	Yes
Fisch	Yes	Steinbaum	Yes
Hoferkamp	Yes	Stevens	Yes
McCarthy	Yes	Smith	Yes
Osowski	Yes		

The motion passes unanimously.

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VI. Treasurer’s Report

Commissioner Fisch presents the Treasurer’s Report. He states that the Commission received their second quarter payment from the State of New Jersey for \$125,000. He states that there are seven bills to be paid and the balance in the account is \$361,977 as of April 12th. Chair Smith asks Colleen Lyons to request the third quarter payment from DEP. Chair Smith entertains a motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report and List of Bills. Commissioner Steinbaum makes a motion. Commissioner Crowley seconds the motion.

Roll Call:

Crowley	Yes	Pravs	Yes
Fisch	Yes	Steinbaum	Yes
Hoferkamp	Yes	Stevens	Yes
McCarthy	Yes	Smith	Yes
Osowski	Yes		

The motion passes unanimously.

VII. Correspondence

Colleen Lyons states that the land use applications are available on the OneDrive Account. She states that the Commission received an email from HIGLIN to follow up on their request to conduct an aquatic weed removal trial on Lake Hopatcong using their D.A.S.H. boats and sonar. The Commission also received an email from the Musconetcong Sewerage Authority about the Commission’s identification of a potential issue with one of their pump houses on the border of Mount Arlington/Roxbury.

VIII. Chairman’s Report

Chairman Smith states that there was a meeting between the quarry’s professionals and the Commission’s professionals. He states that a little progress was made and they will get back together again soon. He states that there was also a meeting with DEP today about the weed harvesting program. He states that they provided answers to many of his questions.

IX. LHC Commissioner’s Comments

No Comments

X. Administrator’s Update

Colleen Lyons states that the Commission in partnership with the Lake Hopatcong Foundation submitted a grant to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation on April

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1st. She states that a bookkeeper has also been hired and will be taking over the books next week.

XI. Lake Hopatcong Foundation Updates

Marty Kane provides an update from the Lake Hopatcong Foundation. He states the Musconetcong Watershed Association river cleanup is on April 17th, the Roxbury roadside cleanup is on April 24th. Native plant sale is on May 22nd. Mr. Kane states that the Mayor's Meeting is on April 20th, and a meeting with DEP and the municipalities on April 26th. He states that the state officials have introduced new legislation for Senate Bill S3618 for \$10 million dollars for public lakes in New Jersey and would guarantee Lake Hopatcong and Greenwood Lake \$750,000 each. Mr. Kane introduces Kyle Richter as Executive Director for the Lake Hopatcong Foundation. Mr. Richter provides some information on his background.

XII. Princeton Hydro Updates

Dr. Fred Lubnow provides an update on Princeton Hydro's work around the lake. He states that Princeton Hydro was involved in the NFWF submission. Dr. Lubnow provides an update on the 2019 HABs grant projects and the 2020 319h grant.

XIII. Updates

State Park Updates

Alternate Commissioner Chevrestt reports that the welding work on the harvesters is complete. She states that there has also been work done on the roof of the Franklin Building. Ms. Chevrestt states that the sewer project at the State Park is on time. Commissioner Steinbaum asks if the Commission can start to use the office again. Alternate Commissioner Chevrestt states that the Commission can use their office. Commissioner McCarthy provides comment on the refill procedure.

NJDEP/LHC MOU

Commissioner Osowski states that he does not have any updates. He is still waiting on DEP scientists for information needed to schedule the next meeting.

Grant Updates

Colleen Lyons states that Dr. Lubnow covered the grant updates during his update.

Committee Updates

Land Use Committee Update

Colleen Lyons states that sub chair Tessier is not in attendance, but she states that she spoke with him earlier this week to discuss projects for the stormwater review and there was a land use committee meeting. The committee discussed member attendance at upcoming meetings. Commissioner Steinbaum states that the Clean

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Air Council Meeting is in nine days and he suggests that the committee submit an additional letter.

Budget

Chair Steinbaum states that the Commission has \$273,000 in their general fund, which is not a whole lot. He states that he is concerned that there could be a budget issues because the weed harvesting program could cost more than anticipated.

Finance

Chair Stevens states that the Commission is in a strong financial position having just received their second quarter statutory funding and are going to request the third quarter. He states that the Commission has contracted with a bookkeeper and the committee is trying to close out the 2020 books but is waiting for a determination from Parks and Forestry on the costs of the seasonal employees for the weed harvesting program.

Bylaws

Chair Crowley states there is nothing to report.

Planning

Chair McCarthy states that there is nothing to report, but requests that Mrs. Lyons set a meeting.

Public Outreach

Chair Pravs provides an update on outreach by the Commission and Foundation in recent years.

Ice Retardant

Chair McCarthy provides information on last season and states that in certain areas of the lake ice out was accelerated by the use of propeller driven systems. He requests a meeting to prepare for next season and requests that an ordinance update be presented at the next Mayor's Meeting and feedback be provided by the mayors. There is a general discussion about regulation of ice retardant systems.

Weed Harvesting

Chair Gilfillan states that the committee has been meeting regularly and is still in discussions with DEP. He states that the request for proposals will be extended one week to allow DEP to send the RFP to potential bidders. The committee continues to work on cost cutting for the program specifically for dewatering and disposal of weeds. Subcommittee Chair Gilfillan states that he has requested a second insurance quote for the equipment to ensure there is appropriate coverage.

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XIV. New Items

Musconetcong Watershed Association Workshop

Mrs. Lyons states that the MWA and Lake Hopatcong Foundation will hold a Harmful Algal Bloom Identification and Reporting Training on Saturday May 1st from 10am to 12:30pm at the Lake Hopatcong Yacht Club. She states that the program is currently full and registration is closed. This program will educate volunteers around the lake on how to identify HABs and will train them on how to monitor HABs using the same handheld monitors used by NJDEP. The Commission and Foundation have 3 meters total available to the volunteers. There is a general discussion of HAB monitoring.

XV. Public Comments

Lorraine Tuths of Ingram Cove states that she is interested in an aeration system for Ingram Cove. There is a general discussion of different HAB prevention technologies and stormwater management for the lake.

Donna Macalle-Holly on behalf of the Lake Hopatcong Foundation thanks Commissioner Pravs for registering for the HABs training. She provides additional information on the training and on stormwater management around the lake.

XVI. Executive Session

Chair Smith states that the Commission will enter executive session to discuss legal matters. He entertains a motion to move to executive session. Commissioner McCarthy makes a motion. Commissioner Crowley seconds the motion. All those in favor signified by saying “aye” those opposed said “no”. The motion passed unanimously.

Chair Smith entertains a motion to re-enter the public session. Commissioner Stevens makes a motion. Commissioner Steinbaum seconds the motion. All those in favor signified by saying “aye” those opposed said “no”. The motion passed unanimously.

XVII. Close of Meeting

Chairman Smith entertains a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Steinbaum makes a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Fisch seconds the motion. The meeting is adjourned.

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