**TOWN OF HAMMONTON**

**Hammonton Lake Water Quality Advisory Committee**

**Minutes**

Tuesday, January 10, 2017

Councilman Pullia opened the meeting at 7:30 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Members Present: Members Absent:**

John Keenan, Vice Chair Dr. Tait Chirenje

John Scianni Steve Mortellite

Robert Roesch Paul Galletta

Bill Parkhurst

Dan Bachalis

Franco Catania

Michelle Lucca

**Others Present:**

Joseph Giralo - Town Council

Mickey Pullia – Town Council

**Committee Reorganization:**

Reorganization for 2017 was chaired by Councilman Pullia. New members were introduced: Dan Bachalis, Environmental Commission Rep., Franco Catania, Parks and Recreation Committee Rep., and Michelle Lucca. Dan Galletta was reappointed to a 3 year term and all other members continue to serve existing terms.

Motion to nominate Commissioner Bachalis, Environmental Commission Representative, as 2017 Committee Chairman was made by Commissioner Parkhurst, seconded by Commissioner Keenan. Bachalis agreed to accept nomination on condition he would not record or prepare minutes and agendas for meetings; Keenan agreed to draft those documents for Chairman’s review. All in favor; motion carried.

Motion to appoint Commissioner John Keenan as Committee Vice Chairman was made by Commissioner Bachalis, seconded by Commissioner Parkhurst. All in favor; motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Minutes of the December 2016 meeting were not available due to a distribution error. December minutes will be reviewed and approved with January 2017 meeting minutes at the February meeting.

**Correspondence**:

None

**Committee Reports:**

**Town Council**: No report.

**Parks & Recreation Commission:** No report.

**Environmental Commission**: Dan Bachalis reported HEC would decide and announce the date of the Lake Park Cleanup co-sponsored by HEC, HLWQAC, Green Committee and ACUA at HEC’s January 11, 2017 meeting.

**Great Egg Harbor River Council:**  John Keenan reported the River Council appreciated hearing Hammonton’s Master Plan and Zoning Ordinances remain in compliance with the GEHR Management Plan and the Town will ask the consultant hired to update the Town Master Plan in about 2 years to include such reference in the update document.

**Old Business:**

**1. Lake Weed Control Spraying:** Councilman Giralo agreed to ask Jerry Barberio to present his aerial map showing areas of 2016 herbicide spray treatment and proposed 2017 treatment to the Committee at an upcoming meeting.

**2.** **Lake Management Plan Update:** Bill Parkhurst discussed his recommendation that the Plan Update Task Section 5 (Drawdown/Water Level Control) be amended to an initial 3’drawdown for 30 days, followed by a 2’ drawdown for the remaining drawdown period as was done this year to maximize initial lake bottom access and accommodate public comments on drawdown level, if approved by NJDEP. Bill Parkhurst met with ARH reps Bob Vettese and John Helbig to request Chris Smith (NJDEP Fisheries Rep) attend a Committee meeting to discuss flexibility of drawdown levels and other matters.

It was agreed we should attempt to have a revised draft plan ready at the March 2017 meeting to distribute and request comments from Parks and Recreation, Hammonton Environmental Commission, ARH and NJDEP.

**New Business:**

**1. 2017 Planning Items:** Chairman Bachalis askedall members to consider and suggest 2017 HLWQAC Planning Initiatives at the February meeting.

**Other New Business:**

**1.** Robert Roeschnoted trash barrels are often not present at the park boat launch leading to littering. The probable cause is the barrels have been known to blow into the lake on windy days. They have been retrieved with substantial effort several times – one is currently in the mud near the Egg Harbor Road culvert. The boat launch trash barrel should be secured to prevent blowing.

**2.** Upcoming Feb meeting date falling on Valentine’s Day was discussed. Due to the required public meeting notice requirement and no strong objection from members present, it was agreed the Feb. 14, 2017 date would remain as scheduled.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

John Keenan, Vice Chairman

HLWQAC, Town of Hammonton