



CANDLEWOOD LAKE AUTHORITY

P.O. BOX 37 • SHERMAN, CONNECTICUT 06784-0037 • (860) 354-6928 • FAX (860) 350-5611

Minutes of Annual Meeting December 12, 2018

Attending:

P. Schaer	Sherman
G. Linkletter	Sherman
D. Cushnie	Sherman
S. Kluge	New Milford
M. Toussaint	New Milford
J. Wodarski	New Milford
J. Hodge	New Fairfield
J. Main	New Fairfield
J. Murphy	Brookfield
W. Lohan	Brookfield

Absent:

E. Siergiej	Danbury
D. Rosemark	Danbury
C. Robinson	Danbury
B. Licht	New Fairfield
B. Brown	Brookfield

M. Howarth, Executive Director
J. Neil Stalter, Director of Ecology and Environmental Education
F. Frattini, CLA Administrative Coordinator
CLAMP – Acting Chief R. Barnard, Capt. N. Mellas,

Recorder: F. Frattini

Guests: four members of the public.

Chairman, Phyllis Schaer, called the annual meeting of the Candlewood Lake Authority to order at 7:32 P.M. at Brookfield Town Hall Brookfield, CT. She welcomed the guests.

Public Comment: None

Secretary's Report: *Jerry Murphy made a motion to accept the minutes of the November 14, 2018 meeting as written, seconded by Bill Lohan, motion was voted with all in favor, Motion carried, and minutes have been accepted as written.*

Candlewood Lake Authority Marine Patrol: Acting Chief Barnard thanked the delegates for the annual dinner; even though he did not attend, he said it was good time and he received only positive comments. He also thanked the CLA for the plaque that was presented to retiring Chief Vane earlier this week.

Public Safety Committee was moved here so the CLAMP officers would not need to stay for the whole meeting. Mrs. Schaer noted that the Executive Committee had gone over the annual Lake Patrol performance reviews and advised that they were all very positive. *Mrs. Schaer made a motion seconded by Jerry Murphy to accept the annual performance reviews of*

the members of the Candlewood Lake Authority Marine Patrol for the 2018 season, motion voted with all in favor.

Mr. Wodarski noted that as Chief Vane has retired for medical reasons and it is now time to choose a new Chief and Assistant Chief of Marine Enforcement. Mr. Wodarski read a letter from the members of the Lake Patrol supporting the recommendation of appointing Ron Barnard to the position of Chief of Marine Enforcement (letter is attached to these minutes). Mr. Wodarski noted that if Ron Barnard is named as the CME that will leave the Assistant CME position open and the Public Safety Committee recommends promoting Capt. Nick Mellas to that position. After a brief discussion, *Joe Wodarski made a motion for the board to accept the recommendation of the Public Safety Committee to name Ron Barnard as the Chief of Marine Enforcement and Nick Mellas as the Assistant Chief of Marine Enforcement, motion seconded by John Hodge and voted with all in favor.* Ron Barnard is now the CME and Nick Mellas the Assistant CME.

Chairman's Report: Chairman Phyllis Schaer reported that the Executive Committee had met, she reported on her meeting with John Howard, Director of CT Operations at FirstLight together with Len Greene of FLPR and Mark Howarth and Neil Stalter of CLA, they discussed some items of concern and the timeline for SMP review. She noted that the draft should be out December 17th, comments due January 22 but just learned that FLPR agreed to extend to February 1st for the CLA, with public hearing sometime in February or March with the deadline of March 27th for it go to FERC, making the end of the comment period April 26, 2019. The SMP Ad Hoc Sub-Committee has met and will meet again on December 19th to discuss how the CLA would like to comment on the draft SMP.

She reported that the new Homeowner's Guide for lakefront homeowners is ready for printing – thank you to Mark Howarth for all the work done on the guide. The Executive Committee discussed the number of copies of the guide and asked for pricing of different amounts: 2500 copies \$5166; 3500 copies \$5929; 4000 copies \$6056; and 5000 copies \$6781. Discussion followed. They will be mailing to 1750 lakefront homeowners and copies will be given to local realtors, and town halls. *Phyllis Schaer made a motion to approve the printing of four thousand copies at the cost of \$6,056 of the Homeowner's Guide and mailing of 1750. Funding will be from the payable that is on the books for this plus the balance from Public Awareness Line #412 Educational Bulletins, motions seconded by Jeff Main and voted with all in favor. Motion carried.*

Mrs. Schaer noted that CLA will share this with Lake George, as their guide was a model for this one and will also share with our sister lake – Lake Hopatcong

Other items from the Executive Committee meeting were the shoreline mapping, the annual appeal and the process of appointing the CME was discussed with the labor attorney

Mrs. Schaer reported that she had received much correspondence from Jim McAlister on the Decontamination Unit and noted that support of the five towns is needed before the CLA can move forward; she will reach out to the CEO's. Discussion followed, and it was noted that having the support of the Towns might help with working with DEEP to have the unit at a State Launch.

Vice-Chairman's Report: Vice Chairman, Mark Toussaint, noted he would report under Watershed Management.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Bill Lohan advised that the 2019/2020 Proposed Budget includes a \$2,000.00 per Town increase to \$81,900.00 per town. Mrs. Schaer added that there were two items that were the reason for this and they are the money for an additional stocking of sterile grass carp and funding the capital Project Fund for a new patrol boat as the McKee I is

twenty years old. Mr. Lohan noted that Public Awareness and Watershed Management showed some changes as the salary and benefits for the new Director of Ecology and Environmental Education was split 40% to Public Awareness and 60% to Watershed. *Mr. Lohan moved to approve the 2019/2020 Proposed Budget in the total amount of \$533,282.00 as recommended by the Finance and Executive Committees seconded by Mark Toussaint and voted with all in favor and John Hodge and George Linkletter opposed. Motion carried, 2019/2020 proposed budget has been approved and will be forwarded to the Towns*

Mr. Lohan noted that we have completed 5 months of the fiscal year and Profit and Loss Budget vs. Actual for November 30, 2018 has income at 78% of budget and expenses year to date are Admin at 35% of budget, Equipment/Facilities 38% of budget, Public Safety 67% of budget, Public Awareness 27% of budget, and Watershed Management 40% of budget which is overall expenses at 40% of budget. One line has gone over by \$1.27 and he will be asking for the transfer in January. *Mr. Lohan moved that the report for the month ended November 30, 2018 be accepted as presented, seconded by George Linkletter and voted with all in favor. Motion carried, and report has been filed for audit.*

Executive Director's Report: Mark Howarth advised his report is attached to these minutes and then noted the highlights.

- Annual appeal letter and updated mail list
- Giving Tuesday on social media this year
- NALMS follow up - Road Salts and Action Pledges
- Focus Group – possibly February 2nd
- Danbury Budget Kick-off
- Holiday merchandise sales through the online store
- FirstLight Power Recourses meeting and reports

Director of Ecology and Environmental Education: Neil Stalter noted his report is attached to these minutes. Highlights from his report are:

- Shoreline mapping is done – now he will look at how to compare the present with 2007
 - Updated the current mailing list for the annual appeal.
 - Articles – Creatures of Candlewood Series first one should be in the Town Tribune this week
 - Met with Tunnels to Towers on the Drone video
 - Reviewed the Zebra Mussel Monitoring Report from FLPR and the Nuisance Plant Monitoring Report and prepared comments on both.
 - He is still reviewing the SMP
 - Organizing the thirty-year data file on CLA Water Quality
- Question on this year's drawdown – we would expect that water levels should start coming down soon, weather permitting. It will be a deep drawdown and it is hoped that it will be held long enough to be effective.

Committee Reports:

Public Safety Committee: Reported earlier.

Equipment/Facilities Committee: Doug Cushnie, Committee Chairman, had nothing to report.

Pubic Awareness Committee: Committee Chairman George Linkletter noted that Mr. Howarth and Mr. Stalter did a great job updating the mail list. He added that Mr. Howarth would like to have coffee hours in one or two of the Towns in addition to state of the lake next year. Mrs. Schaer asked if the committee had thought of a fundraiser to replace the Dragon Boat Race – nothing yet but the committee will look into this.

Jeff Main asked if the CLA might be interested in joining the New Fairfield Coffee House Music Venue he thought that there could be two performers from each town and they could attend and the proceeds could be split between the group and the CLA (performers donate their time and talent but patrons pay to attend.) The CLA could have moments between acts, a table and promote the lake. Something to consider.

Watershed Management Committee: Mark Toussaint, Committee Chairman reported that there had been a Special Committee meeting to discuss two topics i.e. Zebra Mussel Monitoring Report and the Nuisance Plant Monitoring Report both from FLPR.

He noted that in the Zebra Mussel Monitoring Report there were not many changes from last year and no Zebra Mussels were found in Candlewood Lake it is important that they continue to monitor Candlewood. The committee made a suggestion that they might possibly add a fall observation. He added that comments to the report had been sent to the delegates prior to this meeting. *Mark Toussaint moved that the letter titled “Candlewood Lake Authority Comments in Reponses to FIRSTLIGHT Power Resources’ Submitted Zebra Mussel Monitoring Report conducted by Biodrawversity Project No 2756 Dated December 11, 2018” be approved as written and forwarded to FLPR, seconded by Steve Kluge and voted with all in favor. Comments will be attached to these minutes and forwarded to FLPR.*

He noted that on the Nuisance Plant Monitoring Report the committee rejected the report on the basis of several items:

- Change of vendor was not approved by the Technical Committee
- Report was weak in description of methodology – new report, new vendor not apples to apples comparison
- Scope of Nuisance Plant Monitoring had changed so items previously reported were not included such as surface milfoil which may be affected by the grass crap was not in this report
- There was little to no raw data, unable to compare with previous years

Comments had been prepared and sent to the delegates prior to this meeting. He added that there had been one addition to the comments and read it to the delegates. He then made a motion to approve the *“Candlewood Lake Authority Comments in Response to FirstLight Power Resources’ Submitted Nuisance Plant Monitoring Report conducted by Northeast Aquatic Research, Project No 2756-058 Dated December 11, 2018” including the “Proposed Addition to Existing Comments in Response to NEAR 2018 NPM Report”* Seconded by Steve Kluge. Discussion followed. Mr. Linkletter noted that he would like to see the reports side by side, it was noted that right now the only report available is the one from northeast Aquatic Research. The one for the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station is not available. Mr. Hodge questioned if Mr. Howarth and Mr. Stalter had spoken to FERC and they advised they are waiting for a call back. Discussion continued and Mr. Stalter noted that it is difficult to compare this report with previous years. *Mr. Schaer called for the question – discussion ended and the vote was taken to approve the comments with the addition, motion was voted with all in favor, John Hodge opposed and George Linkletter abstained. Motion carried. Comments with addition will be attached to these minutes and forwarded to FLPR.*

Old/New Business:

Election of officers of the coming year: Ballots and instructions on election procedure were passed, there were no nominations from the floor. Ballots were cast and then collected by Mr. Stalter, Ms. Frattini tallied the votes as follows:

Chairman

Phyllis Schaer	08 Yes
	02 No - J. Hodge, G Linkletter
Write in: Joe Wodarski	01

Vice Chairman

Mark Toussaint	08 Yes
	02 No - J Hodge and G Linkletter
Write in: Joe Wodarski	01

Secretary	Jerry Murphy	10
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Treasurer	Bill Lohan	10
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The officers for the coming year will be:

Chairman	Phyllis Schaer
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Vice Chairman	Mark Toussaint
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Secretary	Jerry Murphy
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Treasurer	Bill Lohan
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Mrs. Schaer thanked all for the support and for those continuing on the board.

Mrs. Schaer wished everyone a very Happy Holiday season.

With no other business, *Phyllis Schaer moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by John Hodge. Meeting adjourned at 9:12 P. M.*

Respectfully submitted,

Jerry Murphy, Secretary
Frances Frattini, Administrative Coordinator

r/b/mh

*These minutes are not considered official until they have been approved at
The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Candlewood Lake Authority.*



CANDLEWOOD LAKE AUTHORITY

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December 12, 2018
Executive Director
Mark Howarth

Monthly Report:

- **Fundraising:**
 - **Written Appeal Letter:** The typical end of year focus shifts to fundraising and budgets and we worked on creating a new, informative and attractive appeal letter to send to the area residents. We are thankful for everyone who has donated in the past and hope that we receive a positive response from this year's mailing. I decided that this year we should work on cleaning up our mailing list and Neil took on the task of most of those updates. The 2018 appeal letter is attached at the end of this report.
 - **Giving Tuesday:** Neil and I worked together to put out a "Giving Tuesday" message in the hopes of generating some donations in conjunction with that event.
- **NALMS Follow Ups:**
 - **Road Salts:** A water quality monitoring technician from the Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District gave an interesting talk at NALMS, so I followed up with her with a phone call that Neil joined me on. We learned more in-depth about the road salt training program they run there (to help reduce over salting and encourage proper salting choices) and we will continue to look into whether this is something we could try to implement here.
 - **Action Pledges:** Another great presentation I went to focused on an award-winning program that has created a number of action pledges for residents to take, dedicated to improving water quality. Between the pledges, their website and their marketing materials and distribution strategies, they have had success in getting people to take notice and pledge to do their part. We had great a follow up phone conversation with them about their program, which they are offering to others who wish to create their own local program. We are in the initial stages of exploring this opportunity and will discuss it with our committees in the hopes of offering this locally at Candlewood.
- **Focus Group:** I would like to host a CLA focus group as mentioned at the last CLA board meeting. We would look to have a focus group with CLA staff and delegates and it would happen in the new year, likely during the winter. I would like to choose a date and begin planning for that this month.

- **Danbury Budget Kickoff:** On December 4th I attended the Danbury Budget Kickoff Meeting at Danbury Town Hall, in preparation for the forthcoming budget preparation season. Delegate Ed Siergiej was also in attendance.
- **Holiday Sales:** We have been shipping orders for holiday sales through our online store.
- **FLPR Meeting:** On December 5th Phyllis, Neil and I met with John Howard and Len Greene from FirstLight. This was the first opportunity Phyllis had to meet John, and Neil hadn't met either John or Len yet. In addition to getting to know one another, the focus of this meeting centered around the forthcoming update of the Shoreline Management Plan and getting a clearer understanding from FirstLight as to the processes and anticipated dates so that we can be best prepared for this review and update.
- **Shoreline Management Plan:** We are awaiting the draft of the updated SMP from FirstLight and look forward to meeting with them to discuss their changes and any proposed changes the CLA would like to see. We continue to review the current SMP and other documents with our SMP Subcommittee, in preparation for this process.
- **Nuisance Plant Report:** We have received the nuisance plant monitoring report for the 2018 season from Northeast Aquatic Research. We have reviewed the details of the report from this new contractor and discussed it in Watershed Committee and plan to submit comments to FirstLight to be submitted to FERC.

Your gift is a gift to the future of Candlewood Lake



December 2018

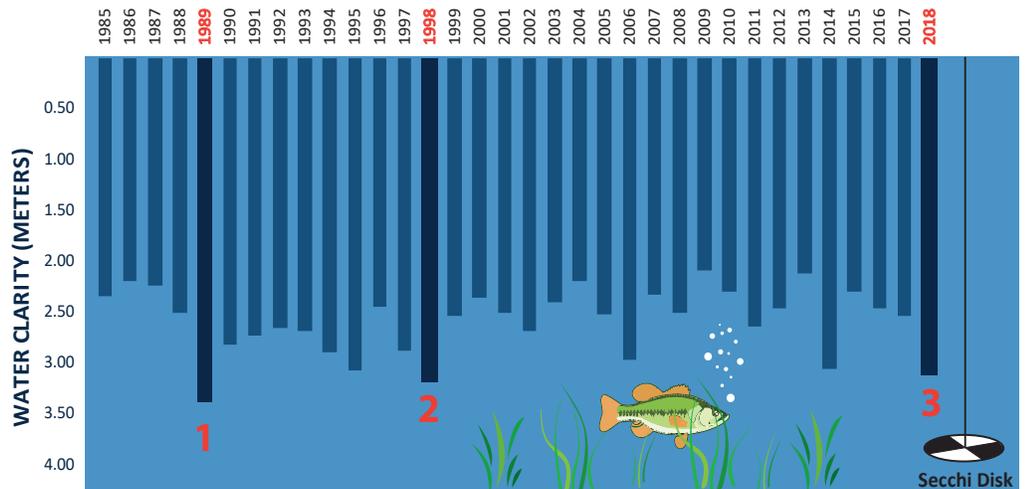
Dear Candlewood Lake Neighbor,

For 46 years the efforts of the Candlewood Lake Authority have been centered upon keeping Candlewood clean, healthy and safe for everyone to enjoy - and we would like to *sincerely thank all of you* for supporting our mission over the years.

This summer was anything but normal. Instead of a welcome to warm summer weather, we were hit with a storm in May. It brought so much destruction and heartache to far too many around Candlewood Lake; it won't be forgotten anytime soon. The scars it left behind are both physical and emotional. Once summer officially arrived it seemed to oscillate between really hot and sunny days, and torrential downpours...and the wet weather continued into the fall. For many reasons, this was a unique summer.

Water quality this summer was some of the best on record! We had the third best water clarity, measured by Secchi disk, since we started keeping track in 1985 (and it was the best in 20 years). Although it can be difficult to isolate all of the factors that contribute to changes in water quality in a given year, our ongoing monitoring program allows us to more easily understand trends if they develop. Also, this season **every weekly blue-green algae test result**

Candlewood Lake Average Water Clarity



from our program with Western Connecticut State University came back below the State of CT threshold for cyanotoxins. From a water quality perspective, Candlewood Lake had a really good summer! We applaud the individual efforts so many of you have made to help protect the water quality in the Lake. Working together, we can accomplish great things!

We are also happy to report that the sterile grass carp program continues to be a focus of our milfoil

control efforts. We are awaiting results on the amount of milfoil in the Lake this year and *we're particularly interested in seeing the results next summer. For the first time we will see the effect of the grass carp combined with the first planned deep drawdown since the carp program began a little over 3 years ago.* This program will continue to mature and will be fine tuned to determine the optimal carp population in order to achieve the best possible results. This is a long-term program and effort, one which we hope will prove to be a successful tool in the battle to keep the milfoil in check.

Also exciting this year, in case you haven't heard, *the CLA has a new Executive Director, a new Director of Ecology and Environmental Education, a new class of Marine Patrol Officers and three new Delegates on the Board.* The CLA staff and Board has a great mix of experience to go along with new faces and skills - and the excitement and energy at the CLA for the future is hard to ignore!

We hope you will join us in sharing our enthusiasm for the future of Candlewood Lake - but it's going to take a lot of hard work from everyone to continue to ensure the future health of the Lake.

8,896

**The number of
milfoil eating sterile
grass carp stocked
in Candlewood &
Squantz since 2015**

Your donation will help us continue our efforts to...

- **Better understand the root causes of blue-green algae triggers here,** in the hopes of developing a plan to reduce bloom occurrences. Each lake is different, and this worldwide blue-green algae problem requires a local solution, tailored to our lake.
- **Implement a pilot boat wash station to help prevent the spread of invasive species** such as zebra mussels and invasive plants.
- **Improve public safety on the lake** by enhancing our Marine Patrol strategies and updating current operational equipment, while creating new boating initiatives to reduce instances of user-conflict on the Lake.
- **Manage the milfoil using the sterile grass carp integrated with drawdowns.** Though we have reached our initial stocking target number, sterile grass carp programs require additional stockings to achieve the best results.
- **Create a new Lake Management Plan for Candlewood Lake and Squantz Pond** that integrates every stakeholder around the Lake in a comprehensive conservation strategy for the future.

Please consider donating to the Candlewood Lake Authority to help protect Candlewood Lake for future generations!

With warmest regards,

The Delegates and Staff of the Candlewood Lake Authority

PS: We are excited and honored to be entrusted with helping protect Candlewood Lake and its users - and we hope you will join us with a donation that helps support our mission!

DONATE 

Online Donation Is Also Available
www.CandlewoodLakeAuthority.org

DONATIONS

November 1, 2017 - November 15, 2018

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Bruce & Tobi Andrews
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Albert Appel
Arrowhead Point Homewoners
Association
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Mary & Bill Brown
Virginia Brown
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Candlewood Point HOA
Candlewood Shores Tax District
Candlewood Trails Assoc, Inc.
Candlewod Watershed Initiative
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John Caseer
Cassidy Family
Albert & Jane Celentano
Jan & Larry Cernoch
Anthony Chiappinelli
John Clancy
Maureen & Dave Clegg
Dan & Shirley Coakley
Ivan Cole
Robert & Susan Cooper
Rick Crowle
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Cutugno Family LP
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Robert & Jeanne Dabkowski
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Elaine & Petr Daubner
Bill & Rose Davis
Sharon & Barry Decker
Dianne & Francis DeFrino
James & Martha Degen
Allan & Becky Deutscher
Michael Devine
Roseann DiMatteo
William & Teresa Dionisio
Walter Dodenhoff
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Gary Dufel
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Eugene Edwards
Max & Rochelle Etingin
Henry Fabian
John Farley
The Fenton Family
Edward & Winifred Ferguson
Edwin Fernand MD
Donna & Leonard Ferrara
Ferriss Estate Tax District
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Donald Fleming
Steven Fraade
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Gilon Irwin
Timothy Jay
Alfred Jennings Jr.
Stefania Mingey & John Koschel
Richard Johnson
Steven & Penny Post Johnston
James & Marilyn Joyce
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Ray & Paula Kelley
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Glenn Kiefer
Chris Kirkness
Mitchell & Diane Klaif
Knollcrest Tax District
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Bernard & Frances Laterman
William & Ann Marie Lavelle
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Gregory LiCalzi
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Thora & Tom Perkins
John Phelan
Susan Pianforini
James Piazza
Pirate Pride of Candlewood Lake
Wayne & Emily Pogers
Kenneth Post Jr.
Morton Povman
Linda Queiroz
Steven Rabinowitz
Patrick Raffaele Jr.
Iraj Rahmati
Jody & Maura Keenan Rajcula
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Arnold Silva
Heidi Slater
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Smalley Jr.
The Sobolev Family
Srinivasaraghavan Family
Sheila Stamboni
Frances Stella
Jeffery Stevens
Melissa Stewart
Chester Straub
Richard Suhie

We apologize for any omissions, inaccuracies or misspellings.

Roy & Carol Sullivan
Natalie Susco
Bob & Lois Talbot
Cynthia Taylor
Renate Tilson
Fernand & Delores Toussaint
Michael & Lori Turk

Pete & Karen Valenti III
Warren & Elizabeth Vandever Jr.
Jim & Karen Vulcano
Inez & Barry Wade
Joel & Diane Waldenberg
Warner Ridge Beach Association
Kathy Watts

Robert Weinberg
Judy & Steve Weiss
Nikolaus Wirth
Samantha Wolf
Mary Wolf
Herb Yoraschek
Jeanne Zelem

Vadim Zlotnikov
Joseph Zmudzinski
Dana & Erez Zohar

In Memory Of

Dr. Morton Bosniak
Tommie Bosniak

Jack Farley
Ann Farley

Howard Guttman
Jacqueline Guttman

Robert Hau
Mary Ann Hau

Jimmy Lapan
Candlewood Vista Association
Jeanne & Jeff Katz

Barry O'Connell
Michael & Kelly Andrews
Danbury Fish and Game Assoc.
Michelle Jordano

Butch
Tim Stabile

In Name Of

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Keep up with what is happening on Candlewood Lake! Follow us on Facebook or Instagram and sign up for our emails by going to www.candlewoodlakeauthority.org and click on the "Stay Informed" button.

We apologize for any omissions, inaccuracies or misspellings.





CANDLEWOOD LAKE AUTHORITY

Member Municipalities: Brookfield • Danbury • New Fairfield • New Milford • Sherman

PO BOX 37 • SHERMAN, CT 06784 • P (860) 354-6928 • F (860) 350-5611

J. Neil Stalter

Director of Ecology and Environmental Education

Candlewood Lake Authority

Re: December Meeting: Monthly Report

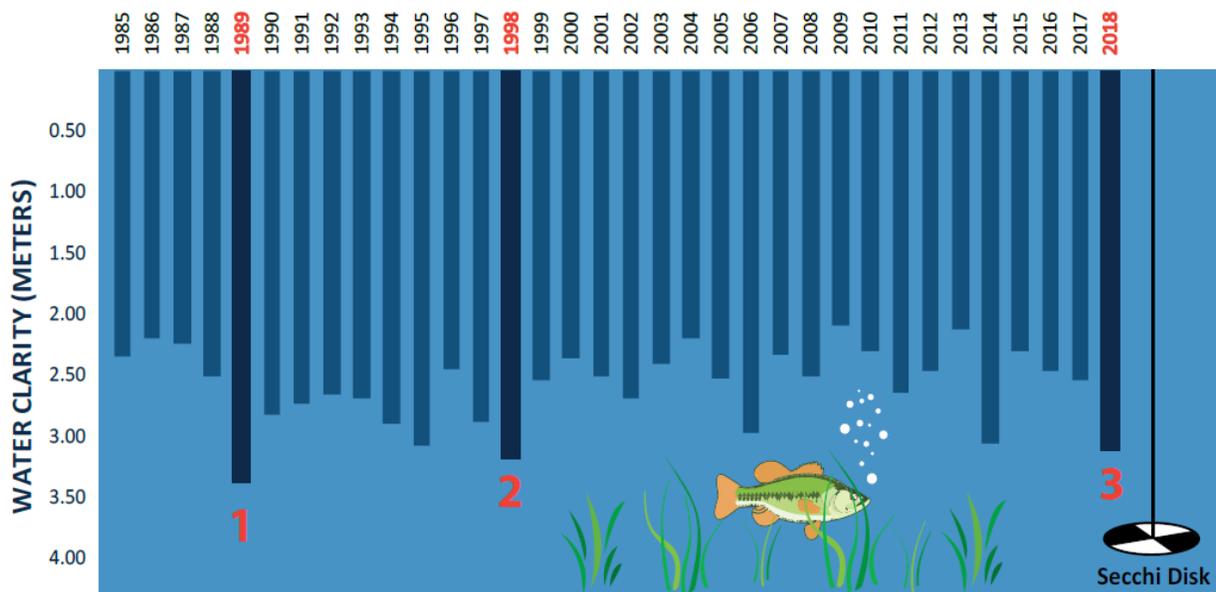
Date: 12/12/18

- **Shoreline Mapping:** Shoreline Maps are officially completed for 2018. We will look into how best to use these to evaluate shoreline changes over the past 10 years.
- **Homeowner Directory:** Created a new and updated directory of homeowners on the shoreline to keep our mailing list current.
 - This will be used for both the appeal letter as well as the homeowner's guide
- **Articles:** Keep your eye on the Town Tribune to see the most recent installment of a new article series in the paper from the CLA – Creatures of Candlewood. This month is about the Great Blue Heron!
 - Continuing to stockpile email articles for use at relevant times, including creating educational materials to help stop over-salting both on a residential as well as municipal level with help and info (including this photo) from our friends at the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency we met at NALMS.
 - Met with the folks at Tunnel to Towers Foundation about filming our drone video for buffer zone education.
 - Sent out a very successful “Giving Tuesday” email in preparation for the giving season before we send out the appeal.
- **Nuisance Plant Monitoring Report:** The NPMP Report for 2018 was given to the CLA for comment on Nov. 30th. I've reviewed both this year's report, along with past reports, and have drafted the CLA comments with the help of Jeff, Mark T., and the rest of the Watershed Management Committee.



- Reviewed and drafted comments for the Zebra Mussel Monitoring report submitted to us by FirstLight at the same time.
- Both the submitted Nuisance Plant Monitoring Report and Zebra Mussel Monitoring report are available digitally for anyone who would like to review them.
- **SMP:** Joined Mark and Phyllis to meet with John and Len at FirstLight about collaborating on aspects on the new SMP document for Spring 2018, and other potential shoreline protection projects.
 - Reviewing other shoreline management plans in different parts of the country to help us create a list of our own priorities for the new document.
 - Reviewed the history of the 2009-2013 SMP creation process and created a timeline describing that filing process, as well as organizing all those documents for review. I'm happy to send that to anyone interested who is not in the SMP subcommittee.
- **Models:** Examining different modelling software's efficacy for Candlewood, and what might be an informative and interesting model we might want to use for future projects.
- **Data Library:** Received all the separate digital files from Larry with the CLA's historical water quality data.
 - Beginning work on making a digital archive with that data, along with filling as many holes as possible with the hard copies of data in the office.
 - Some of this data was used to create the fun graph Mark and I made that is included in our appeal letter this year.

Candlewood Lake Average Water Clarity





Date: November 30, 2018

To: Candlewood Lake Authority (CLA) Chairman, Executive Director and Board Members

From: Candlewood Lake Authority Marine Patrol Officers

Re: Support for Ronald Barnard Candidate for Chief of the CLA Marine Enforcement Division

Dear Board Members, Chairman and Director,

The supervising officers of the marine patrol division of the Candlewood Lake Authority (CLA) and lake patrolmen are pleased to submit this letter in support of Assistant Chief Ronald Barnard for the position of Chief of the marine enforcement division of the CLA.

Over the past year the Assistant Chief has lead the marine patrol in the absence of Douglas Vane (Retired Chief) who unfortunately has been dealing with significant family and personal health issues.

For the past three years Assistant Chief Barnard has supported the patrol by creating a strong foundation based on training, education, fair and unbiased scheduling and leadership on a personal and professional level. Assistant chief Barnard has created a chain of command which has added structure to the department. The assistant chief has been available to the patrol 24/7 during our season for emergency situations, guidance with personnel issues and as a liaison to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP).

We know that Chief Barnards' many years of law enforcement and his leadership skills have brought us together as a team made us more responsible as individuals and created an environment that has prepared us for the responsibility to protect the users of Candlewood Lake.

Assistant Chief Barnard's relationship with the DEEP, senior officers, former Colonel and the members of the Centralized Infractions Bureau have strengthened our relationships within the law enforcement community. Because of this relationship with the DEEP developed by the Asst. Chief we have the respect of the DEEP organization and are seen as an asset the officers of the DEEP who rely on us to assist them in execution of their duties.

It is our hope that you consider this letter of support for Ronald Barnard Acting Chief when making your decision to appoint your new Chief of the Marine Patrol Division of the Candlewood Lake Authority.

Below please find the signatures of the Marine Law Enforcement Division.

Best Regards

Candlewood Lake Authority Marine Patrol

1. Michael Hood 856
2. Wesley Dyer #881
3. Eric Katz #866
4. Jonathan Dyer 874
5. [Signature] 858
6. John Dyer 877
7. [Signature] 871
8. [Signature] 862
9. [Signature] M. Dyer 864
10. [Signature] #861
11. Jim Dyer 859
12. Tom Hite #860
13. [Signature] #852
14. Dan Mark #854
15. _____
16. _____
17. _____
18. _____
19. _____
20. _____



CANDLEWOOD LAKE AUTHORITY

Member Municipalities: Brookfield • Danbury • New Fairfield • New Milford • Sherman

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To: John Howard
Director of Connecticut Operations
FirstLight Power Resources
P.O Box 5002
New Milford, Connecticut, 06776

Candlewood Lake Authority Comments in Response to FirstLight Power Resources' Submitted Zebra Mussel Monitoring Report Conducted by Biodrawiversity

Project Number: 2576

December 13th, 2018

The members of the Candlewood Lake Authority (CLA) would like to thank FirstLight Power Resources (FLPR) for their submission of the recently completed Zebra Mussel Monitoring Report (ZMMR) for review and comment. Below find our comments on the submitted report. We look forward to continuing to work with FLPR to prevent the spread of Zebra Mussels into Candlewood Lake.

- I. We are once again pleased that no zebra mussels have been found during the monitoring in Candlewood Lake and can report similar results from all of our sampling events and surveys.
- II. We applaud the addition of the Lattins Cove and Squantz Pond sampling locations, as these represent high traffic areas where a significant amount of boats are entering and exiting the lake at state of CT launches.
- III. The monitoring has decreased in scope to focus exclusively on Candlewood Lake and the Rocky River Tailrace.
 - a. We suggest that the resources that otherwise would have been used on upstream surveys be transitioned to a second sampling event in the late summer or fall in Candlewood Lake.
 - b. A second sampling would allow the monitoring to keep track of potential infestation both before and after the boating season, when

we see the highest volume of recreational boaters coming from other lakes that are infested with zebra mussels.

- IV. On p. 2, the report states: “There is still a great deal of uncertainty about the success of zebra mussels in Candlewood Lake where calcium concentrations and pH are only marginally suitable.”
- a. Candlewood conductivity measurements are all 200 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ or greater, which rates Candlewood as having a high risk of colonization by zebra mussels (Sorba & Williamson 1997, Cohen & Weinstein 1998, 2001).
 - b. Candlewood calcium measurements are roughly around 20 mg/L, and are higher in New Milford, where water from the infested Housatonic River is pumped into the lake. This is at the threshold for good adult survival in experimental trials, and there are examples of lakes below this level with colonization (Balsam Lake Ontario, Hincks & Mackie 1997). These Calcium numbers have also been trending upward over the past 30 years, indicating continued importance of monitoring.
 - c. Though there are many factors that affect the ability of zebra mussels to colonize new waterbodies, the importance of this continued monitoring cannot be overstated, and Candlewood remains at high risk of colonization by this invasive species every year.

Prevention of zebra mussel invasion is one of the most important initiatives to keep Candlewood Lake’s ecosystem healthy and effective, while also allowing people in the lake community to continue to recreate in the water. This monitoring program is fundamentally important in assessing the health of the lake and the risk that zebra mussels pose. We again thank FLPR for submitting this report to us and look forward to preventing the spread of zebra mussels and other invasives into Candlewood with their help in 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

CANDLEWOOD LAKE AUTHORITY

Mark Howarth
Executive Director
/JNS



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To: John Howard
Director of Connecticut Operations
FirstLight Power Resources
P.O Box 5002
New Milford Connecticut, 06776

Candlewood Lake Authority Comments in Response to FirstLight Power Resources' Submitted Nuisance Plant Monitoring Report Conducted by Northeast Aquatic Research.

Project Number: 2576-058

December 13, 2018

The members of the Candlewood Lake Authority (CLA) have had the opportunity to review the recent Nuisance Plant Monitoring Report submitted to us for review by FirstLight Power Resources (FLPR). This report is titled "2018 Monitoring Report – Article 409 Nuisance Plant Monitoring of Lakes; Candlewood Lillinonah, and Zoar." And was conducted by a new vendor: Northeast Aquatic Research.

The Candlewood Lake Authority rejects the legitimacy of this report for the following reasons:

- I. As stated in the "Order Modifying and Approving Nuisance Plant Monitoring Plan Pursuant to Article 409" (FERC 2006, p.3, 1): "Field Identifications will be done with oversight from a qualified person approved by the technical committee."
 - a. This approval was neither sought out by FLPR or given by the Technical Committee during the 2018 Technical Committee meeting; thus, the legitimacy of this report is invalidated due to a lack of Technical Committee approval for the vendor.

- II. The Methodology as described in the report is uninformative and does not allow for effective assessment of whether this vendor is fulfilling all the requirements pursuant to Article 409 as they are presented in the Order Modifying and Approving the Nuisance Plant Monitoring Plan (NPMP).
 - a. The methodology used to delineate the boundaries of milfoil stands in the lake is described in the report as: “We traveled along the shoreline at slow speeds of between 0.1 and 0.4 miles/hour making GPS waypoints approximately every 50-300 feet – depending on the variability of the habitat” (NEAR 2018, 8-9).
 - i. There is no explanation of how stands were drawn on the provided maps, as the boundaries of each stand had to be extrapolated between waypoints. This extrapolation is not described, and there is no explanation of how a final acreage measurement was calculated.
 - ii. Without the information laid out in (i) above, there is no way the CLA can evaluate whether this report effectively “surveys the presence and extent of water milfoil in all three lakes” or effectively “map[s] stands of aquatic plants” as laid out in the NPMP (P.3, 1).
 - b. There is no description of how the 1,665 sampling locations for aquatic plants was determined, no map of these locations, and no methodology for how these samples were taken in the methods section of the report (p. 8-9).
 - i. Without this information, it is impossible for the CLA to evaluate whether this report effectively measures “other invasive aquatic species that may occur in the lakes, along with their location and a qualitative assessment of their abundance.”
- III. The NPMP states that “The Annual monitoring reports will compare the location, extent, and qualitative density of aquatic stands observed in the survey year with stands observed in the previous years” (FERC 2006, p.4, 2).
 - a. Apart from Table 8 and Figure 8 on p.32 in the report comparing only the total acreage to past years, and comparisons of incidences of plant species on the lake on p.36-37, there is no comparison of this year’s monitoring to past monitoring reports.
 - i. The explanation for this omission is: “At this time, NEAR doesn’t have access to the electronic data files from any of the

prior surveys so we are unable to complete GIS comparisons to prior mapping.

- ii. The CLA finds this explanation insufficient, as the necessary data and maps from past reports can be easily found within those past reports. As all past reports are conducted by a vendor hired by FLPR, all map files and data files should be in the possession of FLPR and thus available to NEAR.

- IV. There was no early sampling event to look for *Potamogeton crispus* (Curly-leaf pondweed) which follows a different life cycle than other aquatic plants in Candlewood Lake. Fruit production of this plant occurs in the late spring/early summer, followed by a summer senescence after water temperatures increase (Wehrmeister and Stuckey 1992).
 - a. This early summer sampling event has been conducted in the past and has found instances of Curly-leaf pondweed in Candlewood Lake and Squantz Pond. The elimination of this earlier sampling event means this study cannot effectively measure “other invasive aquatic species that may occur in the lakes” as stated in the NPMP, because the window for detection of Curly-leaf pondweed in Candlewood has largely passed by the time this sampling was conducted in late summer.

- V. There is little to no raw data or descriptive statistics presented in the report. The only provided numbers are a total acreage of Eurasian watermilfoil, acres of the three qualitative densities found (Table 3, p. 11) which contains erroneous information, and incidence of aquatic plant species (p. 24-25, 36-37). Nearly every other result is presented as a percent frequency or percent occurrence.
 - a. The NPMP clearly states that “the approximate height of fully submerged stands will also be recorded, as will the approximate water depth for stands that reach the surface.” The former is presented as a percent frequency graph on p.23 with no data supplied to contextualize and compare the findings, and the latter is not presented in the report.
 - b. While we appreciate the addition of the metric found in figure 2 on p.23, we are still concerned that without the actual data (i.e. acreage numbers) used to assess this percent frequency, we can’t accurately evaluate the conclusion this information would make.
 - c. Without raw data to underscore these percent frequency results, there is no way to verify their accuracy as well as no way to effectively

compare findings to previous years, which is a fundamental purpose of this yearly monitoring as stated in the NPMP.

- VI. A new invasive species was found in the lake, *Glossostigma cleistanthum* (Mudmat). As stated in the NPMP: “if the presence of other invasive species (from the list provided in the plan) is noted during an annual survey, a description of the location and extent of the stand of invasive species detected will be reported immediately to the CDEP-Bureau of Water Management.”
 - a. The CLA is unaware of whether this immediate reporting was done, as it is not reflected in the report, and we have not been informed about this development from either Connecticut DEEP or NEAR until receiving the report nearly 3-4 months following monitoring.
 - b. Quick action following the discovery of a new invasive species is fundamentally important in protecting its spread in the ecosystem and stemming its potential damage to the littoral Zone.

- VII. The CLA has been informed that the previous, approved vendor (The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, CAES) has also done the monitoring in 2018 using the same methodology that has been previously approved by the Technical Committee.
 - a. The CLA requests that FERC requires FLPR use CAES to create an official report for the 2018 monitoring, before the next Technical Committee meeting. This is because the new vendor was never approved, and the CAES monitoring is complete, allowing approved monitoring to continue uninterrupted.

We thank FLPR for delivering this report for our review and re-iterate that the CLA rejects the legitimacy of the report on the grounds presented above. The report was done without any approval or oversight from any member of the technical committee, calling into question the report’s validity. A lack of an informative methods section, descriptive statistics, and raw data also does not allow the CLA or any member of the technical committee to evaluate the efficacy of this report’s methodology. A lack of comparison to past years’ monitoring, apart from total acreage and plant incidence, also prevents us from evaluating this methodology’s ability to derive reliable results as in past years. We look forward to the technical committee meeting in the spring of 2019 where we can discuss the report in more detail and follow the correct protocol for vendor approval in the following summer season.

Respectfully submitted,

CANDLEWOOD LAKE AUTHORITY

Mark Howarth
Executive Director
/JNS

cc: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, (FERC)