

TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON
LAKE POCOTOPAUG COMMISSION
THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 2008
EATON E SMITH MEETING ROOM

1. Call to Order & Roll Call

Chairman Hart called the Lake Pocotopaug Commission to order at 7:02 PM.

Members Present: Chairman Bob Hart, Vice Chairman John Ciriello, John Jordon, Jack Solomon, and Irene Curtis (7:08pm) and Tom Wells.

Chairman Hart reported that regular member Jim Smith has fallen ill and is no longer able to sit on the Lake Pocotopaug Commission. Jim has sent a letter of resignation to the Town Manager. Mr. Hart sent his sympathy's letting him know our thoughts were with him.

Others Present: Recording Secretary Kamey Ahrens, Chris Goff, Liaison for Town Council.

2. Approvals of Minutes:

Motion by John Ciriello to approve the meeting minutes dated February 21, 2008. Jack Solomon seconded motion.

Vote passed 5-0-0.

3. Public Remarks: John Hines, 38 South Main Street, expressed his concerns with the no phosphorous ordinance that is before the Town Council and the discussion on the concerns for the merchants in town. Mr. Hines stated he thinks that education is very important.

Irene Curtis arrived at 7:08pm

4. IWWA Applications: None

5. Administrative Business & Communications

A. Town Manager Report

The commission was not aware of any town issues that needed to be discussed at this meeting.

B. LPC 2008/9 Budget

Chairman Hart reported on the budget meeting that he attended on Friday, March 14. Before the Board of Finance was the budget for the LPC 2008/9. There was concern for the larger number that is before them on the professional services.

C. Other

The members of the commission discussed the proposal for development of a nutrient budget for Lake Pocotopaug that has been received from ENSR. Chuck Lee, DEP has been coordinating with ENSR on this 4 month project costing \$15000.

Chairman Hart reported the Town of East Hampton is currently accepting applications for part time / seasonal Lake Pocotopaug Patrol Constables.

6. Commission Meeting Liaison Reports.

- IWWA- Tom Wells reported on the items that pertained to the LPC. These minutes can be found in the Town Clerks office at Town Hall.
- Planning & Zoning- Tom Wells reported on the items that pertained to the LPC. These minutes can be found in the Town Clerks office at Town Hall.
- Town Council - Irene Curtis and John Ciriello reported on the items that pertained to the LPC. These minutes can be found in the Town Clerks office at Town Hall.
- Friends of Lake Pocotopaug - Jack Solomon reported on behalf of the Friends of Lake Pocotopaug their fundraising plans for 2008. The raffle for this year's Boat Parade is a 2008 Mercedes SMART car. Tickets are on sale for \$20 each.

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- Water and Sewer - Nothing to report.
- Park & Recreations - Nothing to report.
- ZBA - John Jordon attended the meeting announcing his liaison to the ZBA. Mr. Jordon felt his presence was well received by the ZBA.
- Conservation Commission - Nothing to report

7. Committee Reports

a) Education Committee

John Ciriello reported on the Lake Pocotopaug Volunteers had their 3rd meeting. At this meeting there were video's that were reviewed on exotic weeds and the New Hampshire Host program. Discussion took place to try to implement this program in our lake to have people that inspect boats before they are put into Lake Pocotopaug. Patience Anderson created an Organizational Chart that was reviewed. (ATTACHMENT)

John Jordon reported on an upcoming Public Education Course that is scheduled for April 21st and April 24th. (ATTACHEMENT)

John Ciriello reported that the state D.E.P. is netting and studying Walleye in our lake. Irene O'Donnell, Fish Biologist, will share results with the LPC around September.

b) Monitoring Committee

Jack Solomon reported the Monitoring Committee that is working on watershed sampling. Irene Curtis reported there is going to be a meeting on March 29th, 9am at the library for preparation of installation of the sampling units.

Irene Curtis reported on an ongoing research she has begun on investigating the literature for effectiveness of both vortex and hooded catch basins versus standard catch basins for sediment and phosphorus removal. Ms. Curtis has begun her research, however requested additional time as there is a lot of data to be reviewed.

c) Lake Management Planning Committee

Chairman Hart reported on the last meeting of March 4th where they worked on adding to the Lake Pocotopaug Lake and Watershed Management Implementation Plan, which is currently in outline form. After their April meeting they will be ready to bring the outline before the Town Council. Chairman Hart has requested from Melissa Engel, Chairperson for the Town Council, a time slot at the April 8th meeting to review the outline and inform the council of the LPC direction in addition to receiving feedback from the council members.

8. Reading Assignment:

- A. February 21st Reading Assignment (review) - Lake Pocotopaug Management Recommendations, East Hampton Ad Hoc Lake Advisory Committee, March 28, 1995 Sections 2 and 4 Recommendations (posted on LPC website ref. page)***

The members of the commission reviewed the reading assignment.

9. Unfinished Business:

- A. Proposed No-Phosphorus Fertilizer Ordinance***

Chairman Hart reported on the previous IWWA meeting voted on passing the current draft version of no-phosphorus fertilizer ordinance onto the LPC for review and the Town Council for adoption. The LPC discussed the ordinance and noted concerns with the ordinance being town wide or just to the watershed, discussion on public education, and how the suppliers will be allowed to advertise.

The IWWA made a change to the current ordinance to state

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"All persons selling fertilizer within the town of East Hampton shall prominently display (which was then changed to) should prominently display lawn fertilizer containing 0% phosphorus.

The commissioners discussed shall vs. should in this section of the ordinance.

Motion by John Jordon to revise section 107 sub-section 2 to read 'All persons selling fertilizer within the town of East Hampton shall prominently display lawn fertilizer containing 0% phosphorus. Motion was seconded by Tom Wells.

Vote: 2-4-0, Motion Failed

YES: John Jordon, Tom Wells

NO: Bob Hart, John Ciriello, Jack Solomon, Irene Curtis

ABSTAIN: None

The members of the commission discussed the signage and the prominently display in the stores regarding this ordinance.

Motion by John Ciriello that the LPC recommend adoption of the Lawn Fertilizer Ordinance that was passed at the March 19, 2008 IWWA meeting to be adopted by the Town Council. Motion was seconded by Irene Curtis.

Discussion:

Chairman Hart amended the motion to add the following information in a letter format addressed to the Town Council stating the following comments:

If the ordinance is passed the LPC will contribute to Lake Watershed residence education. Town wide applicability of the ordinance is fine, but the LPC will concentrate on watershed education because of our purview. We are in agreement with the enforcement and penalty sections.

Peer pressure is useful and important; supplier enforcement will go a long way toward compliance by individuals, information by suppliers and landscaping firms is very important for compliance.

Motion was seconded by Jack Solomon.

Amended Motion Vote: 6-0-0

John Jordon made a motion to amend the original motion to have the ordinance to have the statement included to read 'All persons selling fertilizer within the town of East Hampton shall prominently display lawn fertilizer containing 0% phosphorus that so long as this display is present where all lawn fertilizer is sold. Motion was seconded Tom Wells.

Discussion:

Members of the commission felt this was a non-issue.

John Jordon withdrew the amended motion. Tom Wells withdrew his seconded.

Original Motion Vote: 6-0-0

Jack Solomon made a motion to move Public Remarks up on the agenda. Motion was seconded by John Jordon.

Vote: 6-0-0

11. Public Remarks: None

10. New Business:

A. 2008 In-Lake Treatment Program

Chairman Hart presented the commissioners with a Proposed Lake Pocotopaug 2008 Season In-Lake Treatment Program and there was a review of the proposal.

Motion by Bob Hart to adopt the plan as written called Alternative 2, Lake Pocotopaug 2008 Season In-Lake Treatment Program. (ATTACHMENT) Motion was seconded by John Jordon.

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Discussion:

Jack Solomon stated the alternative 2 suggested The Friends of Lake Pocotopaug contribute \$10,000, however at this point there is no buy in from the group and would like the opportunity to discuss with the group. Bob Hart stated this is something that we could work towards, and if there is not cooperation from the FLP, they could either drop that portion of the plan or find an alternative.

Irene Curtis asked about the \$10,000 grant from the state, if there was actually more funds than \$10,000. Bob Hart stated he and Chuck Lee are working on the entire \$50,000 grant from the State and hopes to have that in the next few weeks, however more is going to be needed for studies.

Tom Wells asked for clarification of where the dollars for the Alternative 2 Plan is coming from. In addition to his concerns with the copper sulfate, and what happens to the sulfur in the water. Tom stated he supports moving forward with applying for the permits, but has a hard time supporting the copper sulfate treatment. Tom asked if there was any testimony on the copper sulfate.

Jack Solomon expressed concerns with the copper sulfate because of its toxicity and it not being clear if it builds when being applied year after year. Jack didn't feel enough research has been done and before he can vote in favor would like to see some type of a scholarly study from ENSR.

Bob Hart suggested having the items in place of applying for the permit and make this the go ahead program, however, make the go ahead decision in July to move forward on the Alternative 2 Program.

Vote: 4-1-1,

YES: Bob Hart, John Ciriello, John Jordon, & Irene Curtis.

NO: Tom Wells.

ABSTAIN: Jack Solomon.

Motion passed

13. Adjournment:

Chairman Hart adjourned the Lake Pocotopaug Commission at 10:36 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kamey Peterson
Recording Secretary