

Minutes of Meeting  
Lake Topanemus Park Commission

Wednesday, May 17, 2023  
Borough Hall  
30 Mechanic Street  
Freehold, New Jersey 07728

---

- Call to Order / Statement of Compliance Meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm with the Open Public Meetings Act.

- Roll Call

Commissioners

Present:

Roger Kane  
Edward Daley  
Kirk Tibbett  
Bob Higley  
Joe Luongo  
Chris Kean  
Greg Jewell

Absent:

Mike Phillips

Secretary: Lisa Tiedemann

Guests: Michael DiBenedetto, Jim Lau and Bill Degnan

- Review of minutes from April 19, 2023.

Motion to accept the minutes as presented made by Commissioner Loungo, seconded by Commissioner Daley. All in favor.

- Correspondence –

- Request use of the park on May 20<sup>th</sup> by the Western Monmouth Democratic Caucus.
- Request use of the park on September 9<sup>th</sup> 2:00pm-4:pm by Freehold Borough Recreation.
- Request use of the park May 20<sup>th</sup> for a private family party and insurance rider received – Lori Hynes.
- Letter received from Carlo Castranova complimenting the Commission on how beautiful the park is looking, he requested purchasing one of the paddle boats that is currently out of commission behind the shed. Discussion of the condition of the boat, another offer to buy the boat, requesting an offer vs setting a price. Communication with Mr. Castranova to respond to his request will be made by Commissioner Kane.
- Email from Freehold Township Administration requesting information about the paddle boat rentals starting at the end of the month.

- Treasurer's report –

- Commissioner Luongo reported a balance as of May 17, 2023 of \$5,459.71, recurring monthly expenses \$266.00 toilet rental, \$50.00 secretarial expense and addition expenses for \$60.26, invoice for doggie bags, \$60.26 invoice for paint, and purchase of shirts \$324.00 need approval.

Motion to accept report as presented and approval of expenses made by Commissioner Higley, Seconded by Commissioner Jewell. All in favor.

- Old Business –
  - Lake Restoration – Commissioner Kean reported that Princeton Hydro is 99% done with their report.
- Projects for 2023
  - Fishing Pier – Commissioner Daley reported that he will contact Mike Sweetman from Freehold Borough to secure a date he can order the pier. A visit to the company to see the pier and reported that it is very sturdy and can be left in the water through the winter.
  - Restoration of lake banks – Commissioner Tibbet reported that he received a quote from One Clarion for the biologs. 16”-\$16,405.00 and 20”-\$20,405.00. He requested Mike DiBenedetto check with Steve Gallo for a grant.
  - Osprey Nest – Commissioner Daley has a volunteer with a bucket truck in order to assist. This project has been added to the work day list.
  - Picnic areas – Commissioner Kane reported the grills are in the shed and this will also be added to the work day list.
  - Website – No report at this time.
- New Business –
  - Report with visual inspection from 1/21/22 was received from Monmouth County stating the dam was fair and needed maintenance, recommendations were included.
  - Commissioner Kane stated that the borough will need to bring in barricades for the party on May 20<sup>th</sup> and the electricity checked.
  - Work day scheduled for May 20<sup>th</sup>, June 3<sup>rd</sup> and June 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Commissioners Report-
  - Commissioner Higley – Welcomed Jim Lau, and requested time for meeting up for the parade.
  - Commissioner Kean – Requested removal of the old stage locating near the boat ramp be added to the work day project.
  - Commissioner Tibbett – Requested approval for widening the boat ramp launch area to make it 10”. Will be added to work day project.
  - Commissioner Daley – Requested confirmation that Monmouth County has accepted full responsibility for the dam maintenance and reports. And asked where the addition of Carp to the lake stands after receiving approval of the \$150,000.00 grant money.
  - Commissioner Luongo – No report at this time.
  - Commissioner Jewell – Reported he met with another prospective bench purchaser, waiting on the plaque to be made.
- Volunteers Reports –
  - Bill Degnan – No report at this time.
  - Jim Lau – Reported he is glad to be back and is available to help.
  - Mike DiBenedetto – Reported that a donation was received for the park and requested a thank you be sent to Sharon Stone.
- Public Comments – No report at this time.
- Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm  
Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Commissioner Luongo, seconded by Commissioner Tibbett. All in favor.