

# LAKE ZOAR AUTHORITY

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## Member Towns

Monroe-Newtown-Oxford-Southbury

The regular meeting of the Lake Zoar Authority was held Tuesday, March 5, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. at the Newtown Senior Center, 14 Riverside Road, Sandy Hook, CT 06482

### Commissioners Present:

Gary Fillion, Chairman  
Bob Mouchantat, Treasurer  
Ed Kusinski, Vice Chairman/Secretary  
Frank Cavallo  
Herbert Garber  
Dick Speer  
Bill May  
Mark Saksa  
John Downs

### Absent:

Jeffrey Thomas

Gary Fillion, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

### **Secretary's Report:**

A motion to accept the minutes as read from the February 5, 2019 meeting was made by Bill May, seconded by Herbert Garber; the motion was passed unanimously.

### **Public Comments:**

5 Monroe residents attended the meeting.

Guest Speaker Dr. George Knoecklein of Northeast Aquatic Research, LLC was present to discuss the water quality of Lake Zoar and answer questions from the LZA and public guests. Topics focused on invasive and native weed growth, causes of accelerated weed, phytoplankton and algae growth, as well as various chemical and natural treatment options allowed by The State of Connecticut. Dr. Knoecklein presented reports based on his studies from previous years regarding the water quality of Lake Zoar. Dr. Knoecklein confirmed there is no relation between our chemical weed treatments and the bloom of cyanobacteria (blue-green algae) in the lake. It was noted that a phosphorus rich nutrient overload is likely a contributing factor to the weed and algae problems the lake may be facing. Discussions regarding monitoring water quality from incoming water sources such as Lake Lillinonah and the Pomperaug River might be worth looking into. Phosphorus, nitrogen, water temperature and oxygen levels in the lake water are all factors that would contribute to the weed, phytoplankton and algae growth within Lake Zoar.

### **Correspondence and News Clippings:**

Articles from the News-Times were circulated. Topics indicated there was public resistance to First Light's originally proposed Shoreline Management Plan. The Candlewood Lake Authority held a meeting on February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019 to address the same topic and accepted public comments.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

Bob Mouchantat, Treasurer, presented account balances. A motion to accept the Treasures Report was made by Herbert Garber, seconded by Dick Speer; the motion was passed unanimously.

### **Marine Patrol Report:**

None - there were no patrols during the past month.

**Publicity/ Public Awareness:**

A motion to switch website hosting services this month was made by Bob Mouchantat, seconded by Mark Saksa; the motion was passed unanimously. It is hoped the new LZA website will be live and available to the public prior to the LZA's April meeting. Ed Kusinski and Bill May will contact related vendors and assure the changes are made.

**Water Quality:**

Gary Fillion, Chairman, attended two First Light meetings. One discussed invasive species threatening our waters, another discussed the proposed Shoreline Management Plan.

Mr. Fillion referred to Dr. Knoecklein's public address to cover many water quality issues during this month's meeting.

Discussions were had regarding adjusting the weed treatment dates to a slightly earlier timeline for both the early and later treatment dates, both of which are yet to be determined.

Discussions were also had regarding the possible expansion of targeted chemical weed treatment areas along with the potential supplemental funding for such areas by Towns or organizations.

**Boats and Motors Report:**

None – Boats are stored for the winter

**Coast Guard Auxiliary Report:**

No report was available.

**Grants:**

Dick Speer mentioned the grant application for First Light will be submitted to First Light prior to the April 1<sup>st</sup> deadline.

**Unfinished Business:**

Bob Mouchantat, Treasurer, attended a Southbury Board of Finance meeting, per their request, to review our fiscal budget. The LZA budget as presented seemed to be in order without any apparent objections.

**New Business**

None.

**Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was made by Herbert Garber, seconded by Frank Cavallo; the motion was passed unanimously. Gary Fillion, Chairman, adjourned the meeting at 8:19 pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Ed Kusinski – Vice Chairman / Secretary

The minutes are not considered official until approved at the next regular meeting of the Lake Zoar Authority to be held on Tuesday, April 2, 2019 at 7:00 pm at the Oxford Town Hall, 486 Oxford Road, Oxford, CT 06478