

Lakes Management Advisory Committee

Minutes December 3, 2019

Annual Yearend Presentation by Solitude Lake Management

7:30 pm Mountain Lakes Borough Hall, 400 Boulevard, Mountain Lakes, NJ

Borough Manager, Stern
Committee Chair, D Dewing
Council Liaison, Happer
Solitude Lake Management representative, Schindler

Committee members

Alpesh Amin
Susan Ferguson
Ethan Grodofsky
Andy Hilton
Jaro Mesicek

Student Liaisons not in attendance

Minutes of November meeting: approved

Chair Report

Thank you and farewell to Susan Ferguson who is leaving the Lakes Management Advisory Committee after two decades of service. She will be honored at Borough Recognition event on Monday December 9th with Lifetime Achievement Award.

Borough Manager Report

- Birchwood Lake clear water project made good progress autumn 2019
- Island Beach work on new facilities has begun
- Grunden's Pond work to stop water leakage has been completed yet there is no visible improvement. Alternative solutions being investigated
- Sunset Dam project not to be implemented likely until 2022. Plans will need to be finalized and approved by DEP
- Manager finalizing DPW month-by-month lakes task calendar
 - Susan requested adding cleaning of catch basins
 - Debra noted that aeration to begin April 15 and be shut off November 1
 - Jaro suggested adding Midvale Boat dock to April clean-up

Solitude Annual Report and Presentation

Electronic copies available

- Warming trend continues (Bob was asked to add historical data to the report in the future)
- Nitrogen at the bottom of Birchwood Lake can add to the dissolved oxygen problem. They will consider aeration, treatment and possibly adding bacteria. Aeration system is shut down in the winter due to safety concern, because the lake won't freeze in that area. Solitude will put a plan together so the town can budget.
- There is a plan to address the water lilies on Crystal and Sunset lakes.
- Olive likely would benefit from aeration
- Shadow is in better shape and may have benefitted from the treatment of Olive. Its oxygen level was twice that of Olive.
- Cove doesn't need much but there is a concern about the dark appearance of the water.
- Grunden's filamentous algae level has improved and the water level has been better than in the past.
- There is a plan to add Sodium Aluminate in all 4 small water bodies, to strip out some of the phosphorus.
- Mountain Lake may need to address milfoil in 2020 and may need low dose treatment for phosphorus.
- Two instances of E.coli were detected and when retested the lake was fine. May be due to water fowl.

New Business/Community Input

Steve Shaw asked about lowering the level of Mountain Lake. He brought pictures to indicate that the level is higher than it was years ago and may be causing damage to the living buffers that residents half built in the yards. Ethan Grodofsky observes the same issues at his property. The Committee agreed to review the history of the current lake level and address the issue in future meetings.

Meeting Adjourned