

April 16, 2024
Wesley Lake Commission Minutes
Via Zoom

In Attendance:

Robert Bianchini
Dr. James Brown
Keith Fiori
Ed Lacombe
Joe Leone
Barbara Lesinski
Gail Rosewater

Guests: Gary Lott, Potential Neptune Commissioner

Gail Rosewater opened the meeting at 7:04 PM with member roll call and reading of the Open Public Meetings Act.

Approval of Minutes:

Barbara L. moved to accept the minutes of March 19, 2024 and Dr Brown seconded. Joe Leone abstained. All others voted in favor. Gail will forward minutes to municipalities to be posted on the websites.

Open Public Portion

Gary Lott introduced himself and expressed interest in becoming a member of the Commission. He lives in Ocean Grove. Gail will forward him the link for a Neptune Application and notify Keith Cafferty it is coming.

Membership

The slate of officers presented and was moved to accept by Barb and seconded by Dr. Brown. All approved. Motion carried and the officers will be as follows:

Gail Rosewater, Chair
Doug McQueen, Vice Chair
Ed Lacombe, Treasurer
Jenn Schimpf, Secretary

Treasurer's Report

Ed reported that the balance is \$18,655.12. Gail moved and Dr. Brown seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report. All approved. Ed asked if he could have \$300 to buy additional lights for the lake and chain to secure. Barb offered and Dr. Brown seconded. All approved.

DPW

Ed requested the use of a boat to secure lights and islands. Robert will arrange.

Grass will start being cut in Asbury Park along the Lake next week and a new sprinkler system will be installed from Grand Ave. east. Barb asked Joe if grass clippings could be aimed away from Lake. Gail asked Joe to remind the workers not to mow the Rain Gardens.

Ed mentioned he saw eggs on islands near Heck Street bridge and Biergarten. Gail will contact Birds Beware.

Doug mentioned in a text a few weeks ago that the cages catching floatables are deteriorating and floatables go into lake during rainstorms. Robert will take a look.

Geese

Asbury Park secured a contract with Birds Beware to conduct goose management. Their quote was the lowest at \$14,400 and includes free egg addling. Robert mentioned that the Brandt Geese will move on when it gets warmer.

Pond Weed

Neptune secured a contract to manage our pond weed with Black Lagoon which has now changed its name to TIGRIS. It is good for two years.

Flooding

Per Eileen, Jason Herzold, Asbury Park engineer, will write a letter to NJDEP and Neptune to express our concerns about the flooding issue, especially with the OG North End Development.

Ocean Grove North End Development

Dr Brown and Gail both attended the Neptune Planning Board meeting and the Neptune Township Committee Meeting. They both testified (at the latter) on flooding and lake water contamination. Dr Brown mentioned climate change, the underground parking garage and concern over general flooding. He also mentioned that the issue should not be viewed as an Asbury Park issue only. Gail asked that the Township have a Manufactured Treatment Device installed to clean water contaminated by the underground garage and surrounding area before storm water flows into ocean and to have an engineer conduct regular visits as the site is developed to ensure they are compliance with approved plans. The plan now goes back to the Planning Board on 4/24 at 7 PM. All are encouraged to attend, Gail will go.

Robert indicated he is very much concerned about flooding and has no doubt it will get worse in Asbury Park when this new development is built. He urged the Commission to advocate for a pump to assist in emptying the Lake during a storm.

Friends and Citizens

Barbara and Keith will work on replacement signs for the Watershed sign by Heck St. bridge and the wooden Welsey Lake sign by the western foot bridge on the Ocean Grove side. Both were stolen.

Footbridges

Congressman Pallone, Jr. secured 1 million dollars in federal funding for the Ocean Grove/Asbury Park footbridges. Keith Cafferty worked with Pallone on

getting this money. Gail explained that in 2020 the Commission requested an analysis of the bridges per their age and condition, This was done and presented in 2021. Projected cost of repairs was 3 million. 1 million for Floor Beam Rehabilitation was the #1 priority. The analysis cost \$30,000 split between two towns.

Gail wrote Congressman Pallone a thank you letter from the Commission and asked for his assistance on the OG North End Development flooding concerns.

Gail announced she will be on vacation in May. Commissioners agreed to cancel the May meeting.

Barb made a motion to adjourn at 8:15 PM and Keith F. seconded.

Respectfully Submitted by:
Gail Rosewater