

BOROUGH OF MOUNTAIN LAKES, NJ
LAKES MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Monthly Meeting Minutes – Quick Notes
Minutes for November 12, 2024 at 7:30 PM - Zoom

1. Call to Order

A monthly meeting of the Lakes Management Advisory Committee was held on November 12, 2024 on Zoom teleconference. It began at 7:30 PM and was presided over by chairperson Derek Jackson.

2. Attendees

Voting Members in attendance: Alpesh Amin, Debra Dewing, Lucien Foster, Derek Jackson, Jason Miner, Nikki Riley, Wayne Roth

Non-voting Members in attendance: Chris Richter (Borough Council Liaison), Bob Schindler (Tigris Lake Management), Kelsey Dages (Student Representative), Scott Minter (Student Representative)

Members not in attendance: Andy Hilton, Mike Russo, Mitchell Stern (Borough Manager), Jackie Bay (Environment Commission Liaison), Billy Barrett (Student Representative), Jack Buckley (Student Representative)

Guests in attendance: None

3. Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting on October 8, 2024 was made by Wayne Roth and seconded by Jason Miner.

4. Borough Management Report

Report was presented by Derek Jackson on behalf of Mitchell Stern.

- Sunset Dam – The project scope has mostly completed except for installing resident docks, which will wait until the water level is appropriate. There also remains a small punch list for the contractor. Fish re-stocking and potential hydro-raking of accumulated plants will be planned and executed as separate projects and budget items.
- Birchwood Aerator RFQ update – Tigris has an action item to prepare a cost estimate for repairs to the aerators, and to add the ongoing maintenance of the aerators into their annual proposal.

5. Tigris Lake Management Report

Report was presented by Bob Schindler.

- Nothing new from a lake monitoring or treatment perspective.
- NJ DEP Lake Monitoring Plan permit (HAB General Permit) – The permit would be applicable for 5 years. There is no permit fee. However, the borough will incur costs to support the permit requirements. All of the lakes and all of the biological products can be under a single permit application. In this approach, significant monitoring data would be required using jar testing to verify the volume ratios of product to water, and to report adverse incidents including the death of a single fish (regardless of cause). The supporting the permit with lab-based jar testing would increase labor overhead and result

in lab fees. For our lakes we would need to multiple samples per lake ranging from 3-5 based on the lakes' size. This would allow products to be applied.

Action Item: a cost estimate proposal will be put together for budget purposes by the end of the year

6. Old Business

- Mountain Lake and Wildwood Lake water level lowering - The normal water level at the Mountain Lake dam is about 499.4. However, there is continuous water level fluctuation around that point due to the natural rise and fall of the water from historically normal rainfalls. The 2024 plan was to lower the lakes' water level to allow for maintenance and repair. The borough has been taking action to lower Mountain and Wildwood Lake every 4 years for many decades. Given the drought the borough has stopped deliberately lowering the water level. However, to date we have NOT reached the water level that was planned and historically used during the regular lowering events. We are currently at 497.6 vs the planned level of 497.4. If the drought continues, we could meet or exceed the planned floor water level.

7. New Business

- Year-end Report and Meeting – Tigris will prepare a report that can show some of the comparative data for our meeting on December 3. He will look at the public historical data on the website. As was the case last year, the algae counts are not something that we can translate and compare to the historical pre-2023 data because of the different techniques and units of measure.

8. Announcements

Next meeting December 3, 2024

9. Adjournment

Derek Jackson moved that the meeting be adjourned. Wayne Roth seconded the motion. The motion passed at 8:15 PM.