

Hidden Lake Association  
Regular Monthly Meeting  
February 27, 2019  
Approved Minutes

OPENING: President Jay Cassella called the regular monthly board meeting of the Hidden Lake Association to order at 6:38 p.m. on Monday, February 27th, 2019 at the Haddam Town Hall "Old" Annex in Haddam, CT.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jay Cassella  
Alan Stokke  
Victoria Nicholson  
Sheri Berger  
Carolyn Chalifoux  
Dale Fiore  
Lori-Ann Hoberman

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Cindy Porriello

ASSOCIATION MEMBERS PRESENT:

James Nicholson  
Jean Cassella  
David Chalifoux  
Teresa Resnick  
Barry Hoberman  
Mary Shea  
Lloyd Pearson  
Larry Poulin

- \* President Jay Cassella introduced Lloyd Pearson as past President and Lloyd accepted the vacant seat left on the board upon Laura Jenner's departure. A vote was taken that unanimously gave the seat to Lloyd Pearson.  
Lloyd Pearson was a Past President.  
Welcome Back Lloyd!

A. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Approval of the November 26, 2018 Minutes were reviewed. The Minutes were approved and will be posted on the HLA Website. A motion to approve the Minutes was made by Victoria Nicholson and seconded by Dale Fiore.

**B. TREASURER REPORT:**

Due to the Board not meeting in the months of December 2018 & January 2019, Alan Stokke passed out all months reports for November 2018, December 2018 & January 2019.

Alan gave everyone time to review the reports as he went through each one.

A motion to accept all (3) of these reports was made by Dale Fiore and seconded by Sheri Berger.

\* PLEASE see all of Alan Stokke's Reports attached.

**C. TAX COLLECTOR REPORT:**

Sheri Berger reports that to date the taxes collected amount \$67,657.14

Our attorney advises that we now send out demand to pay letters to all remaining property owners with unpaid taxes. Dale Fiore states that he agrees and feels that it is time that we move forward. Jay Cassella requests that Sheri read the letter that the attorney advises for our use. Sheri states that the attorney will not be charging us to send these letters out. Currently there is \$20,637 in back taxes & interest that is owed. A motion is made by Dale Fiore to allow the letters to go out and pursue payment thereof. and Alan Stokke seconded.

All in favor. No opposition.

**D. SEPTIC REPORT:**

Anthony Grandazza is absent. Jay Cassella noted that at this point all Septics are done.

**E. ROAD COMMITTEE:**

Peter Lombardo is absent. \* No Report

**F. LAKE REPORT:**

Jay Cassella states that the Lake Committee believes that the Lake Association is on the right track with the improvements made to date and the continual maintenance.

The report received by the Connecticut Agriculture Experiment Station is positive in their findings.

The Lake Committee recommends using the "Pond Connection" for the 2019 season in regard to any aquatic vegetation or lake management in place of the company, "Solitude" that has been used in the past.

In addition the Lake Committee, upon installing the ground grid would like to see two lake blankets installed as well.

The last conversation that the Lake Committee commented on was the use of ropes and buoys to section off swimming areas. The cost of ropes and buoys would run about \$30 for 20 feet.

\* Please see the Lake Report Attached.

**G. DAM COMMITTEE:**

On January 14, 2019 a letter was received from the DEEP. This letter explains the

State Inspection required for 2019 as seen below:

“ It is the responsibility of the Hidden Lake Association to have the Dam inspected by an Independent engineering firm and submitted to the DEEP by December 31, 2019.”

In the past, the Hidden Lake Association has relied on Karl Acimovic PE, an engineer based in Coventry, CT.

On September 15, 2016 a document with the recommendations for the “Improvements and Repairs” to the Dam was received. This document was prepared and presented to the Dam Commissioner at the time by Karl.

It is the recommendation of Karl and the present Dam Commissioner, Barry Hoberman to complete the repairs described including the leakage and coating of the valve, prior to the inspection.

Karl Acimovic recommends the repairs be done by “Schumack”, a company based in Clinton. These repairs should be looked at prior to the closing of the valve so as not to have to open the valve if required for the repairs during spawning season.

#### H: BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE:

Sandra Kiehm is absent. \* No Report

#### I. BY-LAW REPORT:

Bob Kiehm is absent. \* No Report

#### J. AUDIT COMMITTEE:

Dale Fiore reports that to date the committee has looked over Alan Stokke’s books and everything is in order.

The audit committee will prepare all Tax audits to be done by the March meeting.

#### K. WEB REPORT:

Alan Stokke states that he is in the process of re-designing the web page. Alan is making the page more current and user friendly. The new page design will have all the current ability and added flexibility for folks with iPads, i-phones etc...

Mary Shea took time to explain to all how the origination of the “FaceBook” Page came to be. Mary stated that originally Facebook put up a site as “Hidden Lake”, so Mary went on FaceBook to claim it for all of us. Mary herself does not Block or modify things that are placed on our site by members. Mary does however, monitor it for us. Mary Shea also monitors our Wikipedia File. Thank you very much Mary Shea. Your work and time are so very much appreciated.

#### L. SPECIAL PROJECTS:

Jay Cassella will begin ordering all of the "NO OUTLET" street signs that are needed.

M. OLD BUSINESS:

A Discussion took place as to whether or not the board had resolved to purchase two blankets. The matter is still in discussion.

N. NEW BUSINESS:

A discussion commenced regarding the drafts for the budget that will need to be done for the Annual May meeting.

There are several areas that we will need to increase the line budget amount such as money for tree removal, Dam repairs, reserve \$ etc...

Jay Cassella requests that all Board Members and Committee Members consider all monies that they feel need to be on the line budgets. These figures will then be up for discussion at the March meeting.

Victoria Nicholson stated that we need to be sure to proceed with getting the D.E.E.P Weed Permit. Jay Cassella stated that we will need to proceed just in case we should need chemicals. Jay motioned to proceed with the Weed Permit. Victoria first and Alan seconded. Unanimous decision.

A general discussion regarding the level of the Lake proceeded. The Lake is almost full again. The Dam Commissioner, Barry Hoberman will lower the Lake immediately.

Teresa Resnik, Association Member presented maps of her property and requests that she receive some assistance with the mapping of her properties and taxes assigned such. Jay Cassella has agreed to assist Teresa to come to a resolution.

At 8:08 p.m a motion to adjourn was made and seconded. The Regular monthly board meeting of the Hidden Lake Association was held on February 25, 2019 was adjourned.

The next regular board meeting of the Hidden Lake Association will be held on March 25th, at 6:30 p.m. at the Haddam Town Hall Annex in Haddam, CT.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Lori-Ann Hoberman  
Recording Secretary

