

Lake Hopatcong Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes – May 10, 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. Roll Call

Present: Mark Crowley, Bradley Hoferkamp, Daniel McCarthy, Joshua Osowski, Anne Seibert-Pravs, Fred Steinbaum, Robert Tessier, Eric Wilsusen, Ronald Smith

Absent: Blanca Chevrestt, Mark Fisch, Todd Stevens

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

With ten members present, Chair Smith declares a quorum. Commissioner Senatore’s audio connection was not connected.

IV. 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	Steinbaum	Yes
Hoferkamp	Yes	Tessier	Yes
McCarthy	Yes	Wilsusen	Abstain
Osowski	Yes	Smith	Yes
Pravs	Yes		

The motion passes 8-0-1 (one abstention).

V. 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.

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Roll Call:

Crowley	Yes	Steinbaum	Yes
Hoferkamp	Yes	Tessier	Yes
McCarthy	Yes	Wilsusen	Yes
Osowski	Yes	Smith	Yes
Pravs	Yes		

The motion passes unanimously.

VI. Correspondence

Colleen Lyons states that the land use applications are available on the OneDrive Account.

VII. Chairman’s Report

Chairman Smith states that the new NJDEP Commissioner will be visiting Lake Hopatcong later in the month. He states that the Commission did not receive any bids for their advertisement for weed harvesting services. Chair Smith states that he would like to move to in person meetings in June.

VIII. LHC Commissioner’s Comments

Commissioner Steinbaum states that he believes that the Commission should negotiate with DEP to allow Mike Calderio to continue working on the weed harvesting machines. He states that the HIGLIN group from Green Pond is interested in demonstrating their DASH boat technology and sonar on Lake Hopatcong. The demonstration would be free of charge. Dr. Lubnow states that there is no reason not to allow the group to do the demonstration.

IX. Administrator’s Update

Colleen Lyons provides updates on her activities. She states that the Commission received the 319-grant contract. NJDEP Aids to Navigation was on the lake on April 27th and 28th to set buoys on the lake. A letter to the Clean Air Council was submitted on behalf of the LHC & LHF regarding nuisance dust. The LHC did not receive any bids for their advertisement for weed harvesting services, she will re-advertise this week. She states that on May 5th she attended a boating safety meeting with the LHF and local law enforcement. A meeting was held between Roxbury representatives, Princeton Hydro, LHC and LHF to discuss projects identified in the watershed implementation plan and discuss projects for upcoming grant announcements. The LHC received a handheld fluorometer on loan from NJDEP to monitor suspected HABs on the lake. Mrs. Lyons states that she is meeting with the book keeper Karen Buchanan on Wednesday to transfer the checkbook and other documents.

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X. Lake Hopatcong Foundation Updates

Marty Kane provides an update from the Lake Hopatcong Foundation. He states that the three senators have introduced a bill which would bring funding to lakes in New Jersey. He states that representatives from Greenwood Lake and Deal Lake are also involved. Mr. Kane states that the Foundation attended a boating safety meeting with local law enforcement. He states that it was a productive meeting with good collaboration and cooperation. He states that law enforcement has some good ideas on how to cover the lake to keep the lake safe. He states that he presented a proposal for a perimeter of buoys in Byram Cove, which was well received. Mr. Kane states that the Lake Hopatcong Historical Museum applied for a grant to rehabilitate the Hopatcong State Park Fountain. Kyle Richter, Executive Director for the Lake Hopatcong Foundation states that the Foundation is promoting safety on the lake this season. He provides dates for upcoming events including the native plant sale on May 22nd, a hike this weekend, and additional hikes and guided paddle trips this summer. He states that the dock number program is back and numbers can be ordered through the Foundation. He states that the floating classroom is in the water and is moving to the state park pending a right of entry agreement. Mr. Richter states that the boat will be available for the DEP Commissioner's visit. Commissioner Steinbaum asks if the Foundation will continue to supplement the NJSP patrols. Mr. Kane states that the Foundation has set aside funding for it. He states that the police are making some changes that will reduce the need for additional funding.

XI. Princeton Hydro Updates

Dr. Fred Lubnow provides an update on Princeton Hydro's work around the lake. He states that the aeration equipment for Mount Arlington Beach is on the way, Shore Hills aeration is running and the Lake Forest unit is having some issues and a part is on order. He hopes to have all three up and running by Memorial Day. Dr. Lubnow states that the Aquafilter units are scheduled to be cleaned. He states that the other HABs grant projects will continue to be monitored. Dr. Lubnow states that Princeton Hydro is waiting for approvals for the 319h-grant work, but they did initiate the bathymetric work. He states that a draft of the Mount Arlington Beach and Park Restoration Plan is complete. He requests that the applications for the Stormwater Ordinance review be forwarded to Princeton Hydro so they can initiate work. Commissioner Tessier states that he is meeting with the Planner and Colleen Lyons to discuss the applications.

XII. Updates

State Park Updates

Commissioner Osowski states that the sewer project is 65% complete. DEP hopes that the bath house will be open for Memorial Day weekend. He states that the new

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pavilion is delayed due to water pressure issues. Alternate Commissioner Chevrestt states that water is over the dam. The weed harvesting program employees are repairing hydraulic lines, and received an order from Aquarius Systems. She states that they will work on cutter bar replacement next. Commissioner Steinbaum asks about whether dock regulations will be included in the administrative code updates. Commissioner Osowski states that there has not been any movement on updates to the code. He states that he thinks they could happen after the election. Commissioner McCarthy asks about regulations on dock replacements, and that residents are having trouble repairing/replacing docks. Commissioner Osowski states that DEP is aware of the issue and is looking into it.

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

Chair Tessier states that they are working on selecting six applications to recommend to Princeton Hydro for review. He states that the application reviews will be transferred to Ken Nelson and Eric Snyder will work on ordinances.

Budget

Chair Steinbaum states that there are no updates.

Finance

Chair Stevens is not in attendance.

Bylaws

Chair Crowley states that there are no updates.

Planning

Chair McCarthy states that they held a meeting on April 27th to discuss concepts for 1, 3, and 5 year plans for the Commission. They discussed topics for further consideration. He states that they have asked Chair Smith to be a member of the committee.

Public Outreach

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Chair Pravs provides states that after the last meeting she reached out to residents about the Commission's recommendations to the Clean Air Council. She was surprised that she did not hear back from them.

Ice Retardant

Chair McCarthy states that they held a meeting last week to recap last season. He states that there is not an appetite from the municipalities to change the existing ordinances. He states that the committee would like to update the flyer and that the focus should be on public outreach. He states that DEP should consider including ice retardant system regulations in the administrative code.

Weed Harvesting

Chair Gilfillan states that they are working on ordering parts, updating the bid, and looking into insurance options. He thanks the municipalities for their consideration on using their land to dewater weeds.

XIII. New Items

Boat Regulation Commission

Commissioner Steinbaum states that the Boat Regulation Commission is considering regulations for surf boats. Mr. Kane states that they do have draft regulations, the BRC will hold their northern meeting at the Lake Hopatcong Yacht Club on July 13th.

Chair Smith asks Dr. Lubnow if Princeton Hydro has reached out to Lorraine Tuths, the resident who spoke about aeration for Ingram Cove at the Commission's April Meeting. Dr. Lubnow states that when the Commission and Princeton Hydro meet with Hopatcong Borough to discuss the Watershed Implementation Plan they can discuss that site.

XIV. Public Comments

No public comments.

XV. Executive Session

Chair Smith states that there is no need for an executive session.

XVI. Close of Meeting

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

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