

December 20, 2022
Wesley Lake Commission Minutes
Minutes Via Zoom

In Attendance:

Robert Bianchini
Keith Fiori
Ed Lacombe
Gail Rosewater
Jennifer Schimpf
Veronika Sonsev

Gail Rosewater opened the meeting at 7:03 PM with member roll call and reading of the Open Public Records Act.

Approval of Minutes

September and October meetings did not have a quorum. There is traditionally no November meeting due to the League of Municipalities Conference. Ed moved and Robert seconded to approve minutes of 8/16/2022. 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:

Membership:

Tee's term will expire this month. Gail has spoken with Eileen Chapman about a replacement. The slate of officers needs to be established for 2023. Gail is willing to continue as chair as well as Ed as Treasurer and Jennifer as Secretary and Gail will contact Doug to see if he will continue as Vice Chair. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor at the January meeting. Officers will be voted in. Concern was expressed about members who did not attend meetings. Gail asked Keith and Veronika to contact Neptune officials.

Treasurer:

Ed reported the balance at \$15,617.72. Ed will contact both municipalities for the annual \$1,000.00. Gail moved and Veronika seconded to approve Treasurers Report. All approved.

A 2023 Budget and accompanying 5 Year Plan was discussed in August and distributed to members in the fall. Robert moved and Jenn seconded to forward the budget and plan to both

municipalities. All members voted in favor. Gail will send via email to Neptune Business Administrator and Asbury Park City Manager.

DPW

As a result of Doug's letter to Neptune Code Enforcement, Ocean Grove Camp Meeting Association (OGCMA) put down new sidewalks along the Lake where it was worn and therefore unsafe. Gail will send a thank you to them and to Neptune. Gullies were created on either side and Keith F. will contact Ocean Grove and or Neptune DPW to ask them to repair.

Ed requested that when the Lake is lowered that floatables be cleaned out of the cages first. Otherwise, they flow into the Lake. Robert will also look at outfall tomorrow.

Robert said the Lake is badly in need of dredging at the west end and if only a little bit was shoveled out each year it would help. He will speak to Donna about that when they discuss dredging Sunset Lake.

Robert also said there was a hole in outfall pipe creating beach sinkholes and he has been asked to work on that.

Gail got clarification about the Shared Services Agreement between Asbury Park and Neptune. It ends in December 2023. It only addresses spring/summer maintenance of the Lake not to exceed \$12,000 and states Neptune will procure services and Asbury Park will reimburse.

Old Business

Clean Up:

The October 8, Friends and Citizens of Wesley Lake clean up only had 5 volunteers attend. We agreed to do our clean-up day on a date when there were no other events/clean ups.

Geese Control:

Geese Chaser contract will go out to bid for 2023 by AP. The Commission agreed that they were satisfied with the 2022 contract.

319 H Grant:

Ocean Grove rain gardens are moving forward for spring 2023. Gail signed the agreement with Deal Lake Commission and the OGCMA. The Commission will need to do the maintenance on the rain gardens on our clean up days.

Pond Weed:

We are in the second year of a two-year contract so nothing needs to be done. At the request of the Commission in August Gail contacted Black Lagoon to inquire as to what could be done about the dead pond weed floating on top of the water after treatment. They said it was not harmful and could be removed for a fee of \$2450.00 per day. They would need somewhere to dispose of the weeds.

CLONet:

Gail attended the Monmouth University CLONet conference on November 8. Water Testing has been funded for another several years. The focus is changing from data collection to restoration of coastal lakes. We added testing for road salt in our Lakes last year and will continue this year. It increases probability of harmful algae blooms. Wesley does show that we get a great deal of road salt after a snow/ice storm.

Sylvan Lake did a presentation on acquiring Defense Dept. (they are near a military base) grants to create a plan to continue the living shoreline. Footprint of Lake will be smaller. They advised that we all be shovel ready for the billions in federal funding for Inflation and Infrastructure.

AP Coastal Resilience:

Gail attended another ZOOM meeting of the group on October 25. It involves the AP Planning Bd, Lake Commissions, Environmental Shade Tree Commission, Green Team, Equity Committee, Complete Streets, Affordable Housing, City Historian, AP High School. The discussion centered around coastal resilience and short and long term goals. It was mostly a sharing session. Gail shared our Five Year Plan with the group and stated that resilience to her meant the “coasts ability to recover from harm and abuse”.

Grants

Gail sent a letter to both municipalities in October asking for them to be ready to respond to RFPs for grants to benefit the Lake. She volunteered to speak to the officials and or come to meetings to discuss. She has not heard back from either. However, she will forward information on all relevant grants to the municipalities.

NJDEP:

At the request of Eileen Chapman Gail called NJDEP to ask why the designation of our Lake was changed to fluvial. She spoke to Michael Sheehan, who lives on the Ocean Grove side of the Lake. Although he could not provide the exact person or moment when this change was made and explained they did not do a particular study to determine this, they said for developers in Asbury Park they need to follow the guidelines for fluvial water bodies. Fluvial mean the Lake rises and falls as a result of a non-tidal water source (a spring, stormwater etc.)

New Business

Gail called for a vote on the 2023 meeting dates and if they were to be continued on ZOOM or move to in person. After discussion Ed moved and Jenn seconded all Commissioners approved on the following 2023 dates at 7 PM via ZOOM:

January 17

February 21

March 21

April 18

May 16

June 20

July 18

August 15

September 19

October 17

No November Meeting

December 19

Veronika moved and Ed seconded to close the meeting at 8:05 PM. All approved.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Gail Rosewater