

BOROUGH OF MOUNTAIN LAKES, NJ
LAKES MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Monthly Meeting Minutes – Quick Notes
Minutes for April 1, 2025 at 7:30 PM - Zoom

1. Call to Order

A monthly meeting of the Lakes Management Advisory Committee was held on April 1, 2025 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, Nikki Riley, Wayne Roth, Mike Russo

Non-voting Members in attendance: Mitchell Stern (Borough Manager), Bob Schindler (Tigris Lake Management), Jackie Bay (Environment Commission Liaison), Scott Minitier (Student Representative)

Members not in attendance: Andy Hilton, Jason Miner, Chris Cannon (Borough Council Liaison), Billy Barrett (Student Representative), Jack Buckley (Student Representative), Kelsey Dages (Student Representative)

Guests in attendance: None

3. Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting on March 4, 2025 was made by Wayne Roth and seconded by Lucien Foster.

4. Borough Management Report

Report was presented by Mitchell Stern.

- Highlands Grant – Nothing additional until June
- The 2025 budget was passed by the Borough Council. This includes a contingency if the grant is not received
- Birchwood Dam – 3-month study cumulating in a July report that will determine next steps

5. Tigris Lake Management Report

Report was presented by Bob Schindler.

- NJ DEP Monitoring Permit – have been applied for and we are on track to enable treatments as required this year. There have been some hangups in the application process due to a lack of definition and clarity on the requirements and process. However, we believe we are past this.

6. Old Business

- Birchwood Dock Repair – The boards on top of the docks are loose and the deck screws are sticking up. Both situations are a safety hazard. If we repaired the dock in a similar single-phase approach as the past, the lake would be lost for a full year which would include a

swim season. As such, we are taking a three-phase approach where phase 1 is dealing with the pilings so there will only be one lake lowering event associated with this repair. The total cost will be about \$300K over three years. Regardless of the findings and subsequent priorities from a lakes study, we are unlikely to be able to start any project born resulting from the study before 2029 due to bidding, permits and other pre-requisite work. As a result, it does not make sense, nor is it feasible to coordinate the lake lowering associated with the dock repair with any other event that is known today.

7. New Business

- Public communication and education opportunity at Garden Club Event – Debra Dewing was contacted by a member of the Garden Club asking if she would like to participate on the Annual Garden Club plant sale and setup an information table about how we are all “lake front homeowners” and what residents can do to preserve the lakes’ health. Debra will be out of town during the sale. Wayne Roth volunteered to participate on May 10. There will be additional follow-up with members via email and during the May meeting.
- Public communication and education opportunity at the Trout Derby – Nikki Riley suggested that we use the trout derby to also educate and communicate with the public. The Trout Derby will be April 12 and will feature a variety of sustainable species this year. Mike Russo will be reaching out to Mark Odenwelder and Laurie Stepper to see if/how we can get a table.

8. Announcements

Next meeting May 6, 2025

9. Adjournment

Derek Jackson moved that the meeting be adjourned at 820 PM.