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## 52<sup>nd</sup> MLCA & WAG Membership Meeting

Minutes from Friday, August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019, 7:00 pm

Mountain Lake Firehouse

**CALL TO ORDER:** Meeting was called to order by Shannon Schaaf, President at 7:07p with a warm welcome to 22 members in attendance.

**OFFICERS ATTENDING:** Shannon Schaaf, President; Lynn Gilmore, Vice President; Susan Dingsor, Secretary; Carolyn Pullman, Treasurer

### MINUTES:

**Minutes from August 2018:** Typos identified. Phil Wooldridge motioned to approve 2018 minutes with edits, Rich seconded.

### Treasurer's Report (Carolyn)

Distributed final for last year and First Draft for this year.

This year's membership income is down perhaps in part due to fewer newsletters. There tends to be more membership signups with mailings; however, there is an expense associated with mailings. We're seeking to strike a balance.

Motion to approve both budgets (2018 Final and Draft 2019), Rich Larsen motioned. Maureen Bonner 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### Election of Officers for 2019-2020:

**President:** Shannon Schaaf Maureen Bonner. nominated, Lynn Gilmore 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Vice President:** Lynn will be stepping down and we need a new nominee for vice president.

**Angela Grasso volunteered to be new Vice President,**  
2<sup>nd</sup> motion from Lynn.

**Secretary:** Susan Dingsor (Shannon Schaaf nominated; Arthur Strock 2nd)

**Treasurer:** Carolyn Pullman (Shannon Schaaf nominated; Maureen Bonner 2<sup>nd</sup>)

**Trustees:** Liza Thomas, Lorraine, Alice Bechok (Shannon Schaaf nominated; John Zsilavetz 2<sup>nd</sup>)

### **MLCA Scholarship 2019**

Had 7 applicants. Two of these applicants stood out environmentally oriented.

Wants to study science and ensure good drinking water. Global minded.

**Anna Russell won the \$250 scholarship.** She is from Independence.

### **Communications**

Thank note from scholarship winner.

### **Future Events**

**Muskies Inc. will be building & installing 20 porcupine cribs plus another 4 = 24.** They'll be submerged—similar to a Lincoln log construct. Several will be linked together and anchored by cinder blocks. They'll stay there about 20 years.

Fresh cut lumber will be brought to the lake and built on site. They are about 4' in size.

Lodge → South end to the East (at least 4' above the cribs to water surface avoid any concerns with boats or entanglement)

**Liberty Twp. received a grant to build a wild flower garden.** Wood chips were donated. There are many extra woodchips available over by the pavilion if you'd like to take some as there are 240 qt size native plants (11 different plants) from Wild Ridge in Pohatcong. **Sept 14<sup>th</sup> at 1p for planting day.** **Bring gloves, shovels, etc. and be a part of the planting day.**

**\$1500 grant**—nice. NJEC (NJ Environmental Commission) supported.

NJEC has a lot going on—training sessions, talks, more. Check out their website for their many offerings.

Shannon reported the beach water quality has been excellent and geese have not come up on beach.

**Clean Communities** \$1000 grant application for 2 hrs. litter pick up. Application for **Oct 19<sup>th</sup> at 10am**. Applied for Townsbury Street. We'll get it posted in the Newsletter and on the website.

**Arthur Strock presenting Boat Building at Warren County Northeast Library** next week at 11:30a on Saturday, Aug 17. If there's interest in the boat-building workshop. There will be a couple boats on display. If you decide to do one, call Arthur Strock for support.

**Music in the Pavilion?** Too late to plan for August, there's a possibility to explore for mid-September—perhaps the same group if they're interested. We'll ask James. Might check in w Ron Buckenmeyer.

## Summer Updates

**Membership update:** Not currently complete but will post soon about 60 households. Opportunity to grow. One thing that promotes higher membership is 3 newsletters a year.

**Solitude's been going out monthly since end of May** for aquatic weed control. Haven't been out yet for August. Discussion by membership regarding concern about algae bloom as it happened at Lake Hopatcong (a lot of nitrogen, sun, decreased visibility, ... not a good breeze...) nitrate run off – fertilizer. Several lakes (about 11) in the area have suffered algae blooms this year.

**Water monitoring** (Rich) – clear over 7' in April this year (very good). July was like 5'6" – still good. There's a dead carp floating around. Rich found a recruit (Dave) to assist him. (Eric S - local H.S. science teacher is also interested in testing water.) Also check PH.

**Egg Addling** – no good nests to find. There's one next on the roof of a rickety boat house—not safe. We'll look to keep doing it—maybe a February Training (Shannon).

**21<sup>st</sup> year for Clean Communities Grant** – Lesley, Alice & Rob Bechok, Shannon participated in this most recent cleanup. Pick up trash and count bags and then we get grant money based on bags collection. We might get \$300-500 by picking up bags of garbage) Everyone is encouraged to participate.

**Ruth Ballou Environmental Act Award (Watershed Advisory Board)** awarded to Phil & Lorna Wooldridge. The Wooldridge family also shared plans to move to England in the near future.

## General Discussion

Question of status on the beach bathrooms (Amy Davis) – encouraged to attend Township Meeting the first Thursday of the month for updates from the Township. No update available this evening (MLCA meeting). **Sept 5<sup>th</sup> is the next Township meeting.**

Liza Thomas asked about approximate cost for musician. Estimate about \$200 ballpark. MLCA contributed \$350 to Community Day music.

Beach water is tested every week separate of the rest of the lake water testing. Beach has to test by law.

A neighbor in the area tested their well and arsenic was found. Notice was sent out to residents alerting them of the finding so others might also test their well water.

Arthur Strock introduced discussion on decline in lake size due to growth. Some of the plants are pretty—cattails. However, lodge outlet becomes troublesome—blocking the outlet. After

much discussion, Shannon agreed to check in with Parks to see if something might be possible/available. A Subteam was identified down below to meet and explore possibility for clamshell rake

**Aquatic animals – clamshell rake** – gets the roots of the plant with some of the silt. Don't want to dredge. Would need 2-3 pickup trucks to pick up the material. Shannon mentioned having a couple trucks willing to volunteer. We'd need another. In one day he could go down 5' and 25' wide—chomp through them. Question of money/cost for this type of weed control. **(March MLCA meeting would be the time to plan it.) \$3000 1 day (100' stretch); \$6000 2 days.** It would have to be a Spring or Fall Harvest so there's enough time before the beach opens. Fall is recommended. Question of whether we could pursue this project for *this fall 2019*. Latest would be November for this year.

**Lily Pad Subcommittee to further investigate the clamshell rake for Southside of Lake:**

(Susan motion to approve subcommittee as identified below; Phil 2<sup>nd</sup>)

Arthur            Shannon  
John              Maureen

Girl Scouts showed interest in pulling weeds. Boy Scouts might also have interest in helping.

**Preauthorize clamshell rake this fall not to exceed \$6500 that expires the end of 2019**

if it can be done. Phil made motion to approve; John 2<sup>nd</sup>. John, amended preauthorization to include that Subcommittee does not move forward without the MLCA the Board of Officers approval. Phil 2<sup>nd</sup> and supports amended preauthorization of MLCA Board of Officers.

Beach Schedule Posting (where? (Maureen)) – This is on the Township website. 9 life guards went down to 5 and only 1 is over 18 years of age—which means another adult is required to be on site. Liberty Township.org

Question of 2-3 trees have fallen into the lake. Do they pull them out? We don't generally move them. It would probably be the responsibility of the property owner if they wanted to. Else the fallen trees support ecosystem with turtle beach. (Amy)

Water chestnuts concern raised by membership - No concerns at this time.

Mountain Lake bulletin board by the casino came down with the landslide. Would hope to put a new board on the brown cinder block wall (old fire house) behind the beach.

**Adjournment**

9:06p Shannon adjourned.