**Lake Committee Meeting February 6, 2020**

 **Start: 7:30 PM End: 9:10 PM**

Attending: Scott Rothbart, Henry Passarotti, Bob Fehon, Peter Hestevold, Keith Small, Mike Freedman, Nick Ferrone, Declan Beere, Dan Carroll, John O’Connor, Ed Clark, Christine Matrisciano, Pat Degnan, Tom Alameda, Gideon Van Heerdon, Bill Malzahn, Charlie Bogusat, Joanne Machalaba

**Old Business**

Meeting minutes from January meeting approved

Request volunteers to assist on Boat Space assignment days, March 14, 21 and 28. Please let Mike Lynch know what days you can help.

Reminder the Boating Safety Course will be on March 8th. Get the word out!

**New Business**

- Special guests: Lake Management Consultants, Princeton Hydro and Solitude Lake Management.

 - Highlights of last season: Excellent water quality with high clarity. The clear water and high rainfall combined with warm temperatures led to a dense amount of brittle naiad lake wide.

 - For 2020, monitoring will begin in March with SONAR treatment planned earlier with follow up dosing, as needed. A new herbicide was tried late in the season with good results on the naiad. Plan is to selectively use this season.

 - Alum/aeration system including the in-stream injector should begin operating late April. Frequent replacement of the instream FlocLogs is required to reduce phosphorous loading.

 - Princeton Hydro contacted Steve Riley of Tilcon to inquire about interest to treat the water body on their property that feeds into WML. While Tilcon has allowed WML to place FlocLogs and addle geese eggs on their property, they are not interested in treating their lake. We will continue these efforts.

 - The Regional Highlands Watershed Management State Grant was briefly discussed. Princeton Hydro is working with some surrounding lakes to secure grant monies and will keep WML informed. The recommendation is for WML to maintain a strong working relationship with the Township, as grant applications are made through them, and collaborate more formally with other lakes, such as Telemark and Greenpond, in seeking funding.

- Phragmites along the lake perimeter continue to encroach on the lake as well as along the inlet streams at beach 2 and 3. An herbicide treatment was applied in selective areas in the fall. Follow up cutting is required to curb growth. Site manager was requested to have Maintenance routinely cut back the phragmites at the inlet stream locations. The need for further herbicide treatment will be determined.

- The topic of accepting a fish transfer (salvage) from Parks Lake to WML was further discussed with the consultants. We were advised DEP regulations require fish transfers to be within the same drainage basin (will confirm this) and under strict supervision of a Fisheries Biologist. The fish to be transferred will not be beneficial to the WML ecosystem and may disrupt it. The Committee recommendation is to not accept a fish transfer into WML.

- A motion was made to purchase 276 trout from Musky Trout Hatcheries for the 2020 fishing season at an amount to not exceed $2,948.18. Monies to come from line 521.03. Unanimously approved.

- The dam requires a regular inspection this year by a professional engineering firm. Two bids were received and are being evaluated / negotiated. A motion is pending final pricing and scope of work. The Committee inquired about warranties and bonds that are in place for the recent dam remediation to be prepared for potential inspection findings. Site manager to review contracts and advise.

- It was brought to the Committee’s attention an incident last season of anchoring and swimming from a boat close to POA docks. At the time, this was reported to the Security Patrol Boat. Committee discussed stricter guidelines and enforcement.

- Lakefront Dock Subcommittee to report at next meeting.

- Committee was informed of further legislative action regarding mandatory fees and assessments in voluntary lake communities. Prior legislative action failed to pass the NJ Assembly, but has been recently reintroduced. Legal and By-Laws continues to monitor this.

Minutes written and approved (following Committee review) by Joanne Machalaba, OIC of Lake and Lake Reclamation