

Lake Carmel Park District Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, November 14th, 2022
7:00 pm to 8:00 pm
Kent Town Hall
25 Sybil's Crossing, Kent Lakes, NY 10512

Call to Order with Pledge of Allegiance at 7:03pm

Board Members

Walter Recher, Chair/Absent
Jeanne Garbarino, Vice Chair/Present
Siobhan Carey/Present
Joe Fleischman/Absent
Jerri Jacobs/Present
Pat Madigan/Present
Joe Nemeth/Present
Robert Ulich/Present
Cathy Wargas/Present

Town Board Liaisons

Supervisor Jaime McGlasson/Present
Councilman Chris Ruthven/Present

Meeting Topics

1. Lake Manager report and recommendations

With the late in the season start of the lake manager, the contract was extended with no additional cost. We are looking to clarify on the effectiveness of drawdowns of the lake, use of data and best practices. A list of questions were drafted and will be sent to Princeton Hydro for clarification and information on how to best proceed.

2. Newsletter

We would like to bring information about the advisory board and most importantly, information to residents who have never lived in a lake community. Discussion and suggestions on how best to do this. Mail Chimp – digital email, what content to offer, how to offer it, printed 1 of 2 times per year, by mail, or have newsletters at local businesses. We will discuss further at the next workshop 11/21/22. We would like to use innovative ways to engage and educate the community members. Many are new to the area.

3. Fall/Winter Event Planning – Tree Lighting/Holiday on the Lake, Home Decorating Awards

The annual Tree Lighting/Holiday on the Lake is set for December 4, 2022. Discussion about a Menorah was started. Home decorating awards and the process was also discussed. The details will be discussed at the workshop and information will be out to the community soon.

4. LCPDAB Board Leadership for 2023

Walter Recher will Chair, Jeanne Garbarino will Vice-Chair

5. Liaisons: Offseason lake work recommendations

Councilman Ruthven shared that new lifeguard chairs made of recycled plastic will be purchased to replace the wooden chairs that need continual maintenance each year. They may also replace some of the benches – those with concrete sides, which may be sold at auction to recoup some of the cost towards the replacements.

6. Liaisons: Ordering and Planting Trees and Shrubs

Councilman Ruthven stated we will continue with the Trees for Tribes both from the DEC and the County Soil & Water Committee. It was noted that a large percentage of the plantings are thriving.

Public Comment

Information on the award for the walking path will be announced at the Town of Kent board meeting on January 15, 2023. There was discussion about the Lake Carmel Community Center and the plan on how to proceed with the building now that the insurance claim for the water damage was received, the funds in the budget will be added to that. There was discussion on whether to bond the project and what it will look like. There will be a need for asbestos removal and demolition. There is a current Community Center Board of Directors with 3 active members.

A member of the public, new to Lake Carmel asked why the lake was so low.

- The response was that the lake has always been drawn down and that the outflow stream (adjacent Beach# 3) is part of the Middle Branch Croton River flowing to the Middle Branch Reservoir. They will be looking to learn how beneficial it is going forward. Currently it is to help mitigate plant growth, helps with the accumulation of snow melt into spring, it uncovered garbage, it was noted there is an air conditioner and a bicycle in the lake at beach 7. The community should also know we have an excellent sanitation department and there is no need to try and unload items this way.

Meeting adjourned at 7:47pm by Pat Madigan and Siobhan Carey