

Minutes
Wesley Lake Commission Meeting
Tuesday: May 19, 2020
7 PM
VIA ZOOM

- I. Roll Call: In attendance: Eileen Chapman, Dr. Jim Brown, Billy McClave, Keith Fiori, Gail Rosewater, Doug McQueen, Rev. Mitchell, Ed Lacombe, Patricia Lesinski, Dr. Brantley
- II. Call to Order/Flag Salute: Gail led the flag salute and called the meeting to order at 7:05
- III. Open Public Meeting Act: Gail read
- IV. Approval of Minutes January 21, 2020
Motion made by Ed Lacombe to approve/Second by Keith Fiori. All in favor, minutes approved.
- V. Open Public Portion
A motion was made to open the public in via phone or zoom.
Jen Schimpf 504 Asbury Ave. AP – applying to serve on the committee spoke about her interest.
- VI. Standard Reports
Ed Lacombe provided the Treasurers Report. Balance in our account: \$19,362.66. Annual contribution by Neptune of \$1,000.00 was received, Eileen will look into Asbury Park’s contribution. A motion was made by Doug McQueen to approve and seconded by Dr. Brown. All in favor, report accepted and approved.
- VII. Old Business
First Pond Treatment done April 29.
April 10 Zoom meeting with new City Manager, Donna Vireo with Eileen, Doug and Gail. Introductory conversation to give overview of the Commission work and vision. Donna asked us to set - One/Three/Five Year Plan and assign estimated cost to each piece of the plan.

Doug McQueen provided an overview the following:
Committee Member Survey Responses done in March 2020. Very useful. Results sent to entire Commission May 19, 2020. Members are asked to read and come with ideas for how to use survey results and transfer into actionable items/Plan at June meeting.
In future the survey will be annual in December/January and a review of all Commission documents will be held at January meeting to plan for the year. This will hopefully improve the productivity of the Commission.
Feedback from survey was:
 - Suggestion to change Seating arrangement – sit around table.
 - Help WLC members get a better understanding of their role and responsibility.
 - Friends and Citizens of Wesley Lake conducts clean ups, pay for signs around the lake, etc. Members seemed to be confused that Commission did this.
 - Need for better relationship with Neptune and AP municipalities.Dr. Brantley explained that he has been on WLC for 14 years. They accomplished much in first 5 years. He has seen each municipality be involved but at different

times. Need to get both municipalities to be active at the same time which will help the work of WLC. WLC needs to be optimistic and take advantage of opportunities for cooperation.

Tee - Lighting is needed and could be 'common ground' project.

Doug – Need to use official documents such as master plans to keep our agenda going hoping that these goal setting documents transcend politic swings.

Please review proposed update of 2008 Rehabilitation Plan – WLC needs to chip away at this plan. Doug has assigned actional item to each larger goal. (Gail sent in an email to WLC). Be prepared to discuss in June.

Dr. Brantley reminded us that the writer of the 2008 Plan, Peter Avakian, is in the pool of Engineers with Neptune and we could use him. He said we need to use specifics in plan such as maintenance of Bridges and get money in budget. The bridges should be left out of new plan because it seems like it is hopeful to occur now. Dr. B will talk to Vito.

Doug explained that even though dredging is important, the price tag is in \$ millions and not likely to be embraced by municipalities.

Gail reminded everyone that we hand in a budget request every September. She asked where does it go? We asked for \$40,000 for Bridges per municipality and \$7500.00 for a landscape plan and heard nothing and no one seems to remember seeing it. Dr. B suggests we keep working with Vito and Mayors and Administrators, invite them to meetings etc.

Doug explained that so much of what WLC is currently doing is related to fixing problems instead of preventing them....examples pond weed control and filling sink holes.

A SUCCESS - APDPW just put in NEW garbage cans along Lake Ave. which helps to solve one of the problems identified in the Rehab Plan.

Keith-asked Commission members to be specific in ideas that could be used as part of 'way forward.' Focus on a few short-term goals that are achievable.

Gail acknowledged that it is hard for Commissioners to know what they should be doing. Need to be giving assigned tasks to members of WLC or Commissioners can volunteer for a specific action. She will try.

Dr. J. Brown suggested we use students at Brookdale C. and Monmouth U. to assist the work of the WLC. Give students 'intern' status. Will give WLC broader recognition in community and county. Gail asked him to please move forward with that initiative and the Website.

Doug- Established Wesley Lake NJ Instagram – posting Wesley Lake photos...to get public interested in what WLC is doing. Doug made a motion for Instagram to

become official representation of the WLC, seconded by Dr. J. Brown- all in favor/approved.

Keith – established Facebook presence by Friends and Citizens of Wesley Lake. Gail also posts there.

Doug explained that he put together suggestions Capital Needs Funding Projects taken from existing plans we have been part of to upgrade Wesley Lake and surrounding area and sent to iStar Developers. He has not heard back.

Doug informed the group about a new development Project-AP Triangle (Between Asbury/Cookman/Heck Avenues) by iStar. The AP Planning Board is currently reviewing. HELPFUL to have WLC members as part of hearings. Chairperson, Gail R - will send letter of 'concern' to Planning Board on behalf of WLC.

Note: Next Planning Board Mtg. on this topic- June 8 at 6pm to hear iSTAR. Public permitted to ask to speak. Motion was made by Eileen/ second Dr. Brown for letter to be written. All in favor/approved.

AP Environmental Shade Tree Commission is building new garden at footbridge of Heck St. Placement of these new gardens needs to be part of a bigger/organized street scape plan.

This illustrates that both sides of Lake need a PLAN/BLEUPRINT to avoid conflict and confusion...adopt a formal streetscape plan with standards that identifies all the amenities and components (lighting, benches, plantings, garbage cans etc.) \$7500 request for AP side already submitted for creating a plan but not heard anything about doing it. There is a Sunset Lake Master Plan for areas surrounding Lake.

RAILINGS AND PAINT of Bridges – Two years ago painted with Rustoleum but needs 'touch-up'. Doug made a motion for \$300.00 for him to be able to purchase paint and paint supplies. He will get volunteers. Seconded by Dr. Brown. All in favor/approved.

On May 13, 2020 the AP City Council approved \$14,000.00 for the repair of outflow pipe form the Lake to the Ocean. It had come apart and created a sinkhole on the beach.

Motion to Adjourn by Doug. Seconded by Tee. All in favor/approved adjourned 8:37pm.

Minutes submitted by Reverend Beth Whalley Mitchell

