

**LAKE CARMEL PARK DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING MINUTES – July 10, 2017
Town of Kent Town Hall**

VISUAL ROLL CALL: 7:03 p.m.

Present:

Kathy Wiede
Brett Harrison
Dale Cusack
Pat Madigan
William Morris
Rachael Paradise
Town Board Liaison Paul Denbaum
Supervisor Maureen Fleming

Absent:

Cathy Vargas

Minutes of June 12, 2017 were unanimously approved.

PRESENTATION:

Lt. Kevin Owens, Kent Police Department

Lt. Owens discussed the police department's increased patrols around the lake when the weather warms up. For the most part the area is peaceful. The police work closely with the lifeguard staff to ensure safety. When asked about out-of-district people using the lake for fishing, walking or swimming, he said, usually, unless there is a specific complaint the police do not bother people walking around the lake or parking near the lake. Lt. Owens stressed that he doesn't see a lot of out-of-state license plates. As per illegal fishing near the Route 311 causeway, he stated it isn't illegal for non-residents to fish from Route 52. He said the biggest complaints the PD receives are about noise. Police do drive around the lake day and night. A resident asked what the procedure is if we see people we know shouldn't be using the lake. Lt. Owens said to notify the police.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Beach Review

- A. Blue-Green Algae – There has been one incidence of blue-green algae and it was treated with Citrine Ultra. Resident Kathy Doherty reiterated that she “resents pesticides being put in the lake” especially when it's treated before a positive blue-green algae test result.
- B. Swimming Restrictions – News to residents is that there is no swimming in the beach area when there are no lifeguards on duty. This rule is contrary to Town Code. However, the County Health Department rules supersedes our own codes and those rules state that there is no swimming at certain lake beaches without lifeguards. (As far as we could tell, the rule does not specifically state whether you can or cannot swim in non-beach areas). The County Health Department has a lot of say in the rules and regulations of the lake and Maureen added, “The health department just shows up and can close the beaches.”
- C. Notification – A resident asked if it's possible for residents to get emails or see Facebook posts about which beaches are open or closed as sometimes certain beaches are closed due to being short-staffed.
- D. Flags – The flags not being out, especially for the Fourth of July weekend, was brought up again as this was not done last summer either. The LCPDAB was assured they would be put up this week.

- E. Beaches 5 &6 – sand was put out but the weeds weren't pulled beforehand so the weeds/grass are still growing up through the sand. It was noted that the lifeguard chairs are still up at these two beaches despite the LCPDAB's repeated requests that they be removed. Paul Denbaum remarked that since he has moved here the chairs have been at these beaches and he doesn't find them offensive to look at. However, Brett stated, "It sends a message that one day these beaches will be open and this is not the case."
- F. Tables/Benches – Additional tables and benches have been put out at the beaches.
- G. Water Quality – Brett asked about the use of aeration devices in the lake to help combat blue-green algae. Maureen and Kathy Doherty said in their own research and understanding of the process, they don't think aeration would work in Lake Carmel due to its size. One problem is there is already phosphorous in the lake and preventing more from entering needs to be a priority. The retention pond at Cottage Road should be cleaned by the town. According to Kathy Doherty, the Lake District should not be paying for any of the maintenance of the retention ponds. It was brought up that residents are supposed to have their septic systems pumped every 5 years, but there is no one enforcing this law.

2. Fishing Derby

The derby was very successful. We have 38 participants and 13 or so additional fishing who didn't register to participate, but came down to enjoy the morning. Brett and Bobby did a great job!

3. Spillway

DEP upgraded the dam/spillway requirements. Insite had to recalculate the proposal. The town expects an update with recommendations soon. Kathy Doherty said that the dam/spillway should have been a priority for the town. She asked, "Why has it taken 4 years?" Paul said that we were at the end of the road with finalizing the plans for repairs.

4. Summer Festival

Albert is out with an injury so we will need another volunteer from the Parks or Highway Dept. to help at the event. Pat Johnson of the highway department will be asked.

5. Dock Issue

The issue with the dock on Teatown Road that is in complete disrepair will be added to the town board agenda. This dock needs to be taken down and the town has the authority to do so. This issue has been on the LCPDAB's agenda for approximately a year.

6. Comments

Resident Wally Reicher brought up that work needs to still be done on the walking path especially the painting of posts. It was mentioned that this and other items of concern to residents has been brought up at numerous meetings and is on an ongoing list that is shared to Liaison Paul Denbaum.

Motion made to close the meeting