



CANDLEWOOD LAKE AUTHORITY

P.O. BOX 37 • SHERMAN, CONNECTICUT 06784-0037 • (860) 354-6928 • FAX (860) 350-5611

Minutes of Regular Meeting August 9, 2017

Attending:

P. Schaer	Sherman
G. Linkletter	Sherman
D. Cushnie	Sherman
J. Murphy	Brookfield
W. Lohan	Brookfield
M. Toussaint	New Milford
C. Robinson	Danbury
D. Rosemark	Danbury (electronic)
J. Hodge	New Fairfield (electronic)
J. Main	New Fairfield

Absent:

P. Eng	New Milford
E. Siergiej	Danbury
B. Brown	Brookfield
J. Wodarski	New Milford
J. Keating	New Fairfield

F. Frattini, CLA Administrative Coordinator

M. Howarth, CLA Public Education Director

CLAMP Officers – V. Vane, R. Barnard, R. Spielman and M. Rodgers (left after CLAMP/Pubic Safety)

Recorder: F. Frattini

Guests:

- G. Slomba, *Town Tribune*
- K. Gucker, Danbury
- S. Slater, Selectman, Brookfield
- Mary and Kevin, Danbury
- D. Arconti, State Rep. (left after CLAMP/Pubic Safety)
- A. Hirsch, Atty (left after CLAMP/Pubic Safety)
- C Tessitore, Atty (left after CLAMP/Pubic Safety)

Chairman, Phyllis Schaer, called the regular meeting of the Candlewood Lake Authority to order at 7:37 P.M. at Brookfield Town Hall, Brookfield, CT. She welcomed the guests.

Public Comment: Mike Rodgers, who had been a past CLA New Milford delegate, CLA Vice Chairman and Chairman and now is a member of the Lake Patrol spoke to the delegates noting in a past CLA publication “Past Present and Future” it talks about how all the Towns are supportive of the 1983/84 role of the CLA’s Water Quality controls. He read the July minutes and saw comments from the public that show appreciation of all the time and hard work that the CLA devotes to Candlewood Lake. He wanted to add his comments:

“I was truly motivated by the comments made by McCartney and Gucker at the last meeting. I think it is important for more people to show their support of the CLA. As a past delegate, Vice Chair and then Chairman, I worked hard through the 80’s and 90’s to help the CLA work for the betterment of the lake and surrounding communities. As to the two folks said last month, it is NOT a political organization – the CLA is an independent team that works to take

care of a common resource that all five towns enjoy and benefit from. As someone now living in a town other than one of the five towns I can attest to the fact that hundreds of other people use the lake (outside of the five towns) who also have vested interests in the lake. The five towns also benefit economically from all who use and enjoy the lake. I have many friends in the town of New Fairfield and my sister lived there for many years. I think New Fairfield needs to take a fresh look at those not serving the best interest of their town and the lake. I would also like to see the good volunteer energy used to move the CLA forward vs continuously pulled backwards and discredited by a couple of misguided souls in New Fairfield"

Mary from Danbury commented on her previous buoy request for Dike's Point that she had presented to the CLA at the June meeting and asked why the request was denied by the committee. It was noted that the requested area was too narrow; there is an existing boating regulation for no wake speed of 100 ft. for boats and 200 ft. for PWC's from shore. Mary noted that maybe the buoys could be at the other (wider) end or possibly a sign placed on land as Lake George has done in similar situations. Discussion followed and Mrs. Schaer noted she would refer this back to the Public Safety Committee and she would be happy to work with Mary to resolve the issues. Mary asked that her proposal be attached to these minutes.

Ken Gucker welcomed Jeff Main as a perfect fit to the CLA as the new delegate from New Fairfield and he also spoke about the possibility of considering a deep drawdown this year as last year it was limited to shallow due to the Zebra Mussels in the Housatonic. Mr. Gucker asked can they go back to the every other year of deep drawdown? Discussion followed, Mr. Gucker noted timing of this past year's drawdown helpful but also recommended to encourage FirstLight that they do an effective deep drawdown this year as last year's scheduled Deep Drawdown was not done. Mrs. Schaer explained the process and timing of an effective drawdown noting that they will again have to access the Zebra Mussel threat from the Housatonic. Mr. Gucker added focus on what is best for the Lake.

Secretary's Report: Frances Frattini noted two corrections to the July minutes: First – The date of the meeting was July 12, 2017 not July 10 as noted on the minutes and on page 4 under Treasurer's report in budget transfers need to change the transfer of \$162.18 to Line #227 - Vehicle not #226 (vehicle was correct but the number was wrong), *Jerry Murphy made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 12, 2017 meeting as corrected, seconded by Mark Toussaint and voted with all in favor except John Hodge who abstained. Motion carried and minutes have been accepted as corrected*

Public Safety Committee/CLAMP

Chief Doug Vane reported that he and Captain Bernard met with Mr. and Mrs. Marshal, Brookfield residents, of Heart Smart of New Milford to accept the donation of two portable AED defibrillators for the CLAMP vessels and offered to train all that will be using them. They also donated two to the DEEP officers. He gave them a big thank you and said they are a great addition to the Lake Patrol. Public Awareness Committee had discussed a formal thank you to Heart Smart.

Chief Vane advised that three LPO's who were hired last year have moved up to Boat Captain. He also advised that there were some personnel issues but did not want to address them at this time.

Mrs. Schaer asked about the VHS service on the lake. Chief Vane advised that CLAP does monitor but service is very spotty and does not cover the whole lake. Also, she noted an issue with a boat renter out of Echo Bay who had an out-of-state Boater Education certificate. At Leadership Danbury, she had spoken with the new Danbury Police Chief who advised that he would be willing to have Danbury police officers serve on CLAMP – Chief Vane will give him a

call as there are a couple of former LPO's who are now Danbury Police officers. Jerry Murphy advised that he had started this conversation with Mayor Boughton and is happy see that there may be Danbury PD officers on the lake. Chief Vane will invite the Danbury Police Chief to the lake for a boat ride and discuss this, as they will be hiring for next season.

Chairman's Report: Phyllis Schaer, Chairman reported that the 2017 Audit is underway. She attended Leadership Danbury and Mark Howarth did a very good job representing the CLA and providing information on the history, economic and recreational value of Candlewood Lake.

The Executive Committee recommends the appointment of Doug Cushnie as Chairman of the Equipment and Facilities Committee to replace Ed Siergiej who will remain on the committee to provide his guidance and experience. *Jerry Murphy made a motion that Doug Cushnie be appointed Chairman of the Equipment/Facilities Committee, seconded by Chris Robinson and voted with all in favor.* Doug Cushnie is now Equip/Facilities Chairman.

Mrs. Schaer reported that a notice of "Proposed Final Decision" has been received on the FOIA complaint that had been filed by delegate John Hodge against the CLA and the FOI Commission is scheduled to act at their August 23, 2107 meeting. Mrs. Schaer advised Mr. Hodge that Mr. Marsicano had complied additional requested correspondence that was not sent via email and asked if he could pick it up, Mr. Hodge asked that it be mailed to his home.

Mrs. Schaer reported that she had contacted Duke University Nicholas School of the Environment regarding the search for a new Executive Director and found that they have a program where students are available to work on projects in related areas of research and study. She asked the Delegates to think about where this may fit in at the CLA maybe with GIS mapping, economic value of the lake, Aquatic Invasive species issues, plan a lake wide overlay zone etc.

She reported that New Milford has a program for a memorial tree or bench with plaque for Harold Mayer, passed a photo and asked about funding – she will speak with NM Park and Rec for more information and report back.

On the CO2 project, there is nothing to report except she has been speaking with Dr Kevin Kelly about possible involvement.

Vice Chairman's Report: Mark Toussaint noted he would report on the **HR committee** progress. The committee is working well together. Dan Rosemark and Mark Howarth are working on a collaborative platform where the committee will be able to share documents, résumés, etc. They are finalizing where the job posting will appear in print, such as the News Times, and on line sites. The committee has a project plan, timeline, and salary reviews for similar positions. Most importantly for tonight is the survey on moving forward for the overall direction of the CLA and new executive director. Survey will go live on line tomorrow and responses back by August 17th. The survey will be going to all delegates, local Town/City CEO's, Local elected officials, Inland Wetlands and Conservations Commission Chairs, DEEP contacts in fisheries, boating, water quality, etc., local lake related business i.e. marinas, FirstLight, staff and interested Citizen groups. Discussion followed. Why not extend the deadline? Timeline tight if hiring is planned for November. Why November? Need to advertise, review résumés, interviews, etc. Hope to have person on board to go through the budget process, and become comfortable with the CLA before the 2018 season. Mr. Toussaint noted he is trying to stay on schedule. They agreed to extend to Noon on August 24th as the next HR meeting is that evening to review the survey results.

Treasurer's Report: Bill Lohan, Treasurer, reported that the Audit is underway and should be completed by the end of August and our Auditor should be at the September 13th CLA Board meeting.

Mr. Lohan reported that for July income is 75% of budget. The Towns of Brookfield, New Fairfield, New Milford and Sherman paid appropriation in full; Danbury made their first quarterly payment for 85% of appropriations received. FirstLight Power has made their annual donation of \$50,000.00. Leaving fundraising, merchandise sales and sponsorships for the balance. Expenses year to date are Administration is at 6%, Equipment/Facilities 19%, Public Safety 20%, Public Awareness 11% and Watershed Management 5% making the total year to date expenditures 11.4% of the total. He noted that the Line #261 Capital Replacement Fund of \$10,000 has been transferred to the Capital Project Fund Account and now the total in that Fund is \$20,000.00.

George Linkletter made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report of Income and Expenses for the month ended July 31, 2017 as presented, seconded by Chris Robinson and voted with all in favor. Treasurer's report has been accepted and filed for Audit.

Public Education Director/Public Awareness Committee:

Mark Howarth, Public Education Director, noted his report is attached to these minutes. A few of the highlights: he participated in the EdAdvance one-day program on the lake on August 4th. Village Fair Days were a great two days, thank you to all the delegates who helped out, lots of people stopped at the booth to talk about the lake. He spoke to DEEP about the recent fish kill reports and they advised they are normal for this time of year. He presented at Leadership Danbury but boat rides were postponed due to bad weather. The Grass Carp Tracking Program presentation will be August 22 at WCSU. Last weekend he and LPO Dyson spoke at Birch Groves it was a good session and beautiful community. DEEP sponsored the recent "Clean, Drain and Dry Weekend" to help stop spread of aquatic invasives and the CLA tri-folds (Thank you to George Linkletter and Chris Robinson) were distributed at the State boat ramps. Zebra Mussel samples were collected and Larry Marsicano will analyze – Mrs. Schaer reported that no veligers were found in the samples. He is working on a process to have the Towns advise the CLA when a beach is closed for either Algae or Bacteria and then when it is opened.

Committee Reports:

Public Safety Committee: this was covered earlier with CLAMP

Equipment/Facilities: The new Committee Chair had nothing to report. Mrs. Schaer advised that she will keep the need for more buoys in mind for the next round of grants.

Public Awareness Committee: Chair George Linkletter thanked all delegates, spouses and former delegates for their participation at Village Fair Days. Good, very successful days. They are working on an online summer appeal. Public Awareness indicated topics for future articles: Public Safety- the AED's from Heart Smart; Boating Education -safety and courtesy issues and boating awareness. Plan to cover the installation of the Clean, Drain and Dry sign at the new ramp in New Milford on the Housatonic; and concentrate on Public Safety and Public Health concerns for the rest of the season.

Audience asked about on water boating instruction – advised that the Power Squadron does that and Mr. Howarth added that he would contact the Power Squadron to ask about this.

Watershed Management Committee: Mark Toussaint, Committee Chairman noted there was no July meeting but Mr. Howarth covered Blue Green Algae and Zebra Mussel testing. The July Water Quality sampling has been done and August will be done soon. In good shape on testing for this season.

HR Committee: Reported under Vice Chairman.

Old Business: Mrs. Schaer asked that the tabled item on Outside Employment of CLA Employees be referred to the HR committee. Discussion followed. Mr. Hodge noted that there needs to be clear guidelines on what is a conflict of interest, a definition of how and when it conflicts with the employees' position. Mr. Hodge noted that the full board needs to be advised and weigh in on any second job/outside employment of an employee. *Jerry Murphy made a motion to remove this item from the table and refer it to the HR committee, seconded by Bill Lohan, voted with all in favor.* Dan Rosemark advised that the HR committee has been tasked with finding a new Executive Director and should not take this up until that has been done. It was agreed that they would work on a definition of conflict of interest after hiring the new Executive Director.

New Business: Mark Toussaint noted that for meetings held at the CLA office it would be good to have dial-in capabilities and suggest that the CLA purchase a "Polycon or similar device" *Bill Lohan made a motion to spend up to five hundred (\$500.00) dollars to purchase a "Polycon or similar device" and to transfer from Line #119 Bank Fees to Line #115 Office Supplies, seconded by Jerry Murphy and voted with all in favor.*

Phyllis Schaer made motion to go into Executive session to discuss personnel responsibilities and compensation with two staff members, seconded by Bill Lohan and voted with all in favor. All guests left, employees and delegates those present and electronic went into Executive Session at 9:23PM. Recorder was turned off.

Recorder turned on and meeting resumed at 9:47PM.

Recommendations from the Executive Session:

Mark Toussaint moved that Mark Howarth will receive a 10% salary raise retroactive to July1, 2017 and additional temporary (ten month) compensation of \$500.00 per month for his expanded role and responsibilities.

Frances Frattini will have an additional one hundred fifty (150) hours and one (1-3day) additional week of vacation.

Seconded by Jerry Murphy and voted with all in favor.

With no further business to come before the Candlewood Lake Authority, *Chris Robinson moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Jerry Murphy, Meeting adjourned at 9:48 P. M.*

Respectfully submitted,

Jerry Murphy, Secretary
Frances Frattini, Administrative Coordinator

r/b/ps

These minutes are not considered official until they have been approved at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Candlewood Lake Authority



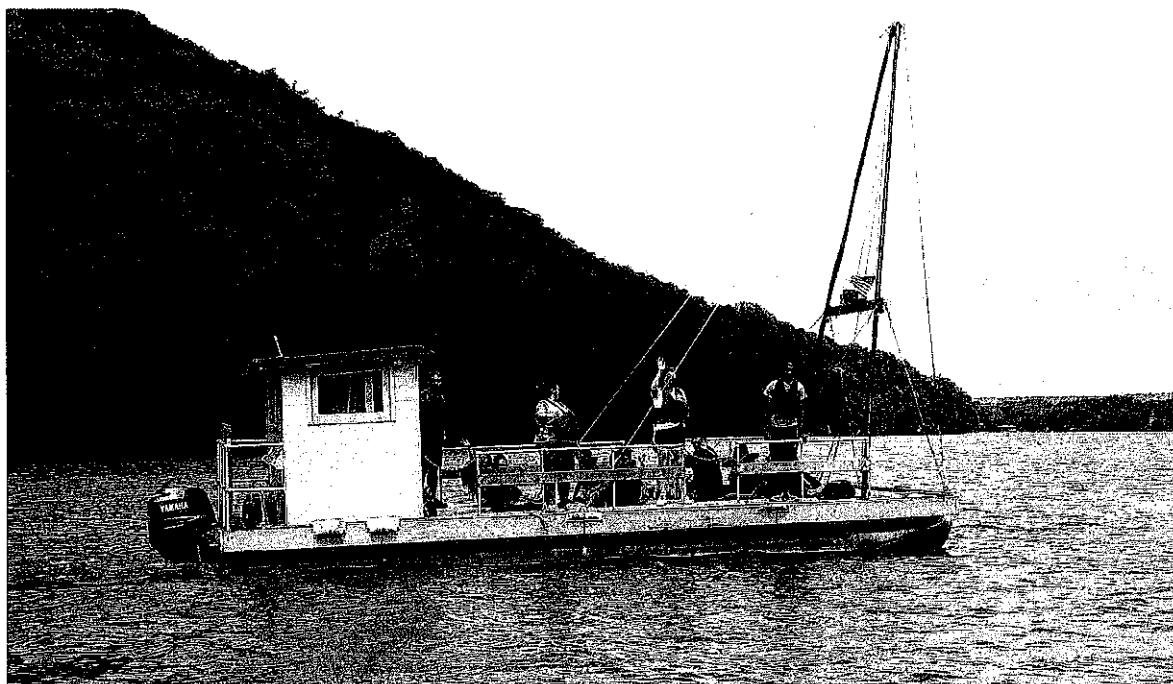
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August 9, 2017
Public Education
Mark Howarth

Ed Advance Program:

Earlier we had met with EdAdvance a couple of times to assist in planning the on-the-water portion of a program they were piloting called "Wow! The Wonders of Watersheds", which was the portion of the program the CLA was involved with. This was a program for 3rd through 5th graders from Waterbury and on Friday August 4th, two CLA boats, along with our volunteer boat (Bill Lohan), went down to Danbury Town Park to provide transportation for the students and staff. They traveled around the lake and learned about Candlewood and the watershed, looking for items on a list they all had, which then allowed us to engage them in conversation about those items.



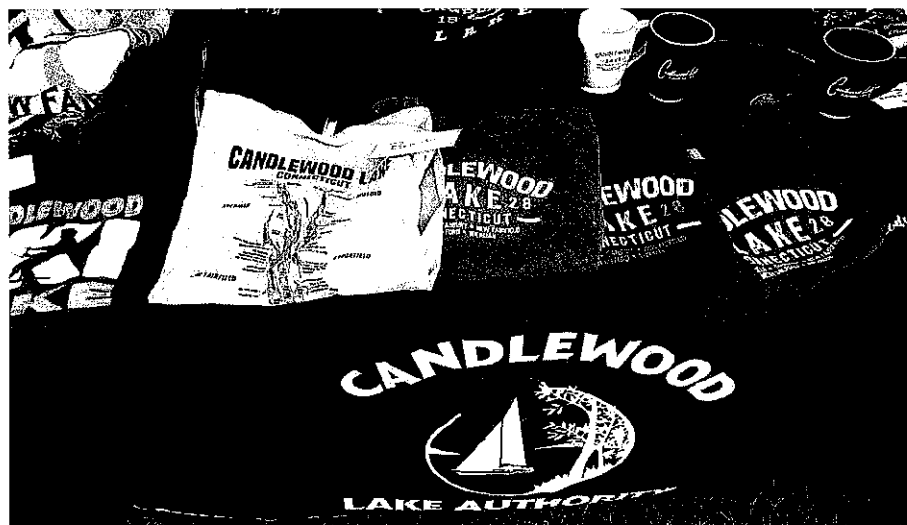
Village Fair Days:

In preparation for Village Fair Days, we designed and produced two new shirts and a new coffee mug, in addition to replenishing inventory in other current items.

The education side of our booth featured a number of materials we designed and created, in a tablet format like we did last year. Those 11x17 inch tablets had information on topics such as blue-green algae, the carp stocking program, the carp tracking program and maps, as well as others. Those tablets were on display for visitors to our booth to pick up and read, along with other educational materials and items.

Also on Saturday evening we had Jeff Dunkerton from the CLA Marine Patrol at the booth to answer public safety questions. Thank you to all who helped us out those two days.

The weather at the fair this year was great and we had a lot of visitors come by the booth, both to purchase t-shirts and other merchandise, as well as to learn about what we are doing and to speak with us further about Candlewood Lake. We met and interacted with many great people over the course of the two-day event.



Fish Kill Update:

Last month I reported that we had been getting calls and emails from residents, in mid-June, that they were seeing fish kills. We reported that information to the CT DEEP Inland Fisheries Division and they felt it may have been due to spawning and the sudden warm up after an unusually cool spring. I also noted that some reports were still coming in to us in early July and that we were in touch with DEEP Inland Fisheries again and that they were going to discuss it.

We did hear back from DEEP a couple of days later in mid-July and they said that they had not received any reports from the tournament anglers, who would normally notify them if spring mortality was usually high, and that their opinion was that the fish mortality we were seeing was within the normal bounds for this time of year, and that things should subside soon.

The last few weeks we have received no reports of any further fish kills.

Leadership Danbury:

On July 27th we presented at Leadership Danbury, a Danbury Chamber of Commerce event. With me in attendance were Phyllis Schaer and Jerry Murphy.

The event consisted of a lunch at Down the Hatch, followed by the CLA presenting to those in attendance. We had anticipated Phyllis and Jerry being able to take people out on the lake on their boats following the presentation, however storms were in the forecast, so we offered to provide a rain date for those who wish to still get out on the lake.

2017 Carp Tracking Presentation:



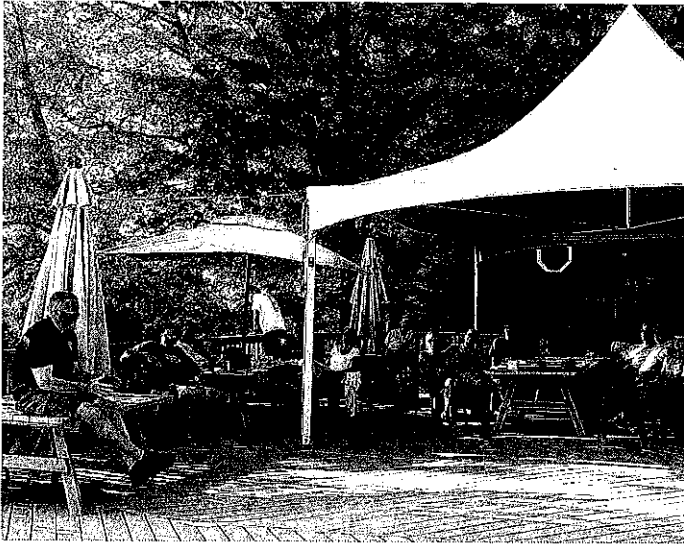
Luke Mueller and Emily Van Vlack, who have been working with Dr. Theodora Pinou of Western Connecticut State University this summer, have completed their fish tracking for the season and they will be presenting their information to the public on August 22nd at Western Connecticut State University. All are encouraged to attend.

The presentation will be held in room 125 in the Science

Building in the Midtown Campus at 7pm.

Luke and Emily's blogs about their work this summer can be found at www.candlewoodlakeauthority.org/adoptacarp

Birch Groves Association Meeting:



On the evening of August 5th, we were invited to speak at the Birch Groves Association's meeting. Henry Dyson from the CLA Marine Patrol and I went to speak to those in attendance that evening.

We enjoyed our time there and covered topics such as blue-green algae, milfoil – including the grass carp, zebra mussels and public safety, among others.

Thank you to the Birch Groves Association for inviting us to take part in your meeting and allowing

us to come speak about lake topics and answer your questions.

Clean Drain Dry Weekend – July 14/15:

In support of the State of Connecticut's Clean Drain Dry weekend, we provided 600 of the CLA's new "Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers" trifold brochures for distribution to incoming boaters at the two State of CT boat ramps, in addition to the ramp monitor at the Danbury town ramp.

Zebra Mussel Sampling:

On August 4th, I went out and collected concentrated water samples to be analyzed by Larry Marsicano for the presence of zebra mussel veligers.

We plan to continue to sample for zebra mussel veligers at the mouth of the aqueduct in New Milford every couple of weeks this summer.



Blue-Green Algae Toxin Test Results to Date:

For reference, below is a compilation of the results from WCSU's blue-green algae toxin tests, to date, for the year. Shown are the results from the five town parks on Candlewood, plus Squantz Pond State Park.

	June 29	July 6	July 13	July 20	July 27	August 3
Danbury TP	0.526	0.442	0.122	0.390	0.181	0.884
Brookfield TP	0.340	0.697	0.345	0.461	0.369	0.667
New Milford TP	0.416	0.367	0.227	0.434	0.596	0.753
New Fairfield TP	0.398	0.300	0.354	0.433	0.643	0.645
Sherman TP	0.323	0.457	0.442	0.605	0.545	0.487
Squantz SP	0.216	0.423	0.172	0.176	0.522	0.641

***Note: On 6/30 Sherman Town Park was experiencing a bloom. A sample was taken from the bloom, analyzed and the results came back at 4.7 ppb.** Following this testing date, the State of CT sent us notice that they were revising their guidance down from 15 parts per billion to 4 parts per billion for the microcystin toxin is being tested for, which reflects recent EPA Recreational guidance.

Health Departments / Beach Closures:

We have been in touch with the health departments of the five towns and we are working to implement a process whereby if they close their beaches due to blue-green algae or bacteria, that they inform us here at the CLA in addition to notifying us when the beach reopens.

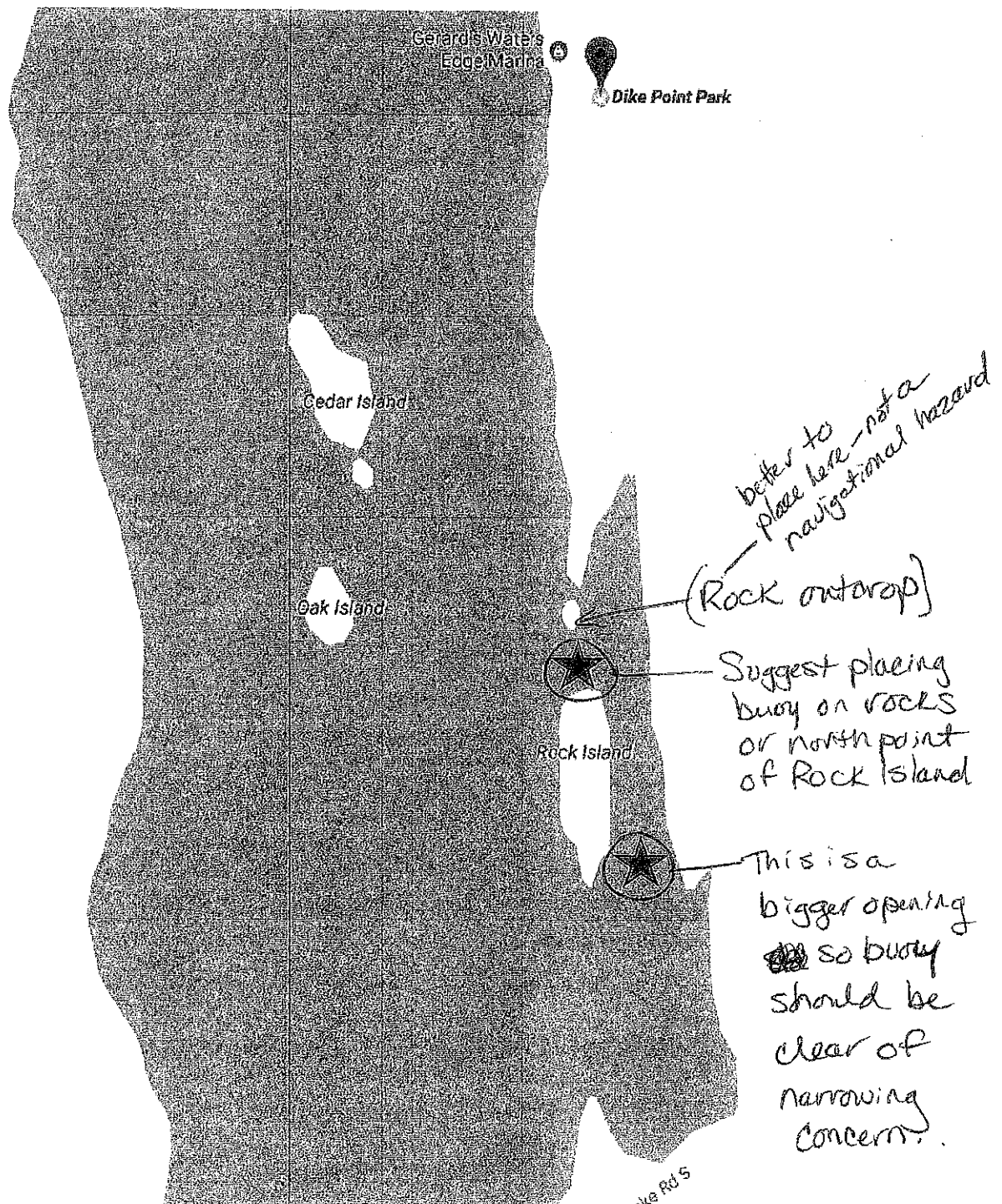
This will help us to better respond to public inquiries we receive via the phone, as well as those which we receive via Facebook or other electronic means outside of normal business hours.

REQUEST FOR INSTALLATION OF SLOW-NO-WAKE BUOY AT BOTH ENTRANCES TO "DIKE'S COVE" AS MARKED BY =



Reason for Request: some boat (all sizes and styles) traffic throughout day and night do not respect the slow-no-wake within 100 feet of shore or anchored vessel regulation, let alone jet skis within 200 feet of shore or anchored vessel. This happens especially during early mornings or late evenings when only a few vessels are anchored in the cove and the temptation seems greatest to do a buzz through. These wakes are causing shoreline damage as well as to other vessels let alone risk of injury to a swimmer. These buoys will not impede upon the main lake traffic.

Example of Success: Examples of other buoys that work for such situations are for "Hollywyle" and "Latins Cove".



Thank you.