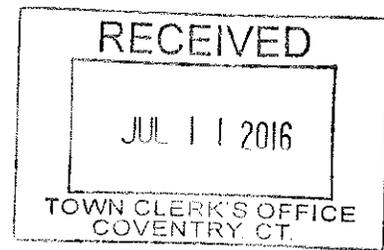


Coventry Lake Advisory & Monitoring Committee
Tuesday, July 5, 2016
Regular Meeting Minutes
Town Hall Building



Call to Order – A regular meeting of the Coventry Lake Advisory & Monitoring Committee was called to order on Tuesday, July 5, 2016 at 7:02 p.m. in the Town Hall Annex by Chair Debby Zeppa. Other members present were Charlie Brown, Jr., Linda Comeau, Scott Gallo and Jerry Zak. Absent were Jack Clausen and Leslie Shor.

Secretary's Report – Scott Gallo moved to accept the minutes of the June 7, 2016 meeting. The motion was seconded by Linda Comeau and the minutes were approved.

Audience of citizens – Dr. Robert Kortmann was in attendance to share his assessment of the CT DEEP's decision to chemically treat the Hydrilla found in Coventry Lake. He shared that DEEP has decided not to use benthic barriers, and will instead be chemically treating about 9 acres of lake area where the Hydrilla was found. He explained this treatment will kill back the Hydrilla but will not eradicate it as the chemical will not reach the root-like structures that are used by the plant to reproduce. However, many other aquatic plants in the treatment area, including the native plants, will also likely be killed off. Dr. Kortmann made it clear he agrees the Hydrilla should be treated, but he is not a proponent of the treatment method as he has concerns regarding the impact the mass die off of vegetation may have on the water quality as well as ecologically. The treatment is currently scheduled for the end of July. Dr. Kortmann feels any impacts from the die off of vegetation would likely have less of an effect if the treatment was postponed until after Labor Day when the temperature is cooler and the lake begins to "turn over" and become less stratified. He mentioned there are other CT lakes, including Rogers Lake in Old Lyme which is of similar water quality to Coventry Lake, scheduled to be chemically treated for invasive plants this week, and recommends the treatment of Coventry Lake be postponed at least until any effects of the treatments on these lakes are measured.

New Business – none

Old Business –

Hydrilla – D. Zeppa reported CT DEEP is planning a public information meeting this July, date to be determined, to provide details on how the Hydrilla will be treated. Committee members will plan to have questions ready to address concerns brought up by Dr. Kortmann.

Flyboards – No update in regards to plans for a second environmental impacts study this summer.

Lake Awareness Month – G. Bugbee of the CAES will conduct a workshop on Hydrilla/Invasive plants on July 13th at the Patriots Park Community Center. Lake Awareness banners are now being displayed in town.

Eastern Highlands health district weekly bathing water quality results – The committee decided it was unnecessary for the committee to ask to keep the reports for historical records.

September Lake Forum - Committee members discussed whether an additional speaker was needed, and decided CT DEEP may be an option to ask to speak on the progress of the Hydrilla treatment.

Lake Management Plan – The committee discussed ideas for possible next steps. It was suggested that the group discussions from the lake management plan workshop on May 18th at Patriot's Park should be added to the Issues and Potential Actions section of the Lake Management Plan.

Correspondence/Communications – none

Members Forum – none

Adjournment – There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

Respectively submitted,



Charles Brown, Jr.,
Secretary, Coventry Lake Advisory & Monitoring Committee

These minutes are not official until approved by the Committee at its next meeting.