

Lake Hopatcong Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes – November 13, 2023
125 Landing Rd, Landing NJ 07850

I. Opening of Meeting/Open Public Meeting Statement

- a. In accordance with the Open Meeting Law, The Lake Hopatcong Commission has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time, and place thereof delivered or mailed or electronically mailed to the following:

DAILY RECORD the NEW JERSEY HERALD and posted on the Lake Hopatcong Commission website (lakehopatcongcommission.org)

II. Salute to the Flag and Moment of Silence

III. Roll Call

Present: Bradley Hoferkamp, Neil Senatore, Ronald Smith, Todd Stevens, Fred Steinbaum, Robert Tessier, Eric Wilsusen

Absent: Mark Crowley, Daniel McCarthy, Anne Seibert-Pravs, Joshua Osowski,

Alternates Present: Laura Franek, Ryan Gilfillan, Bill Hirschfeld, Steven Levinson, Karen Porfido, Shawn Potillo, Thomas Sellaro

With eleven members present, Chair Smith declares a quorum.

IV. Executive Session

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

V. Approval of Meeting Minutes

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

Roll Call:

Franek	Yes	Steinbaum	Yes
Hirschfeld	Abstain	Stevens	Abstain
Hoferkamp	Yes	Tessier	Abstain
Porfido	Abstain	Wilsusen	Abstain
Potillo	Abstain	Smith	Yes
Senatore	Yes		

The motion does not pass.

Chair Smith entertains a motion to approve the October minutes. Commissioner Porfido makes a motion to approve the minutes, Commissioner Senatore seconds the motion.

Next Regular Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
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Roll Call:

Franek	Yes	Steinbaum	Yes
Hirschfeld	Abstain	Stevens	Yes
Hoferkamp	Yes	Tessier	Yes
Porfido	Abstain	Wilsusen	Abstain
Potillo	Abstain	Smith	Yes
Senatore	Yes		

The motion passes 7-4-0 (four abstentions).

VI. Treasurer’s Report

Commissioner Stevens provides an overview of the monthly cash report. He states that the Commission received a reimbursement for the 319 Grant, and the HAB grant. He reviews the expenses. Commissioner Steinbaum makes a motion, Commissioner Wilsusen seconds the motion.

Roll Call:

Franek	Yes	Steinbaum	Yes
Hirschfeld	Yes	Stevens	Yes
Hoferkamp	Yes	Tessier	Yes
Porfido	Yes	Wilsusen	Yes
Potillo	Yes	Smith	Yes
Senatore	Yes		

The motion passes unanimously.

VII. Correspondence

In Mrs. Lyons absence, no update is provided.

VIII. Chairman’s Report

Chair Smith provides an update on the purchase of a truck for the weed harvesting program, and notes that the annual end of year meeting with DEP Commissioner Shawn LaTourette is coming up.

IX. LHC Commissioner’s Comments

Commissioner Tessier states that the land use committee found a new planner to handle land use reviews. Commissioner Hoferkamp states that the updates that

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Mrs. Lyons provided for the Council's and County were well done. Commissioner Wilsusen states that he attended the Lake Hopatcong Cleanup and acknowledges the Foundation's efforts and that the event was well attended.

X. Administrator's Update

Mrs. Lyons is not present and no update is provided.

XI. Weed Harvesting Report

Mr. Calderio states that they are in the process of breaking down the equipment. He states that it will be another month for the purchase of the new truck for the harvesting program.

XII. Lake Hopatcong Foundation Updates

Marty Kane provides an update on Lee's Park and the restoration of their building. The Fountain project is progressing and he provides an update on Lakes Funding. Kyle Richter provides an update on Foundation activities. He thanks the 600 volunteers who came out for the clean-up, the municipalities and counties. A meeting was held on the proposed oxygenation system and a recording is available on the Foundation website. He states that this Thursday the LHF is hosting the fall education program.

Princeton Hydro Updates

Fred Lubnow of Princeton Hydro provides an update on projects associated with the HAB, 319, NFWF and Lakes Restoration Grant. He states that the final 2023 water quality report will be submitted to the LHC in January 2024. He provides an update on Princeton Hydro's work on NJ Highlands funded projects including work on the restoration of floating island and the trout habitat study. Dr. Lubnow also provides an update on the oxygenation feasibility study and work on the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation grant projects that include three streambank stabilization projects.

XIII. Updates

State Park Updates

Alternate Commissioner Franek states that the water level is at 4.01 feet. She states that the drawdown level was reached on November 1st and will be held until December 15th.

CAC Meeting

No updates.

Committee Updates

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Land Use Committee Update

Chair Tessier states that the committee has selected a new planner. His contract will be voted on later in the meeting.

Budget

Chair Steinbaum provides an overview of the Commission budget. He states that spending in many categories is approximately one third of the budget.

Finance

Chair Stevens states that the statutory payment is expected any day. He states that the \$200,000 advance on the Lakes Restoration Grant will also be received.

Bylaws

No updates.

Planning

No updates.

Public Outreach

Commissioner Porfido provides an update on Chair Pravs' behalf. She states that the cleanup was a success and she notes all the good work being done on the lake.

Ice Retardant

Commissioner Steinbaum states that Hopatcong already passed the Ice Retardant System Ordinance and all systems should be registered in Hopatcong starting November 1st. Commissioner Hoferkamp will check to see if any forms have been generated to register the systems.

Ad-Hoc Boating Safety

Chair Steinbaum states that at their last meeting they decided not to send any further recommendations to the Boating Regulation Committee. The state has already passed the 200' rule for towing and

Ad-Hoc Trout Habitat

Commissioner Stevens states that there is a meeting this week.

Ad Hoc Goose Management

Chair Porfido states that they will schedule a meeting to decide USDA's involvement for this season.

XIV. New Items

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No new items.

XV. Public Comments

Beth Shustin – Hopatcong states that tires should be banned from use on the lake and there should be a waiver from the tire recycling fee. Commissioner Wilsusen states that any tires collected during the cleanup are not charged, but if a resident brings tires to the recycling center after the cleanup they will be charged the fee.

Kurt Swenson from Flash Marina asks about tire recycling and collection. He states that there has been a huge difference in the geese this year and asks about the end of the drawdown.

XVI. Action Items

RES 23-20 Land Use Planning Consultant

Chair Smith entertains a motion to approve the resolution. Commissioner Steinbaum makes a motion, Commissioner Tessier seconds the motion. There is a general discussion of his contract.

Roll Call:

Franek	Yes	Steinbaum	Yes
Hirschfeld	Yes	Stevens	Yes
Hoferkamp	Yes	Tessier	Yes
Porfido	Yes	Wilsusen	Yes
Potillo	Yes	Smith	Yes
Senatore	Yes		

The motion passes unanimously.

XVII. Close of Meeting

Alternate Chair McCarthy entertains a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Steinbaum makes a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Tessier seconds the motion. The meeting is adjourned.

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