

BOROUGH OF MOUNTAIN LAKES, NJ
LAKES MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Monthly Meeting Minutes – Quick Notes
Minutes for September 2, 2025 at 7:30 PM - Zoom

1. Call to Order

A monthly meeting of the Lakes Management Advisory Committee was held on September 2, 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, Jason Miner, Nikki Riley, Wayne Roth, Mike Russo

Non-voting Members in attendance: Chris Cannon (Borough Council Liaison), Mitchell Stern (Borough Manager), Bob Schindler (Tigris Lake Management), Gwyneth Buckley (Student Representative), Maxwell Hollick (Student Representative)

Members not in attendance: Andy Hilton, Jackie Bay (Environment Commission Liaison), Kelsey Dages (Student Representative), Scott Minitier (Student Representative)

Guests in attendance: None

3. Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting on August 5, 2025 was made by Wayne Roth and seconded Jason Miner.

4. Borough Management Report

Report was presented by Mitchell Stern.

- The planned Fall 2025 Birchwood Lake lowering for docks will not happen in the Fall of 2025. This Fall we will be doing some structural analysis of the docks to determine the appropriate next steps.
- Birchwood Dam monitoring found no critical issues that required immediate action. However, the engineer suggests additional monitoring occur on a regular basis which may inform further next steps.
- Independent Consultant – We have signed a contract. The intention is to start this Fall
- This fall there will be three weeks of hydro-raking using the “harvesting” style equipment. At least 1 will be in Sunset Lake. There was a suggestion that we look at Shadow Lake.
- Until this year, we have been reasonably successful managing the Canadian Geese using deterrent methods and vendors that “chase” the geese. Historically we had 10-12 but this year it was almost 50. As a result, we have been close to closing the beaches because of high fecal counts. The limit is 320+ and we surpassed 300 a few times.
- There has been discussion in the Borough Council about a euthanasian event.

5. Tigris Lake Management Report

Report was presented by Bob Schindler.

- The Crystal Lake algae blooms started in July, about a month later than 2024. We have been applying Alum treatments to the lake per DEP limitations this summer. The new DEP testing requirements could increase the cost to \$10-20K annually. As such, it might be beneficial to look at aerators in Crystal Lake.
- It may be appropriate to expand the aeration system in Sunset, Olive and Shadow.
- This Fall we will treat the water primrose in the lakes. In addition, there will be a focus on the cattails in Grunden's.

6. Old Business

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

- Community Education and Communication Project

7. New Business

- Welcome new student members
 - Maxwell Hollick – Sophomore in high school
 - Gwyneth Buckley – Sophomore in high school
- Maxwell and Gwyneth will join returning student member Kelsey Dages and Scott Minitier on the committee for the 2025-2026 school year.
- Fallfest "Lakes Management" table and activity – The recreation director approached organizations in town asking them to participate in Fallfest. The committee did not believe this was an appropriate or effective public relations and communication activity for our group.
- The Environmental Commission will be recognizing the best Biparian shoreline
- There have been a large number of new private beaches and other encroachments on Mountain Lake. The zoning officer will be researching. Moving forward, there needs to be more resident education because it is normally not out of malicious intent.
- There are several dead trees along the Boulevard on Mountain Lake and a few on the path around Birchwood, near the "old pump station corner".

8. Announcements

Next meeting October 7, 2025

9. Adjournment

The was adjourned at 8:25 PM.