

Lake Chaffee Annual Meeting - August 20, 2023

Meeting Minutes - DRAFT

Date of Meeting : August 20, 2023

Board Members Present:

Marty Connors, Phil Silverstein, Jerry Dufresne, Carol Natitus, Seth Kaufman, Linda Roy, Irwin Krieger, Mary Griffin. *(Bill Cameron arrived after votes on 1.a., Seating Alternates and 2., Approval of Minutes from previous Annual Meeting, but before the vote on lowering the lake.)*

Board Members Absent:

Tom Martin, Chris Fyler, Lynn Fontaine, Mike Panek

Public in Attendance:

Nancy Raymond, Kim Richards, Zachary Scoular, Linda Gorel, Marilyn Richards, John & Margaret Szydluk, Tom Covelle, Ralph Sherman, Jennifer Dillon, Kathleen Powers, Pat Howard, Bill Cameron (late arrival).

1. Call to Order:

Marty Connors called the meeting to order at 11:14 AM

1.a. Seating of alternates.

Irwin Krieger and Mary Griffin volunteered to serve as alternates.

Marilyn Richards made a motion to seat the alternates, seconded by Kathleen Powers, passed unanimously by voice vote.

2. Approval of Minutes:

Copies of the minutes from the July 16, 2023 Annual Meeting for the Election of Officers were distributed to everyone in attendance.

No amendments were identified. Kathleen Power moved that the Minutes be accepted as written, seconded by Marilyn Richards. In a voice vote there were 18 votes for acceptance, no votes for not accepting, and one abstention.

3. Remarks by the President/ Discussion of Lowering the Lake/ Public Comments.

Marty Connors shared with the audience an overview of the following points, followed by a lively and thorough discussion:

- Benefits and potential Detriments to a draw-down of the lake.
- Procedure for starting and stopping the siphon, and approximate timing.
- Why Lake Chaffee uses a siphon versus replacing the valve in the dam.
- Advantages and disadvantages to longer versus shorter duration of drawdown.
- Advantages and disadvantages to deeper versus shallower depth of drawdown.

44 At that point the floor was opened to questions and comments from the residents. There were
45 many questions and an active, lively discussion regarding many points and requests. Some of
46 the questions and preferences that were discussed included :

- 47 • How long would the lake lowering last?
- 48 • When would it begin, and when it would it end?
- 49 • How high will the lake be refilled to?
- 50 • Why don't we replace the valve in the dam?
- 51 • An overview of assembly, running the siphon, and disassembly was provided.
- 52 • What are the disadvantages of lowering the lake?
- 53 • Importance of cleaning out leaves, acorns, weeds, branches and other materials.
- 54 • The typical date range is to begin the draining between 10/15 and 11/1.
- 55 • There was at least one request to begin the draining earlier in October, and to lower as
56 far as possible to allow repairs to be made to the erosion of the seawall base which had
57 been neglected by the previous owner.

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59 **4. Vote on Lowering the Lake**

60 Marty Connors asked the audience if there were any more comments, and if they were ready to
61 hold the vote on lowering the lake. He received a unanimously positive response. Following
62 that, he requested a motion to vote on lowering the lake, at which time Kathleen Powers made
63 the following motion "LCIA lower the level of Lake Chaffee during the Autumn of 2023." That
64 motion was seconded by Marilyn Richards. A vote was conducted by voice and a count of
65 hands. The result was 19 in favor of lowering the lake and none opposed; with one abstention
66 (Seth Kaufman).

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68 After further discussion, it was informally agreed that the lake should be lowered by 3 feet,
69 beginning in early to mid-October. Marty Connors agreed to pick a Saturday in that date range,
70 and notify Association members via the Lake Community Facebook page.

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72 **5. Old Business**

73 Gerry Dufresne remarked that a tree at the boat launch area had finally been removed on
74 Saturday August 19th. If anyone wants to take some for firewood, they should feel free to take
75 it.

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77 **6. New Business**

78 Mary Griffin announced the following events:

- 79 • There will be a Paint Party on Wednesday as the next fund-raising event. She displayed
80 the scene that everyone would be painting. There will be a \$20 fee to participate. BYOB.
- 81 • September 10 at 4 PM there will be a New England Barn Dance. Great Fun – one of our
82 members is a caller who donates his time

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84 A question was raised regarding the proposed location of the play scape, being behind Pirzl
85 Hall, rather than at the Main Beach. Mary explained that this issue was originally raised with
86 regard to the need to avoid obstructing access to the septic system for Pirzl Hall. That issue has

87 been resolved, and the original vote of the Board of Directors that the Playscape would be
88 located behind Pirzl Hall remains in place.

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90 A resident who lives near the Boat Dock raised a question regarding some Ash trees that are on
91 her property, and others that are on LCIA property at the Boat Dock. She stated that she
92 intended to treat her Ash trees against the Ash Borer insect, and requested permission to treat
93 the LCIA ash trees at the same time. She was willing to cover the cost for treating all the trees
94 at one time. No objections were raised by the Environmental Chair person or the Boat Dock
95 Chairperson, and so permission was given.

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97 A resident raised a concern regarding times of Annual Meetings (11:00 AM), and if it would be
98 possible to hold these meetings at a later time. Seth Kaufman addressed the concern with an
99 explanation of the past difficulties in choosing a time for Sunday meetings, which allayed the
100 resident's concerns.

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102 **7. Correspondence**

103 There was no new correspondence to discuss.

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105 **8. Adjournment**

106 At 11:55 AM, Jerry Dufresne moved that the meeting adjourn, seconded by Kathleen Powers, and
107 approved unanimously by voice vote.

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