

**BOROUGH OF MOUNTAIN LAKES, NJ**  
**LAKES MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**Monthly Meeting Minutes – Quick Notes**  
Minutes for August 5, 2025 at 7:30 PM – Google Meet

**1. Call to Order**

A monthly meeting of the Lakes Management Advisory Committee was held on August 5, 2025 on Google Meet teleconference. Google Meet was used for video conference due to issues with the reoccurring Zoom series. The meeting began at 7:40 PM and was presided over by chairperson Derek Jackson.

**2. Attendees**

Voting Members in attendance: Lucien Foster, Andy Hilton, Derek Jackson, Jason Miner

Non-voting Members in attendance: Bob Schindler (Tigris Lake Management)

Members not in attendance: Alpesh Amin, Debra Dewing, Nikki Riley, Wayne Roth, Mike Russo, Mitchell Stern (Borough Manager), Chris Cannon (Borough Council Liaison), Jackie Bay (Environment Commission Liaison)

Guests in attendance: None

**3. Approval of Minutes**

A motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting on July 1, 2025 was made by Lucien Foster and seconded by Andy Hilton.

**4. Borough Management Report**

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

Engineers installed piezometers along the Birchwood Dam. From the walking path around Birchwood, they can be seen down the hill towards Crystal Lake. They are located between the Birchwood to Crystal spillway and the second picnic area along the Crystal Lake shore. They are marked by a vertical metal well pipe. Mitchell expects more information from this monitoring in the next month.

**5. Tigris Lake Management Report**

Report was presented by Bob Schindler.

Overall, the lakes have “looked good”. Crystal Lake had an algae bloom last week. The water level is VERY low in the lakes. Sunset Lake is about 6 inches low, which is impacting the other downstream basins. Cove Pond is about a foot low, and consequently Grunden’s Pond is low too. Where there is no water depth, there is lots of algae growth. Despite that Olive and Shadow are closer to full level. Given the water flow from Birchwood to Crystal to Sunset to Olive to Shadow and Cove Pond to Grunden’s to Mountain, the hypothesis is that there is an issue with the dams between Birchwood and Crystal, Grunden’s and Mountain Lake and the dam into Cove Pond.

The beaches have not had a failure from high fecal counts. However, the geese are continuing to molt in the lakes and will not fly out of the lake after they are harassed. At the present time there

is a significant effort to clean the beaches each morning to keep the beaches open. There was a discussion about whether we are able to euthanize the geese. This topic will be discussed with Mitchell.

#### **6. Old Business**

Review action items from prior meetings (kept separately from meeting minutes)

Communication Project – Wayne and Andy have been reviewing the revised “Know Your Lakes”. This document will be used to education the community, but most importantly help frame the current state of the lake for the Borough Council.

#### **7. New Business**

Environmental Commission award for best riparian buffer and/or living shoreline. Celebrating the shoreline of the residents that have attractive living shorelines and/or riparian buffers. This might be a great way to create conversation and potentially educate residents on this. There was a discussion about whether there should eventually be a recommendation to amend ordinances through zoning to enforce these requirements.

#### **8. Announcements**

Next meeting September 2, 2025

#### **9. Adjournment**

Andy Hilton moved that the meeting be adjourned. Jason Miner seconded the motion. The motion passed at 8:20 PM.