

Meeting of the Wesley Lake Commission

Tuesday, February 16, 2016

Meeting Facilitator: Dr. Brantley

Roll Call: In Attendance

Dr. Michael Brantley
Mark Balzarano
Dr. James Brown
Sue Henderson
Jim Henry
Tee Lesinski
Doug McQueen
Gail Rosewater
Joe Woerner

Dr. Brantley called the meeting to order at 5:35 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance and the reading of the Open Public Meeting Act.

Minutes

Jim Henry made a motion to approve the minutes. Joe Woerner seconded. All approved. Jim Henry asked if the By Laws (Charter) should be changed to allow the Member at Large to vote. He would also like to change the Municipal Representative to permit a designee to attend meetings for them. It was explained this is already permissible in the By Laws.

Reorganization

Dr. Brantley asked for a vote for the officers as proposed in last month's minutes: Dr. Brantley, Chair, Susan Henderson, Vice Chair, Jim Henry, Treasurer, Gail Rosewater, Secretary. Jim Henry moved to accept. Jim Brown seconded, all approved.

Guest Speakers

The Township Engineer is no longer Peter Avakian. Lisa Di Franza, P.E. from Maser Consulting is the new Wesley Lake Commission Engineer. She introduced herself and explained that her specialty is municipal work and she is familiar with the Lake and the City of Neptune. Dr. Brantley asked her to attend meetings and said he will get her a copy of the Lake Plan from Roberta Grace. Dr. Brantley explained pond weed is a big issue for the Lake and we want to get away from using chemicals to treat it. He explained that Vito said we might be able to use the County's harvester and crane. Lisa will check with Vito as we would rather do harvesting than use chemicals and we could possibly use the operator from the Mosquito Commission. Steve Souza's proposal required us to provide operator anyway. Dr. Brantley also asked Lisa if she could advise the Commission on applicable grants. He explained we need more dredging. Joe Woerner said that Asbury Park will repair the outflow pipe together with DEP. A pump could be

installed to pump water into the ocean when flooding may occur. Dr. Brantley suggested Maser write a grant for it. Mark said a larger outflow pipe might be better. Fletcher Lake has a large outflow pipe. The Lake sits above the ocean level. The size of the outflow pipe in Wesley Lake is a problem. Draining the Lake when a big rain is coming is helpful. Dr. Brantley wants a grant for a bigger pipe.

Lisa asked if any pipes had been cleaned since Sandy. (no answer) Mark said the pipes should be restricted since the outflow pipe is too small.

Doug asked if there was discussion about flow of water being restricted. Jim said the box culvert on Kinsley was removed and now water flows too quickly into the Lake. Lowering the Lake is important. Doug suggested adding more pervious surfaces. Mark explained that the lower end of Asbury was below the level of the Lake so water would not go into the Lake-it went into the Ocean. Now it goes into the Lake.

Joe explained that the Waterfront Redevelopment Plan allows IStar to build so water goes into Lake. They have put in some vegetation to reduce water from going into street but they don't HAVE to. Mark said the pipes have to be bigger.

Dr. Brantley said the outflow pipe is biggest priority and Mark agreed. First it must be repaired and then it must be made bigger.

Dr. Brantley asked about the development of Neptune. Mark said they went deeper with pipe. It used to be smaller and higher.

Dr. Brantley asked Lisa to come to the next several meetings. He said speakers should go first and then public could ask questions of them any then speakers could leave.

Public

Keith Fiori (Friends/Citizens of Wesley Lake) asked if harvesting is funded by a grant. Dr. Brantley explained we have to confirm if we have access to the equipment. Keith asked how to pay for staff to do it. Joe said towns could cover cost of manpower. Lisa was excused at 6:15.

The second guest speaker was Tom Pavinski, Chair of the Environmental Shade Tree Commission. He explained ideas for Sunset Lake and said they may be helpful for us.

He Said the last two summers algae have been high. It was tested and is not toxic. Heat, fertilizer, geese poop, lack of rain make it worse. Nutrients make it grow. Biohabitats from NY create floating islands that help. They draw nutrients form the water that reduce them being available for the pond weed. Floating islands are plants (no trees or bushes) that float on recycled material to make lakes "clean". They are about a foot in depth. They are anchored by things like concrete. They attract insects, frogs, fish and birds. They applied for a grant with the Baykeepers of NJ/NY for \$30,00 to create these in Sunset Lake. They are looking for volunteers to make the beds.

They also planted 160-170 clips of grass donated by Wesley Grove around the lake to deter the geese. They are also building rain gardens. Doug volunteered to be the person to oversee the coordination between the Shade Tree Commission and our Commission concerning this issue.

Dr. Brantley asked for a pilot project of one floating island for Wesley Lake. The grants were just for Sunset Lake so we would have to find funding for ours. Doug will explore funding. Tom left at 6:36 PM.

New Members

Swearing in of new AP member Doug McQueen was conducted by Dr. Brantley. Official documents were signed and Gail will bring to Roberta Grace and send a copy to City Clerk of AP.

Treasurers Report

\$13,375.35 is balance. Jim Henry handed out the Treasurer's Report. JCP and L were paid an additional \$16.81 and \$2.81 in January 2016. Jim feels the bill is still unresolved. Jim is working on it. There is still an issue in that they have the AP tax ID number and then switched it to the Citizens of WL ID #. Tee is uncomfortable with this. Dr. Brantley will talk to the Neptune accountant to see what can be done. Tee moved and Dr. Brantley seconded for report to be approved. All approved.

Budget

Sue Henderson distributed Steve Sousa's estimate for harvester. Joe will get cost for outflow pipe and what Asbury Park is paying. Gail reported that Deal Lake Commission submitted Asbury's portion of the budget at the last Council meeting and it was \$11,000. The budget will be finalized at the next meeting.

Fundraising

Dr. Brantley said that the Commission has \$13,000 and we may be able to get additional donations to have a large fundraiser. He asked the Sub-Committee to consider something big.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM and the Public portion was opened. No public comments.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Gail Rosewater
Secretary