

CEDAR LAKE WATERSHED COMMISSION (CLWC)
MINUTES
27 June 2017

Call to order at 7:06pm 27 June 2017

In attendance were Tom Brelsford, Nancy Byrne and Chris Hayward plus four citizens.

Reading of the minutes by Chris Hayward from the 22 May 2017 meeting of the CLWC.

Motion to accept minutes made by Nancy, seconded by Chris and followed by unanimous yeas.

Old business:

Mission statement – Tabled (two members working on statement unable to attend meeting)

Legislative update- Tabled

Public education mailing – Tom mentioned the CLWC can not use Camp Hazen's bulk mailing so CLWC member(s) will need to find an alternative. First mailing will be delayed. Chris Hayward suggested a 3 week span for mailings since the first mailing will be delayed. Members agreed.

Tom reserved the meeting house for the 'riparian buffer' informational meeting with a guest speaker from the Uconn Extension Center.

Chris Hayward presented a sample of the Fertilizer mailing.

Water Quality Testing – An e-mail has been sent to the Town Sanitarian asking the Town to add nitrates and phosphorus testing to the standard summer water quality tests for fecal coliform. The CLWC did not get a confirmation yet from the sanitarian.

Per an article e-mailed to CLWC members by Christine Darnell, the DEEP found road salt washing into lakes has caused a few lakes in the state to have slightly elevated salinity levels. Nancy tested Cedar Lake (in June) and found levels in Cedar Lake to be normal.

Town Ordinances and zoning regulations – The State mandate requiring towns to draft a storm water runoff ordinance was discussed. The discussion included the CLWC submitting a buffer/offset distance between the Cedar Lake shoreline and new septic systems. Also discussed was submitting a request to increase the penalty for non-compliance with the WPCA mandatory 5 year septic tank pump out program. The CLWC discussed enforcement of the pump out program. The WPCA maintains a record of pump out dates for each residence.

CLWC “Clean up day” event - Tabled

New business

Weed control planning for 2018

The 2017 budget will roll over into 2018 providing \$8-9K for weed control. Two weed related problems were discussed. The hose company water supply intake pipe and the beach areas.

The hose company intake pipe located in Cedar Lake is surrounded by weeds which need to be removed to allow free flow of water through the intake structure. The CLWC discussed removing weeds around the intake pipe by diver or possibly extending the intake pipe offshore to 15 foot or 16 foot water depths where weeds are not present. This is a high priority item.

Other options for weed control were discussed for both the intake pipe and the beach areas. These included chemicals which is problematic with the DEEP, hydro raking, divers and benthic barriers. A lengthy discussion followed on benthic barriers.

It was decided the CLWC will develop a proposal by early winter. CLWC members will research options and present them at the next meeting.

No other new business.

Audience of citizens

A general discussion on the septic pump out program (ordinance) was had with commission members and the audience of citizens. Citizens asked if the ordinance was still in place (CLWC answered yes) and if it is enforced (CLWC answered no).

A citizen asked if CLWC members have researched what other lake communities have done for weed control. Tom answered yes and described the different methods presented a recent conference he attended. Tom also described the pros and cons of methods already performed at Cedar Lake which include diver, hydro raking and benthic barrier.

A member of the audience of citizens asked if the CLWC needed help. It was suggested the CLWC have alternate member(s). Tom will investigate this option.

Next meeting will be at 7pm on Monday 31 July 2017 at Camp Hazen.

Thank you Denise and Camp Hazen for hosting the CLWC meeting(s).

Meeting adjourned at 7:54pm.

Submitted by: Nancy Byrne