

December 17, 2024
Wesley Lake Commission Minutes
Via Zoom

In Attendance:

Keith Fiori

Joe Leone, Neptune DPW

Gary Iott

Ed Lacombe

Gail Rosewater

Jenn Schimpf

Member of Public: Conor Ferguson, Graduate Student, Rutgers

Gail Rosewater opened the meeting at 7:00 PM with member roll call and reading of the Open Public Meetings Act.

Approval of Minutes:

Gary moved to accept the minutes of October 15, 2024, and Ed seconded. All others voted in favor. Gail will forward minutes to municipalities to be posted on the websites.

Public

Conor Ferguson, a third-year graduate student from Rutgers in Landscape Architecture, attended the meeting. He was referred by Pater Avakian. He is studying the effect of climate change on coastal lakes. His focus is on Wesley Lake and Wreck Pond. He is studying underwater depth, stormwater, and outfall pipe plans.

Membership

Dr Brown, Gary Iott and Keith Fiori are up for reappointment at the end of 2024. Neptune conveyed to Gail that they needed to reapply. Gail forwarded the information to all three. Neptune also indicated that they will also consider James Rokosny and a Committee person to fill the two vacancies. Appointments take place January 1, 2025.

Treasurer's Report

Ed reported that the balance is \$17,956.34. \$106.98 was spent on plantings for the Emory Street Bridge entrance from Ocean Grove.

Eileen reported to Gail that a CD cannot be opened with the Commission money to earn interest. We had requested this information.

Neptune DPW

Keith F. sent pictures before the meeting of the west end of the Lake when water was very low, showing garbage and a hole in the cage. Garbage went into the Lake. Joe L. said it will be fixed in the next week.

Joe also reported he did a walk around the Lake with Keith Daly the Township Engineer, and they observed several sink holes that will be filled. He said larger rocks work better because smaller rocks fall through.

Joe reported that he will have the rain gardens cleaned of leaves when he can, so water does not get trapped in them.

Keith Daly has contacted Gail about the bridge grant. Neptune is beginning to work on the Grant Acceptance Package and will contact Asbury Park and/or the Commission when it is time. Keith Daly reported to Joe that the million dollars from the grant will be spent on the Emory Street bridge.

Ed asked Joe if Neptune could assist with three floating islands that are now at the west end. Joe agreed. Ed asked for \$300 more in supplies for the islands. Ed moved, Keith seconded, all approved.

The white posts were removed that held stolen sign.

Joe reported that a new director of Public Works in Neptune has been hired. Joe has been promoted to Assistant Director and hopes to remain on the Commission.

Joe asked what the bulkhead at the west end was for. Keith said he thought it was there to keep the sediment from going to the rest of the lake from the storm drains.

APDPW

Gail received an email from Eillen Chapman, who reported that Asbury Park is working with their Engineer and others who did a study on the outfall pipe. She also received the flood report ISTAR did. She spoke to Assemblywoman Peterpaul about flood issues also and will report at the next meeting.

Pond Weed

Keith asked about the success of pond weed treatment and Gail said Pond Weed company (TIGRIS AQUATIC SERVICES, formally known as Black Lagoon) responded that they started earlier with stronger treatment. Joe said lack of rain made chemical stay in longer.

Geese

Contract to be awarded in the new year.

VFW

Commissioners had asked about the possibility of Eileen speaking to the developer of the VFW building to donate money to the Lake. Gail spoke to Eileen who asked for a specific suggestion of what to ask for. Keith suggested \$20,000 to start a dredging fund and Gail suggested a donation to the Environmental Shade Tree Commission for a garden at the corner of Bond and Lake Ave. We will discuss it at the next meeting with Eileen.

Ed made a motion to adjourn at 7:59 PM and Jenn seconded. All approved.

Respectfully Submitted by:
Gail Rosewater