

Lake Committee Minutes

Date: February 29, 2020

Time: 0900

Chair: Steve Prall

Present: John Ferranninni, Butch Hollenback, John Novak, Stephen Prall , Carol VanOrden

Absent: None

Guests: Al Grabon, Chuck Marsh, Seth Jones and Bill Paolini

1. Introductions were held of all members. It was discussed that the committee charter identified 7 members and the committee only had 5 members. Mike Mundy requested from Al permission to join. Mike will be joining the committee. Seth Jones and Bill Paolini were invited to submit their names for consideration of 7th member.
2. Identify co-chair (John Novak previous), secretary and minutes approval so they are in by 2nd Saturday of the month. – Butch Hollenback is co-chair, the chair of the meeting will maintain the meeting minutes. The minutes will be sent out with a 3 day turn around for comments, no response is no comment or correction. This will allow for timely notification of board of our activities and a quick response to our recommendations.
3. Identify future meeting dates – they will be scheduled as needed or at current meeting.
4. Identify our goals/focus besides the requirements – the committee is to preserve and enhance the health, quality and conservation of the lake. Our goals/focus and areas of responsibility are the lake, beach, dam/spillway, boat basins and docks/rafts. To ensure the quality of lake access, the water, lake and fishery. This was discussed since non-committee members had been asking this committee about the pavilion.
5. Goose egg addling – Title 58 Pa. Code, Chapter 147.746. We can addle between March 1 and June 30. Steve will register us with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service at www.fws.gov/permits/mbpermits/gooseeggregistration.html. We will addle by shaking and oil, only 100% corn oil may be used. Nests will be marked with survey tape on a stick we will try and record the number of eggs. Steve will get an email out through the volunteer email list and post in the spring newsletter. Chuck Marsh identified that all reporting was completed for 2019. The committee discussed other options to keep geese off the beach, these will be explored and discussed at the next meeting. Addling will take place starting in April. Also discussed that Konopka should be cleaning the raft. Requested contract from board.
6. Water testing – Microbac in Scranton will be used – testing will start the week prior to Memorial Day and go through Labor Day. Tests will be conducted in 2 locations

near the rope line at both the East and West side of the beach. Testing should take place Monday or Tuesday so results are obtained by Friday (3-day turnaround). Steve will test through May 18 - June 18 and August 1 till Labor Day, Carol will test June 25 – July 31. Chuck Marsh volunteered to be a back up tester. Need credit card number to be on file with Microbac.

7. Dam EP – review and submit by September 2020, location in office and my computer, requirement is to review every 5 years. Steve will review with Chuck Givler missing sections since PA Title 25, Chapter 105, Dam Safety was updated in January 2017. He will update and send to the committee for review.
8. Lake Consultant and NPDES permit - Aquatic Environment Consultants, Inc. sent email 01/22/20, I received with an FYI 1/31/2020, BOD approved by email 02/17/2020. Discussed if board is looking for recommendations they should request such, not send an FYI. Steve will request meeting with Aquatic to discuss weed/algae control application, prior effectiveness and rationale. He will notify committee when this is scheduled. Carol volunteered to use buoys to mark weed beds to assist in spraying. John identified Cabamba locations. Committee would like to see contract with Aquatic, Steve will request from board.
9. Stocking/Creel limits –
 - a. Discussion on board action that increased creel limit to 20. Committee. Committee voted unanimously to recommend board include 5 perch limit.
 - b. Reviewed Board recommendation to evaluate a survey and potentially adjust lake regulations based on updated data. Seth (fish biologist) provided a sample report and costs to have Mansfield University conduct both a net (panfish) and electroshock (gamefish) survey. It was decided when meeting with Aquatic for weeds to discuss a fish survey as well. The 2 proposals will be evaluated and sent to the board for action so a survey can be conducted in May-June. Committee voted unanimously to wait for fall stocking based on the survey results.
 - c. Butch will update the creel limit signs for posting at all boat basins, the office and the beach.
 - d. We will request members complete the 2020 creel survey. Butch will update, maintain and report.
 - e. Discussion on who can inspect boats for catches, licenses and lake button. Anyone can ask for a license, it was identified that PA law changed wear they do not have to be visible only on the person. It was voted unanimously to have board:
 - i. double fines for creel violations
 - ii. review if it could be a per fish exceedance of creel limit
 - iii. make it clear that Public Safety can inspect fisherman/boats for license, lake button and fish catches, and the ability to call people to shore to do so if needed

- iv. review if Lake Committee members could be authorized to inspect fisherman/boats for lake button and fish catches take pictures and forward to Public Safety if needed.

10. Boat basins – Work party for boat basin 3 to move dock back into place and remove tree on anchor line. Also look at dock by salt shed to see if it could be used at boat basin 5 since boat basin 5 is shallow. Date April 19 at 1 with a rain date of April 25 at 9. Butch to update signs with creel limit. Sign needed at boat basin 5 and by boat launch. Boat launch sign should include members only, a reminder to bag gasoline motors and the creel limit.
11. Spring Bulletin Article –is due 3/21 and was reviewed with changes, which will be sent with minutes of the meeting for approval.
12. Other – beach sand to be discussed at next meeting, usually at least one 22 ton load is brought in before Memorial Day then another around July 4.

Action Items:

1. Steve – Register lake with FWS for Addling
2. Steve – Request mailing for volunteers to addle and work party for boat basin 3 and 5 - date April 19 at 1 with a rain date of April 25 AM
3. Steve – Update EAP after review with Givler.
4. Steve – Request meeting with Aquatic – weeds/algae and fish survey
5. Butch – create creel limit signs

Recommendations to be forwarded to the Board:

1. Permission requested to purchase corn oil, stakes and survey tape to support addling. Not to exceed \$50.
2. Request credit card number be made available to Microbac for water sampling prior to 5/15/2020.
3. Committee requests copies of the Konopka contract (specific to raft cleaning and boat basin work) and Aquatic contract for weed control.
2. Requests permission to purchase 12 buoys and rope to mark weed locations. Not to \$100 for rope, buoys and weights.
3. Recommend board include 5 perch limit to coincide with increased creel limit of 20 panfish.
4. Recommend placement of a sign at the boat launch and boat basin 5. Boat basin 5 should have creel limit and same information as other boat basins. Boat launch should include members only, a reminder to bag gasoline motors and the creel limit.
4. Recommends board:
 - i. At least double fines for creel violations
 - ii. review if it could be a per fish fine for exceedance of creel limit
 - iii. make it clear that Public Safety can inspect fisherman/boats for license, lake button and fish catches, and the ability to call people to shore to do so if needed

- iv. review if Lake Committee members could be authorized to inspect fisherman/boats for lake button and fish catches, take pictures and forward to Public Safety if needed.
- 6. Request email seeking volunteers to addle eggs and a boat basin work party April 19 at 1 with a rain date of April 25 AM
- 7. Request permission to move the old boat basin 3 dock at the salt shed to boat basin 5 on April 19 at 1 with a rain date of April 25 AM.
- 8. Recommend board update web site with creel limits.

Adjourned at 1110

NEXT MEETING: After board meeting
Date: March 21

The Lake Committee has new members; we would like to thank the past members for all they have done to manage our main resource the beach and lake in such an exemplary manner. These members did a lot behind the scenes, and while we hate to mention names, Chuck Marsh did more than his fair share of cleaning the goose/duck mess off the raft. Thanks to them and our new members for volunteering. Speaking of geese and volunteers, the geese never left this year and we will be scouting for and adding their eggs. This is a job where many hands will make light work, whether it is in the boats or using your binoculars to spot and report nest locations – please contact paupackanlakechair@pauackanlake.com to get on the list as a spotter, report a nest, be an addler or all three! The geese and septic systems are the top impacts to lake and beach quality, the following is taken from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services:

How Much Nutrient Loading Do Canada Geese Add To A Lake? One goose can consume up to four pounds of grass per day, creating about three pounds of fecal matter daily. In large concentrations, this matter can contribute to excessive nutrient loading because fecal matter contains 76 percent carbon, 4.4 percent nitrogen, and 1.3 percent phosphorus. These nutrients can cause algal blooms and excessive plant growth in lakes.

How Can Canada Geese Affect Human Health? When geese defecate near shore or in the water they create a health risk to humans. Their fecal material may contain the swimmers itch organism along with fecal bacteria. Swimmers itch is a temporary skin rash caused by a small parasite, however the rash does not require treatment. A larger concern are fecal bacteria, or *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*), which are naturally occurring bacteria in the digestive tracts of warm-blooded animals. *E. coli*, when present in large amounts, may cause gastrointestinal problems such as nausea, vomiting and diarrhea. The presence of *E. coli* may also indicate the potential presence of other pathogenic organisms. You should avoid contact and ingestion of water in areas frequented by geese.

Please: do not feed the wildlife (fineable offense) it disrupts their natural feeding habits, is unnatural and creates increased costs for the community (beach and raft clean up). Try to create boundaries so geese do not use your lawn for food. Ensure your septic systems are maintained and pumped on a regular basis.

The committee will be evaluating the weed and algae growth as well as the condition of our fishery. To help with evaluating the fishery, please complete the 2020 creel survey. Participation improves each year and the 2019 results are posted (thanks Butch Hollenback). The creel limit has increased to a combined daily total of 20 panfish, (perch, crappie, bluegill and sunfish) other limits follow the state law. The closed season for perch remains in effect from through April 30, but we do ask you to try and keep 12"-15" bass when possible. Thanks, your Lake Committee.