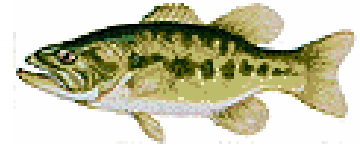




**Lakes Commission Meeting
September 15, 2009
7:30 p.m.**



Bob Blameuser	Lake Potomac	Greg Koenig	Village at Large
Jim Cousineau	Lake Linden	Jim O'Neal	Village at Large
Tom Heinrich	Lake Springledge	Tony Skwerski	Village at Large
Ken Funk	Lake Waterford	Matt Formica	Village Administrator
Kathy Georgen	Village at Large	Renee Metzelaar	Village Trustee
Glenn Green	Village at Large	Jim Stout	LPD Liaison

bold = present

I. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 7:30pm

II. Roll Call

Members of the Lakes Commission were present as indicated in bold above.

III. Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the July 21st meeting were reviewed. Jim O. made a motion to approve the meeting minutes. It was seconded by Glenn. The motion carried unanimously.

IV. Special Presentation: Living with Wildlife – Coyotes

Lake County Forest Preserve Wildlife Biologist, Tim Preuss gave an excellent presentation on his research using tracking collar telemetry to study the habits of coyotes in Lake County, including his insight into the ecology and management of coyotes in urban areas.

Some interesting points from the talk:

- Coyotes are afraid of humans - you can scare one off by acting aggressively toward it.
- Their diet normally consists of rodents, carrion, goose eggs, geese and fruit. They usually opt for their natural diet, but if food is scarce, they may hunt down cats and small dogs.
- To keep them out of your yard, refrain from feeding pets outside, keep your garbage container closed and secure, and don't feed the birds as this attracts rodents.

If residents see a coyote and want it removed, they should call the Ill. Dept. of Natural Resources (IDNR) at 847-608-3100. If they have questions about coyotes, they can call the Lake County Forest Preserves and talk to a biologist (847-367-6640), but the Forest Preserve system is not set up to remove the animals.

V. Communications and Correspondence

- Seasonal flu shots will be available to the Commissioners on Oct 8th (talk to Karen by Sept 18th).
- 25th Annual ILMA Conference is scheduled close to home in 2010. It will be held March 3-5, at the Holiday Inn Select, 1801 Naper Blvd. Naperville, IL 60563. Commissioners are encouraged to go, but there is no budget to pay for registration.

- A few phone calls and emails have been received regarding the fish kill on Lake Potomac. Thanks to Lake Potomac resident, Jim Wido, for his observation of the problem and quick communication. Several communications have taken place with the Lake County Health Depart. Lakes Management Unit (LCHD LMU) and IDNR which will be reflected in later discussions. In addition, a call was received from a Lake Waterford resident concerning the blue-green algae bloom.

VI. Old Business

- Lindenfest parade review – A special thanks to Commissioner Jim C. for the suggestion that we participate in the parade and making our participation a success. Five commissioners participated and handed out literature.
- High Point shoreline maintenance – Glenn G. reported that fisherman are making paths through the demonstration area and suggested that the park district put wood chips on a couple of those paths to limit the destruction of our plantings. Weeds are taking over and commissioners are encouraged to find time to go pull a few.
- Guest Usage Policy – Commissioners should continue to challenge people using the lakes, but we will defer this discussion to winter meetings.

VII. New Business

- Lake Potomac – Fish Kill, IDNR survey and recommendations
Lake Potomac suffered a fish kill on July 23rd and 24th. Historically, there was a fish kill on March 30, 2006 and again last winter. Ken reviewed the timeline of events related to the fish kill which occurred this summer on July 23rd and 24th. The details have been posted on our web site since July 27th. The Village responded and visited the site immediately.

Lyle Erickson, McCloud Aquatic Services attended our meeting to answer concerned resident questions. He shared his data and conclusions related to his visit to Lake Potomac on July 23rd and again July 27th. The DO (dissolved oxygen) levels just before and just after the “kill” were high.

Lyle’s report: Thursday, 7/23, the lake had great clarity. According to Commissioner Bob B, who observed the lake shortly after the kill was reported, it was cloudy. Lyle said that was indicative of a bacterial bloom. In a normal summer, 10-12 lakes report bacteria issues, but this year, he has seen a huge increase (his list is 2.5 pages long). The spring had more rain than usual and the July temperatures were below normal. He noted that tadpoles died in the kill, another clue that bacteria were involved since they are air breathers. By Monday the lake clarity was much better. He concluded that the bacteria most likely were the cyanobacteria blue-green algae, which is toxic to fish.

Ken shared additional information from biologists Mike Adam and Frank Jakubicek:

Mike Adam, Senior Biologist, LCHD LMU came to Lake Potomac on Monday afternoon (the 27th) and reported these findings via email on Tuesday the 28th:

“I stopped by the lake yesterday ~2PM and found readings similar to what Lyle reported; DO ~8-9 mg/L, pH ~9.5, water temp ~26C. All the dead fish I saw were bluegill, no bass or other species. I think it would be a good thing to get IDNR out there again to assess the fishery. Our records show they were last out there in 1998.

Do you know where and how much treatment Lyle did last week? After just seeing bluegill (and a few frogs) I don't suspect a DO issue, but it would be interesting to see the treatment records. Also if anyone is seeing other species we would like to know that as well.

It could be the result of a number of factors, but viral or bacterial are leading suspects. I pulled a water sample near the shore along the north side and took a look under our scope. I did see a few blue-green algae (*Microcystis* sp.) and a few mobile green algae, but nothing dense enough to suspect algal toxins.

By the way, as I approached the lake, numerous frogs scattered along the shoreline, so there is some life in there.”

Michael Adam, M.S.
Senior Biologist
Lake County Health Department

In an email received from Frank Jakubicek, Fisheries Biologist, Lake County IDNR prior to the survey he said:

“I've seen a bunch of bacterial fish kills following spawning in early June and one that occurred as late as mid July. Last summer Lake Zurich had a significant bacteria-caused carp die-off. These tend to be species specific and are generally size specific. The bacteria causing that die-off was *Aeromonas* sp. In Long Lake 4" - 5" bluegill and common carp died, and in Bangs Lake 7"-8" bluegill and some crappie died (2007). Slocum Lake had several years of carp die-offs, probably all related to *Aeromonas*.”

Frank Jakubicek, Fisheries Biologist, Lake County IDNR

All the biologists concur that the unusual weather pattern this summer has resulted in significant changes to all the area lakes.

IDNR Survey: Since Lake Potomac had a winter kill followed by this current fish kill, Ken requested that the IDNR survey the fish population. On September 2nd Frank, Vic Santucci and Scott Bartell surveyed Lake Potomac by electro-fishing. The results are posted on our web site. There are some remaining adult bluegills spawning as evidenced by the observation of schools of young of the year (YOY) bluegill. Three adults were stunned and released. There was one small largemouth bass released. They also reported that just north of us, both Deer and White lakes suffered fish kills and were surveyed, showing no fish present at all.

Lyle E. tested and treated all the lakes on September 2nd as well. He reported very high DO levels for Lake Potomac and Lake Waterford.

IDNR Recommendation: Frank and his team recommended that we accept the fact that Lake Potomac will continue to suffer winter fish kills. They recommend stocking the lake each spring following fish kills with 50 (3-5 inch) bluegills per acre and 25 (4-6 inch) largemouth bass or 100 (2 inch) largemouth bass per acre if the larger bass are not available.

The Lake County Soil & Water Conservation District has an order deadline of October 16th for an October 24th delivery of fish. Greg K. told us that there is no budget for stocking lakes this year. Matt will look into getting \$1000 to buy fish, but Lyle recommended that we wait until spring since there is usually a winter kill.

- Lake Potomac – state of the lake

Residents told the committee that the lake quality is bad. The level of muck is building, creating bad smells, which some feel affects the value of their homes. Bob has researched what can be done and told the residents what he found. He has looked into a company that uses pillows to take up the muck. That would cost about \$400,000 and an additional cost for disposal of the muck. The Village has no budget for lake restoration.

Residents offered suggestions:

- Put a fountain in the center to aerate the water. Lyle explained that the fountains only affect a small radius and the lake would need several of them. The muck will cause issues with the mechanics of the fountains since they have to be put into it.
- Dredge the lake. When the commission looked into this around 10 years ago, it was about \$1,000,000 then.
- Dredge the lake in sections to be more affordable. Lyle said that the muck would slide into the dredged sections, negating the work.
- Fill it in. The issue with this is that the smell could get worse as the lake becomes marshy.
- Look into grants to pay for the work. Kathy has looked into grants and most are either very small or have to be matched by the Village.
- The commission previously looked into spreading barley and learned that it will not work on our lakes.

Bob offered to organize a group of the residents to work on a proposal for restoring the lake. They will present it at the next meeting.

- Lake Reports:

Since Lyle was with us he gave us a report on each of the other lakes.

Waterford – Ken reported the most serious blue-green algae bloom from the end of August through the Labor Day week which is finally subsiding following Lyle's treatment on Sept 2nd. We have a bumper crop of sago pond weed, water star grass and what could be leafy, small or flat stem pond weed.

Linden – There were a lot of plants in the north lobe of the lake.

Springledge – This lake is showing more plant diversity.

Janega Park – Jim S. Carp have been seen already and Jim C. offered to set a few traps in Lake Linden and Lake Waterford to trap some fish and use them to stock the Janega Park ponds.

VIII. Staff Reports and Future Agenda Items

Because there is so much that we have to discuss, Ken suggested that we add a meeting in October. Glenn made a motion to meet on the third Tuesday in October (the 20th); it was seconded by Bob. Commissioners approved the motion unanimously.

IX. Public Participation

A number of Lake Potomac residents attended the meeting. Public participants are listed in Appendix I.

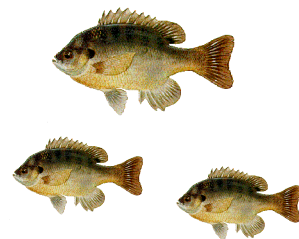
X. Adjournment

A motion was made by Jim C. to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Kathy. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Georgen, Recording Secretary

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 20, 2009



APPENDIX I

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
Richard Reimers	609 Federal Pkwy
MJ Neveauv	739 Federal Pkwy
William & Mary Stow	731 Federal Pkwy
Joanna Bugel	715 Federal Pkwy
Terry & George Watt	709 Federal Pkwy
Flavius & Linnette Potopsiovah	764 Beck Rd
Marilyn & Ron Diehl	510 Whispering Pines Rd
Tony Stochmal	2380 Federal Pkwy
Andy Choyinski	2293 Federal Pkwy
Robert Komar	2309 Federal Pkwy
Donna & Steve Bjorkquist	514 Whispering Pines Rd
Evan McKenzie	784 Federal Pkwy
Tom & Nancy Lovelace	740 Beck Rd
Beth Jaske	2325 Potomac Ct
Ross DiGiacinto	2317 Potomac Ct
Charles & Nancy Eakin	2309 Potomac Ct
Jim Wido	2300 Potomac Ct
John & Terri Hermanson	756 Beck Rd
Chris & Lori Brown	772 Beck Rd
Rick & Sandy Krockner	748 Beck Rd
Suzanne Smith	787 Federal Pkwy