

**Town of Marlborough
Lake Advisory Commission
Tuesday, April 11, 2023
Marlborough Elementary School Cafeteria
25 School Drive
6:00 PM**

Minutes are considered "draft minutes" until approved at the following meeting

1 Call to Order

Dan Dupre called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM

Attendance: Dan Dupre, Anthony Bassilakis, Joe Asklar, Louise Concodello, Jane Boston, John Planeta and Cheryl Morgan.

Also Present: Peter Hughes, Town Planner

Guest: Tom Ryder, Land Tech Consultants

2 Approval of Minutes from January 10, 2023 meeting

Louise Concodello made a motion to accept the January 10, 2023 minutes as presented.

Jane Boston seconded the motion.

Motion passed 5-0-2

3 Additions to Agenda – None

4 2022 Lake Report Presentation by LandTech

Tom Ryder presented the 2022 Lake Terramuggus Water Quality Report. LandTech has monitoring the lake since 1994. Samplings were done in May, June, August and September. Different locations were monitored during each of those months. Lab results were explained in detail and compared to previous years. Most sample results for 2022 were indicative of mesotrophic conditions with generally good water quality. Recommends continuing protective measures currently in place, including vegetative buffers, in order to maintain good water quality.

T. Ryder and P. Hughes answered questions from residents in attendance:

- Question how long has the lake has been monitored and how does it compare to others in Connecticut. T. Ryder responded that Lake Terramuggus has the longest test data with LandTech. Commended Marlborough for the ongoing program. Many lakes are tested only when a problem occurs or for a limited time only. Therefore, they do not have data for comparison, but Marlborough probably falls in the upper 5-10% for water quality. He

- can check for State data to compare. Noted that development, chemistry, geology and normal erosion all influence water conditions.
- Lake ‘turnover’ was explained and discussed.
 - The benefits of vegetation, in and around the lake, were explained. Vegetation holds back rainfall, provides a buffer and filtration.
 - What would happen if a sewer line breaks? There would be a hole in the road due to the pressure.
 - How many springs are in the lake? Unknown. Springs are not visible and water can also slowly seep in.
 - How to clean items deep in the lake including discarded tire? Can hire divers that remove trash.
 - Question about a blueish substance found recently in the lake. P. Hughes responded it contained latex, was probably paint and has cleared up.

There was discussion regarding possible causes of weeds observed in February. T. Ryder explained it may have occurred due to warmer weather in fall and winter. Appeared to be Duckweed or Watermeal, which is normal.

P. Hughes explained measures currently in place to trap sediment and nutrients from entering the lake. Sewers remove nutrients that would have run out of septic systems into the lake, catch basins are cleaned yearly and responsible land usage on the lake. It is a collective effort.

Discussed March 2023 test results which found elevated levels of nitrogen and phosphates. Could be an anomaly due to weather or an indicator of a trend that needs to be monitored. The sample was taken after a rain event. The inlet streams did not show high levels. Plan to take additional samples starting next week and again after the next rain event for comparison. If they are still spiked, additional tests will be used to determine where it is coming from. Possibilities include an abandoned septic system, goose, animals, etc. Protections can be implemented to address these issues if needed.

P. Hughes reported a weed survey will be scheduled for 2024. Will show if the nitrogen peak has any effect. The last weed survey was conducted in 2018.

P. Hughes reported DEEP will be testing 50 lakes for nutrient difference, carbon footprint and other characteristics over time. They are going to do a soil core at the bottom deepest section of the lake in June for a baseline.

5 Final Fish Count Report – No report

6 Lake Yard Maintenance Guidance – J. Asklar to draft a document for distribution to lake residents.

7 **Lake Overlay District Update** – No new information

8 **Letters to the Rivereast**

Informational letters will be submitted to the Rivereast beginning in April for the following topics:

- a. Property Maintenance in Lake District
- b. Safe Boating
- c. Safe Swimming
- d. Parks and Rec Reminder
- e. Summary on the Lake Quality Report

9 **Goals and Activities for 2023**

- a. Awards for Exemplary Property Owners in the Lake District – With News Coverage
- b. Ideas for Lake Newsletter
- c. Education and Outreach Ideas from new Members
- d. Lake Clean-up Effort
- e. Monitor Boat Ramp Progress

10 **Other Business**

None

11 **Public Comments**

None at this time

12 **Adjournment**

John Planeta made a motion to adjourn at 7:33 PM. Nancy seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Deb Pearson, Board Clerk