

Minutes of Meeting
Lake Topanemus Park Commission

Wednesday, April 19, 2023
Borough Hall
30 Mechanic Street
Freehold, New Jersey 07728

- Call to Order / Statement of Compliance Meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm with the Open Public Meetings Act.

- Roll Call
Commissioners

Present:
Edward Daley
Kirk Tibbett
Bob Higley
Joe Luongo
Mike Phillips
Greg Jewell

Absent:
Chris Kean
Roger Kane

Secretary: Lisa Tiedemann
Guests: Bill Degnan

- Review of minutes from March 15, 2023.

Motion to accept the minutes as presented made by Commissioner Phillips, seconded by Commissioner Daley. All in favor.

- Correspondence –

- Email correspondence from Neil Herstik to municipal officials decrying the condition of the lake, and questioning the appropriation of funds from all bodies.
- Email correspondence from Joe Ferdinando complimenting the Commission, forwarding Township communications denying triploid carp in the lake and bluebird houses in the open field on Robertsville Road.

- Treasurer's report –

- Commissioner Luongo reported a balance as of April 19, 2023 of \$5,972.52, income interest of \$8.32 and recurring monthly expenses \$183.00 as well as \$1,143.00 for barbeque devices, \$266.00 toilet rental, \$50.00 secretarial expense and \$60.26 invoice for paint need approval. Two donations received in March, \$500.00 from the Freehold Running Club and \$100.00 family gather for April 29, 2023.

Motion to accept report as presented and approval of expenses made by Commissioner Daley, Seconded by Commissioner Tibbett. All in favor.

- Old Business –

- Lake Restoration – Discussion of the triploid carp and its benefits and detriments. Commissioner Daley performed research on it and presented as such, commenting on draining the lake half way to permit the carp to eat the weeds they do. Commissioner Luongo presented the Commission with copies of State Legislation dated February 27, 2023 detailing studies of triploid carp in weed infested, eutrophic lakes. It was indicated

that Princeton Hydro resolved an issue in Connecticut with the recommendation of triploid carp.

- Projects for 2023
 - Fishing Pier – Commissioner Daley has been in contact with the company supplying the dock. Dock constructor advised extra time involved to install rails. Budget still not approved.
 - Osprey Nest – Commissioner Daley has a volunteer with a bucket truck in order to assist.
 - Restoration of lake banks – No report at this time, still awaiting grant status.
 - Work date scheduled for May 13, 2023.
- New Business – Nothing at this time.
- Commissioners Report-
 - Commissioner Higley – Reported he arrived at the park at 6:00am and was unsuccessful in turning electricity on.
 - Commissioner Daley – No report at this time.
 - Commissioner Tibbett – Spoke about various biologists he has researching.
 - Commissioner Luongo – Requested permission to pursue tee shirts for Commissioners for the Memorial Day Parade. Introduced Freehold Township Day on July 8 and will submit application.
 - Commissioner Phillips – Recounted the draining of the lake in the past, and too many regulations in current times to permit such. Requested permission to cut a couple of links off of the children’s swing as the children’s feet drag in the sand. Commissioner Tibbett advised new swings are forthcoming.
 - Commissioner Jewell – Reported he has painted 5 benches. Meeting someone on Friday to purchase a bench.
- Volunteers Reports – No report at this time.
- Public Comments –
 - Bill Degnan – No report at this time.
- Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 7:58 pm
Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Commissioner Daley, seconded by Commissioner Higley. All in favor.