

The spring meeting of the West Hill Lake Shore Property Owners Association was held on Saturday, July 3, 2010 at 10 a.m. at Camp Workcoeman which was hosted by the North End. The Camp Workcoeman Caterers, who provided an excellent menu, catered the brunch. Thank you to our members who brought a great assortment of brunch foods. What a feast! Thanks to Stash for his kielbasa! Approximately 120 people were in attendance.

Tom and Skip Sly introduced our guest speaker, Larry Marsicano, who is vice president of the Connecticut Federation of Lakes. Tom said that Larry does a terrific job at Candlewood Lake and with the Candlewood Lake Authority, where he is executive director. Larry had good information regarding lake management and watershed issues. Larry had done research on West Hill Lake in the late 80's trying to understand the effects of acid rain on Connecticut lakes. They had found out that the Ph level had gone up at West Hill over that last 100 years. His studies included checking the nutrient levels and salt levels over the past 100 years and West Hill was always one of the lakes used in these studies. They also used aerial maps from the 30's, 70's and 90's, which they analyzed to see how the watershed was changing. They found out that the lakes where the watershed had been reduced because of development were the lakes that were changing the most. Our lake has changed a little bit. What we can do is modify or develop techniques to control and protect the shoreline of our lake. The number one cause of lake deterioration is the degradation of the shoreline. His suggestions to help protect our shoreline:

1. Use of buffers.
2. Proper septic maintenance.
3. No Lawn Chemicals—do not fertilize your lawn.
4. Products with phosphorous (makes algae grow)—use only non-phosphorous detergent.
5. Lawn clippings should not be put in the lake.
6. Use local zoning agencies to raise the bar. Help evolve change in the zoning regulations in regard to storm water runoff.
7. One of the buzz words being used today is “low impact development.”

On the Federation of Lakes website (www.ctlakes.org), hot topics, you will find a list of towns that have worked with local zoning agencies in regard to storm water runoff.

Officers present were: Tom Beecher, Sue O'Rourke, Claire DePersia and Barbara Pelletier. President Beecher called the meeting to order at 10:45 a.m. The minutes from the August 29, 2009 minutes were approved.

Sue O'Rourke reported that we have collected \$3,170 in dues. Forty-four have not paid, although she was collecting dues at the meeting. The balance in the checking account is \$9,727 and the fixed annuity balance is \$9,036. The treasurer's report was approved and accepted.

Local Issues:

New Hartford: Blake Hall was not present.

Barkhamsted: Bob Pelletier reported that there were no zoning changes. Also, the Riverton Summer Music Series is on Sundays from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. The Wilderness and Wellness Weekend is July 9-11, 2010. There will be a boat parade on Sunday, July 4th at 3 p.m. The North End Store is open 7 days.

Lake Management:

Skip reported that he has been receiving contributions to support the storm water runoff study. The state has yet to come up with their grant in actual dollars. We also completed a major hydrology study requested by the DEP to analyze the worst possible rain event and its impacts on the dam and outflow. This has been submitted to the state. He thanked everyone who has made a contribution to our water runoff study. Tom explained that the storm water runoff study cost \$7,000. \$3,000 was received in a grant from the State and we needed to raise the additional \$4,000. The hydrology study concerned the dam and any safety issues. This study was required by the State. The Board of Directors approved an expenditure of \$500 toward this study. This expenditure was approved by the membership.

Membership: Tom appointed Linda Gallagher as the new membership chair. Lynn Florio has also been appointed to this committee. The new members of WHLSPOA are:

Jay and Connie Kearns

Dr. Peter Humphrey and Essie Humphrey

Chuck and Susan Lindsey

Dr. Linda Preysner (114 Pond Rd.)

Old Business:

Stash is going to make a new pamphlet for the boat launch. There have been spot checks on weekends at the boat launch by the DEP. The police boat is now on the lake and is parked south of Brodie beach.

Tom asked for IT wizards to help with our website. Tom also asked for members' email addresses.

New Business:

Tom appointed Jill Smith as East Side Governor. She is replacing Paula Ivany who did a wonderful job for many years. Bill Auclair was appointed to the Lake Management Committee.

Pat Gallagher and Tom Beecher updated the by-laws. The last time the by-laws were revised was in 1990. They clarified and updated a number of provisions, which was their primary goal. Some of the revisions were: they updated the purpose and mission of our organization, flexibility to hold the first meeting either the last weekend in June or the first weekend in July, budget presentation to the Board by June 1st instead of May 1st, the

required number of Board governors from three governors to two governors at a meeting, emergency meeting can be held as long as all Board member are notified and we do not need to wait five days etc. Members were mailed the draft proposed by-laws and the existing by-laws. A motion to adopt the by-laws was seconded and approved.

The next meeting will be on August 28, 2010 hosted by the East Side.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Claire DePersia
Recorded Secretary