

March 15, 2022
Wesley Lake Commission Minutes
Minutes Via Zoom

In Attendance:

Keith Cafferty
Keith Fiori
Ed Lacombe
Joe Leone
Gail Rosewater
Jenn Schimpf
Veronika Sonsev

Gail Rosewater opened the meeting at 7:01 PM with member roll call and reading of the Open Public Records Act.

Approval of Minutes

Jenn moved and Keith F. seconded to approve minutes of 2/15/2022. All Commissioners approved minutes. They will be sent to the municipalities to be posted on the websites.

Open Public Portion

No members of the public present.

Standard Reports:

Treasurer:

Balance is \$14,617.72. Ed sent an invoice to each municipality for the \$1,000 for 2022 contribution to the Commission and received Asbury Parks. Keith Cafferty moved to accept and Jenn Seconded. All approved. Report accepted.

Membership:

Gail explained that slate for officers will be voted on at next meeting. Beth resigned from Secretary position. Jenn offered to be Secretary. Gail, Doug, and Ed agreed to continue. Nominations from the floor will be accepted at next meeting. Proposed slate to be voted on is
Gail Rosewater, Chair
Doug McQueen, Vice Chair
Ed Lacombe, Treasurer
Jenn Schimpf, Secretary

DPW

Neptune is doing ongoing liter pick up along Lake.

Old Business

Geese Control:

Gail and Jenn both stated that the geese situation is better than a month ago but not as good as last year. They are pairing off and spending time eating grass along lake.

Neptune has decided to study REJEXIT and is not moving forward with a contract at this time. Keith C asked Gail for a copy of agreement with OGCMA, AP and Neptune about goose management. She will send.

Birds Beware comes frequently. They use a remote-control water-based dog chaser as well as dog along shores.

319 H Grant

It was submitted with our letter of support.

Pond Weed:

The Pond Weed Treatment contract is with Neptune for processing. Keith C will follow up.

Water Quality

Gail received the following report from Dr. Jason Adolf from Monmouth University:

We sampled Enterococcus at Wesley Lake on 11/2/2021 and 11/11/2021. On 11/2, all other coastal lakes were also sampled. Wesley Lake, Lake Takanassee, and Sylvan Lake were the only lakes that did not exceed the regulatory threshold (104 CFU per 100 mL) for Enterococcus abundance. Follow up sampling on 11/11 also found low numbers in Wesley Lake that were below the regulatory threshold, although only Deal Lake and Sunset Lake were also sampled on this date (also below the regulatory threshold).

Coastal lakes are not certified for primary contact by the state, and it would surprise very few people to find Enterococcus levels above the regulatory threshold in coastal lakes. Enterococcus is a 'fecal indicator bacterium' because it comes (primarily) from the guts of warm blooded animals and birds. Typically, animal droppings being washed into the lakes can be a source, but the test we use cannot distinguish among possible sources of Enterococcus.

The surprising part of these data to me is the relatively low levels of Enterococcus in Wesley, Takanassee, and Sylvan on 11/2. Prior to that date we had a lot of rain and the 7 other coastal lakes in Monmouth County all showed some degree of exceedance, including values 3-5x higher than the regulatory threshold. Rain would be expected to wash contaminants into the lakes, including contaminants that would increase Enterococcus levels. In other words, I expected high values and am surprised to see low values in 3/10 coastal lakes. It is possible that Canada Geese controls have reduced the 'goose poop' around Wesley, resulting in less Enterococcus after rain storms, but with this amount of data that remains speculative. I had to order more tests than I can use in a class this semester so perhaps we can continue sampling this summer and address questions like that.

Dredging

Keith F. will get a quote from Solitude. Keith C. suggested we look for federal/state money for dredging. The bulkhead will need to be done at same time. Keith C. suggested we send a letter to Frank Pallone and Vin Gopal about the need for these funds. Gail will draft and send to Jenn to finish, as the new Secretary.

World Changers

Ideas for their projects are welcome. Gail moved the project be the gardens at end of each footbridge and the garden along boardwalk between AP and OG. Veronika seconded and all voted for approval. Keith C will bring it to World Changers.

OGCMA Snow Removal

We received a letter back from OGCMA. They believe it is the homeowner's responsibility to remove snow in front of their house along Lake. Gail asked them about the fire lane areas. They did not respond. Keith C. suggested those concerned who live along Lake call the local fire dept and ask how they get cleared. Keith F will assist him.

Footbridges

Keith C still looking for funds.

Neptune Green Team

It has been revitalized and has held two meetings.

New Business

A Lake Clean Up will be held April 30 from 10-12. Flyer to come from Keith F. Spread it far and wide.

Keith F. moved and Jenn seconded to close the meeting at 8:05 PM. All approved.

Respectfully Submitted by:
Gail Rosewater