

Wesley Lake Commission

Minutes 3/20/2018 Meeting

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm. By Gail Rosewater. Gail led the Flag Salute and the Open Public Meeting Act.

Members in attendance were: James Brown, Doug McQueen, Jim Henry, Gail Rosewater, Eileen Chapman, Peter Longo, William McClave

Minutes of the January 2018 meeting were approved

There were no members of the public in attendance.

STANDING REPORTS:

Membership: GR asked for input about whether the 7pm meeting time was optimal, or whether the members thought it might be worthwhile to return to the 5:30 meeting time. JH made a motion to change meeting time back to 5:30, but nobody seconded. Motion died. GR reminded members that Neptune currently has two vacancies on the Commission and EC noted that Neptune would need to solicit to fill that position. Peter will follow up. For the Commission's annual reorganization, the Commission voted that Gail Rosewater would remain Chairperson and that Doug McQueen would remain Vice Chair. No Secretary was nominated.

Treasurer: JH read the Treasurer's report and noted a bank balance of \$16,486.05 as of 3/20/2018. JH explained the challenge that he has been having with transferring the EIN# on the JCP&L account to Neptune. When WLC tried to have the JCP&L meter for the aerators associated with WLC's EIN, JCP&L inadvertently assigned all Asbury Park power bills to the WLC EIN and WLC mailbox, which took a long time to clear up with JCP&L. The power is now split with AP providing power for the east aerator via an existing power box and WLC paying for the west aerator via it's JCP&L account. The WLC is attempting to transfer its JCP & L account to Neptune. JH stated that he left a message with Vito in Neptune to ascertain the status of the JCP&L account & correct EIN, but hasn't heard back from Vito. Peter agreed to speak with Vito. The Commission has received the AP contribution of \$1,000.00. A motion to accept the Treasurer's report (EC/GR) was approved.

Watershed: GR reported that a copy of a storm drain and watershed map was sent to both municipalities to be used as the jurisdictional map of record in accordance with the WLC Agreement of Charter.

Grants: GR reported that on 3/22 there would be a meeting of representatives of three lake commissions - WLC, Sunset Lake and Deal Lake - to discuss the NJDEP 319(h) grant. A motion to seek Living Shoreline grant funding for floating treatment islands (GR/DM) was approved. GR discussed the ANJEC Open Space Stewardship Grant for Environmental Commissions for up to \$1500 and a motion was approved (GR/EC) to seek funding for additional or expanded pollinator gardens. Gail will notify the AP City Manager who agreed to write grants in house.

DPW: WM noted that the lake has been lowered for storms and that the outflow had received a repair, but that long-term sand infiltration problems should be addressed by extending the outflow pipe further into the ocean. The outflow pipe at its current shorter length is subject to

blocking and inflow of sand and this tendency has been exacerbated by coastal sand replenishment. Extending the pipe would avoid the pipe from being blocked by sand. Pallone's office/Army Corps has been notified by the City Manager.

Pond Weed: After a discussion about various options for weed treatment, a motion (EC/GR) was approved to accept weed treatment proposals for weed treatment from (a) Heck to Bond streets, and (b) Heck to Emory streets, and not for the entire lake. A motion was approved (PL/JH) to accept Black Lagoon's proposal of \$10,300 for weed treatment from Heck to Bond streets, with no formal water testing included for now. Out of concern for the high cost of water testing quoted, water testing could be added later under this contract or another contract if a less-expensive water testing method was not found. Gail will notify Vito to proceed.

Website Update: JB discussed options for a web host for the WLC website. Asbury Park's Communications Director felt that the WLC site would be managed better if it was hosted under its own domain name and managed by WLC members, with links to the WLC site from each municipality's own websites. JB provided an update about desired content. GR suggested that we talk to Deal Lake about who their web host is and consider the same host.

Camp Meeting Association Property: DM explained that Member Keith Fiori (not present) had mapped and photo documented areas of the Lake Ave walkway (Ocean Grove side) that were deteriorated and in need of repair. Previous requests to OGCMA to address these deficiencies had gone unresolved. This area owned by OGCMA is a public right-of-way and is listed on the Neptune Recreation and Open Space Inventory (ROSI), for which OGCMA receives a Green Acres property tax exemption from Neptune Township. A motion was approved (DM/GR) to proceed with addressing these property deficiencies with OGCMA and Neptune Township and, if no remedy is provided, with NJDEP.

OLD BUSINESS:

Urban Coast Institute: Eileen and Gail provided an update on the effort to organize a consortium of 8 lake commissions using a federal grant through Jim Nickels at the Urban Coast Institute at Monmouth University.

Living Shorelines: GR noted that Congressman Frank Pallone sponsored the Living Shorelines Act of 2017, HR 4525. The bill was introduced in Congress in December 2017 and was referred to the House Subcommittee on Water, Power and Oceans.

Engineer: GR requested that the Commission find out from Neptune Township whether WLC currently has access to an engineering firm that is in Neptune's engineer pool.

NEW BUSINESS:

Capital Needs: DM explained that AP City Manager Michael Capabianco had previously asked if the Commission could keep a prioritized capital needs list in case there were any Sandy Recovery funds remaining. Although there are no Sandy funds available, DM and GR discussed that the Commission should always keep a current description of capital needs available. GR discussed that she has this list and recently made some additions with input from DM.

Mission Statement: Motion approved (PL/EC) to accept a mission statement for the Commission that can be kept alongside (not part of) the WLC Agreement of Charter and posted to the WLC and municipal websites:

"The Wesley Lake Commission oversees Wesley Lake and its watershed on behalf of the City of Asbury Park and Neptune Township. The Commission's goal is to improve the ecological balance of Wesley Lake and its surrounding area for the use and enjoyment of visitors and residents.

The Commission's focus is on improving the quality and quantity of water entering the lake, the ecology of the lake itself, and the quality of water flowing from the lake into the Atlantic Ocean. In addition, the Wesley Lake Commission seeks to enhance recreational opportunities at the lake and improve pedestrian and bicycle circulation around the lake and across its bridges."

Neptune ESTC: Motion (PL/EC) to send letter to Neptune Environmental and Shade Tree Commission requesting \$1000 donation from Neptune ESTC. DM suggested that these funds could be used for additional interpretative signage around the lake: cultural/historic information, pollinator garden information, etc.

GR and EC noted that they have requested meetings with State Senator Vin Gopal and Congressman Frank Pallone to discuss opportunities to improve the condition of coastal lakes.

JH described previous efforts to implement rain gardens on the access lanes on the Ocean Grove side of the lake and suggested that we should look into this possibility again.

PL noted that the Neptune ESTC is planning to implement plantings on the east end of the lake on May 12 or 19th. PL will follow up with specifics.

Motion to close (GR/EC) approved.

Respectfully Submitted By:
Doug McQueen