**TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON**

**CONSERVATION-LAKE COMMISSION**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**THURSDAY OCTOBER 8, 2015**

**7:00 PM**

**TOWN HALL MEETING ROOM**

**MINUTES**

**Present:**  Peter Zawisza, Joe Carbonell, Irene Curtis, Wesley Jenks, Tom O’Brien, Martin Podskoch, Phil Sissick

**Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Zawisza at 7:00 p.m.

**Seating of Alternates:**

No alternates

**Approval of Minutes:**

A motion was made by Ms. Curtis and seconded by Mr. O’Brien to approve the minutes of the September 10, 2015 meeting. Motion passed with a vote of 6-0.

**Communications and Liaison Reports:**

None

**Public Remarks:**

None

**Plan Review:**

1. **76 Spellman Point Road – second floor addition on existing footprint**

Mr. Jenks made a motion, seconded by Mr. Podskoch, to write a letter to the homeowners from the Commission asking them to try to divert the water from the driveway into some type of rain garden or holding area, along with the roof (front gutters) and adding natural vegetation. Motion passed 6-0.

1. **37 Bay Road – for landscaping of back yard with patio**

Frank Mangana, Lic. Prof. Engineer, representing the homeowners, presented plans for the patio and proposed infiltration galleries for the runoff.

A motion was made by Mr. Podskoch, seconded by Mr. O’Brien, to accept the plan as presented. Motion passed with a vote of 6-0.

**Old Business:**

1. **Sub-Committee Report on Education:** No report; they should start meeting again soon.
2. **Advisory Panel Update:** The Advisory Panel met on September 21, 2015. Mr. Carbonell, Mr. Zawisza and Mr. Sissick reported that Chuck Lee from the DEEP was present. He talked about 319 Federal Funding, the fact that the 9 point plan is criteria to apply for a grant which is Federal money administered by the State. This would be a 60/40% split, with the Town needing to cover the 40%. STEAP grant money could be used for this portion. The Town Council would need to approve where the STEAP Grant goes, which will need to be a specific plan of action. The Commission will propose the money to use the money to reduce external infiltration into the lake. Mr. Sissick suggests utilizing the O’Neill Lane property that was recently donated to the Town.

**New Business:**

Mr. Carbonell stated that a RFP is being drafted for creation of a Nine Point Water Management Plan. He reviewed items on the RFP criteria with the group.

Mr. Podskoch made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jenks, that the RFP is used as written. Voted 5-0 (Chairman Zawisza had to excuse himself from the meeting just prior to this agenda item)

1. **Election of Officers:**

Mr. Podskoch nominated Mr. Carbonell as Chairperson. This was seconded by Mr. O’Brien. Mr. Carbonell declined the nomination.

Ms. Curtis nominated Mr. Zawisza as Chairperson. This was seconded by Mr. O’Brien and passed with a vote of 5-0.

Mr. Podskoch nominated Mr. Carbonell as Vice Chairperson. This was seconded by Mr. Jenks and passed with a vote of 5-0.

1. **Discussion of joint meeting with Town Council and IWWA on October 15, 2015**:

Mr. Carbonell briefly ran through the agenda for the upcoming meeting. Logistics were discussed. It was asked whether the meeting could be held in the cafeteria rather than the library at the Middle School. Also, it was noted that a mic or a PA system will be needed*. A recommendation was made to have adequate mics and sound system equipment so that people can hear the speakers and the questions from the public. A portable PA system is recommended.* Mr. Jenks stated that he can bring one. Ms. Curtis suggested printing out brochures to hand out at the meeting. It was also decided that Mr. Jenks will capture email addresses of people who would like to learn more and be kept in the loop for further action on lake items.

A motion was made by Mr. Jenks, seconded by Mr. O’Brien, that the public will be allowed to ask one question of the experts (not a remark) per person. Motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

**Other new business:**

Mr. Jenks asked about the State work on Rt. 66 (by CVS) and why they weren’t more prepared to capture the rainwater that ended up running into lake during last week’s heavy rains. Mr. Sissick stated that when the project is over, the situation will be better. The State is installing a collection system for the water/solids. Once the road is paved, there will be minimal sediment coming down the road.

Mr. Jenks also asked about salt treatments on the road during the winter, and what has the lease impact on the lake. Mr. Sissick stated that it’s sodium chloride that is used. This is not sand, so there is no sediment running into lake, but salt will go into the lake. However, for public safety, the salt needs to be used or roads will need to be closed. He believes that the impact on the lake should be low since it is only salinization of the lake. But, there is some impact, such as changing the Ph or the temperature of the water.

Mr. Podskoch showed the group a sign that he had obtained while in the Adirondacks. It is a lawn sign that states that the lawn has not be treated with pesticides or fertlizers. This might be a good idea for people on the lake and/or in the watershed to show that their lawns are not treated and are “lake friendly.”

Mr. Podskoch recommended that the staff at Sears Park be trained to inspect boats against invasive plants. The staff could ask boaters where their boat had last been launched and have them bring their boat through the car wash if they were in a place with invasive plant species (they would have a list). He also recommended inspection stickers on the boat. Mr. Carbonell stated that Gwendolyn Flynn of the DEEP provides training on this. Also discussed was getting educational materials out to the Associations around the lakes, since they have boat launches as well. Signage could be at each boat launch.

Mr. Carbonell showed the Lake Smart Home plaque. He has a few and would like to present them to homes that are doing work to help reduce infiltration in the lake.

Mr. Podskoch stated that he had asked the Police Chief about the police boat. Chief Cox stated that someone put sand in the gas tank during the boat parade. Also that he only has 2 staff members on during a shift, so for the sake of public safety, he hasn’t been able to send one of those staff out on the lake this summer.

Ms. Curtis asked if the web page was still moving forward. Mr. Jenks stated that he has someone that is donating their time to work on it for free, so yes it is moving forward, but slowly.

**Public Remarks**

Susan McFarland of 52 Meeks Point Road stated that she thinks the Lake Smart Home signs are a brilliant idea to create a buzz and awareness. She challenges the Commission to raise the bar on what the criteria would be to receive a sign – not to make it too easy to get so that people will make real changes that help the lake. She asked if the $67,000 in the budget is going to be spent on the Nine Point Plan to which Mr. Carbonell replied yes.

She asked where the most problematic areas are around the lake (in reference to external infiltration). Mr. Sissick stated that the greatest runoff impact is around the Clark Hill/Edgemere Condos area. Ms. McFarland then asked if the Christopher Brook project would impact this positively, to which Mr. Sissick stated that it would not really help that area. She then asked how many problem areas have been touched, and Mr. Sissick stated that 75% of the biggest sedimentation areas are on private property and any maintenance to the areas really comes down to resources (human and budgetary).

Ms. McFarland stated that educating the public and explaining to homeowners how they could use their money to help when designing new driveways, rain gardens, etc. would be beneficial. Mr. Sissick plans to talk a bit about this during next week’s meeting. She asked if the Commission would be open to putting out a volunteer sheet at the meeting since at the Commission’s last regular meeting so many public members stated that they would volunteer. Mr. Jenks asked her to help obtain email addresses and put them in a spreadsheet to help the get people involved. Mr. Podskoch asked Ms. McFarland to fill out an application to be on the Conservation-Lake Commission. This is something that she is considering.

Kevin Kuhr, P&Z Liaison, mentioned that he had talked to someone at Butler who stated that the 4” pipe for the rain garden at Sears Park was eliminated from their budget which is why the rain garden area failed. Mr. Sissick stated that he did put in the pipe that was not originally put in and the rain garden is now functioning at a good rate because of the greater underdrain. He is currently working with an Eagle Scout to plant it out.

Susan McFarland asked about the new type of porous concrete that she had heard about recently. Mr. Sissick stated that it has no runoff, but that it needs to be maintained – vacuumed and plowed with equipment that the town does not own. Ms. McFarland also asked that someone on the Commission take a look at a draft of a letter she is writing to the Rivereast based on meeting items.

Ms. Curtis asked about plans for the dam, and protection of the town due to any dam damages. This was discussed for a few minutes with Mr. Carbonell ultimately stating that Dr. George did not seem too concerned about this issue when it was discussed with him.

**Adjournment**

Mr. Podskoch made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Jenks, at 8:37 p.m.. Motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Eliza LoPresti

Recording Secretary