

Deep Creek Lake Policy and Review Board

Meeting Minutes

Monday April 26, 2021

In Attendance : Chairman Bob Browning, Patty Manowan Mash, Eric Null DNR Bob Sutton, David Moe for Delegate Wendell Beitzel, Senator George Edwards, Robert Kelly, Jim Bailey, Commissioner Paul Edwards, Dr. Jim George. DNR: Eric Null, Sgt. Walt May, Sgt. Mike Friend Bruce Michael, Julie Bortz

Action Agenda

Chairman Browning asked for a roll call, Mr. Null preformed the roll call at the request of the Chairman. A quorum was confirmed. Minutes were approved and posted on the DCL NRMA website in March 2021.

Old Business

Canada Geese

Mr. Null Stated that he researched the Agrilaser product that Mr. Kelly proposed. He stated that sent the information to NRP and Wildlife and Heritage Service. NRP command informed Mr. Null that the laser would be considered harassment of wildlife, therefore private property owners would not be allowed to use them to deter the geese. Sgt. Friend stated that private use on private land is acceptable if it does not interfere with boating but use on the Buffer Strip is prohibited since it is a state park.

Lake Management Budget

Mr. Null stated that the budget is good, but he is having trouble securing a contractor to repair the Lake Management Office from the winter damage. Mr. Sutton asked if the state lakes fund does not get approved in 2022 will he have enough money to sustain the hydrilla control. Mr. Null stated that they would be able to sustain the control, but major budget cuts would be needed to pay for the Hydrilla Control. Senator Edwards stated that he could not answer the question of the reinstatement of the State Lakes Fund, he stated that they would try to reinstate the State Lakes fund in the 2022 session.

Mr. Null stated that he will be sending out the Shoreline Erosion Control Grant Agreements as soon as he is back in the office. Mr. Null stated that Dr. George had posted a link to the Brookfield Water Appropriation Permit.

https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/Water/water_supply/Documents/Deep%20Creek%20Lake/dcl-p-09.pdf

Sky Valley Minimum Wake Zone

Mr. Sutton stated that the regulation was approved by all and being codified in COMAR. Mr. Null stated that, and educational buoy will be placed in Sky Valley until the codification takes place sometime in late July.

Water Quality Monitoring

Bruce Michael thanked the Watershed Foundation and POA for their donation of water quality meters for the water quality monitoring project. He stated that they will be monitoring Red Run, Green Glade, and Cherry Creek this season. He thanked Senator Edwards for procuring the funding for Arrowhead Cove. He stated that the water quality monitoring program will start soon for the 2021 season.

Water Level Request

Dr. Jim George stated that there is not a permit issue with the lowering the water levels in winter, except for the permit condition that requires them to fill the lake by May 1st. He stated that there is a tentative date for a meeting with Brookfield to discuss lake levels and other topics. The purpose of the meeting is to establish more communications with Brookfield. Mr. Sutton asked Ms. Bortz since the level was low this winter is it possible to monitor the SAV growth for this summer. She stated that if this request is done on a regular basis that they would develop a SAV monitoring program to assess the SAV growth.

Publicizing Deep Creek Lake Projects

Mr. Null stated that the State Lakes Fund Projects have been well publicized, especially the Shoreline erosion control grants. He stated that over 40 Shoreline erosion control projects were installed this winter in response to the grant program.

County Commissioner Update

Commissioner Paul Edwards stated that the Arrowhead Cove project has been funded without County match money. He stated that they are looking at beginning the project in fall of 2022. He states that they are also working with Silver Tree Marina with their shoreline erosion control project, which will be installed in fall 2021. He also stated that the lake crossing with the water line is complete.

Correspondence to DNR

Mr. Null stated residents of a small cove in the southern end requested that the cove be named Swan Cove in honor of the Swan Boat and its original builder. He stated that the cove was not named, and he asks the Board for their input. No concerns were stated, the Chairman asked Mr. Null to officially name the cove.

Attorney General Office Update

No Update at this time

Public Comment

Ms. Diana Richard state that there is a special excepting zoning hearing on May 20, 2021, at the Garrett College Auditorium for the property located at 3573 Sand Flat Road for a special exception for a solar power generation facility. She stated that the property is in the 100-year flood plain of the Pawn Run Watershed. Ms. Manowan Mash asked if they were going to have a virtual participation session, Chairman Browning stated that there will be a virtual session and that the PRB would have no comment on the project since it was not in the NRMA area.

Bruce Michael stated that they have submitted the 2022 State Lakes Fund projects to the DNR Secretary for final approval.

Ms. Manowan Mash made a motion to adjourn, Mr. Bailey second the motion all were in favor.

The next meeting will be July 26, 2021, at 4:00pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Eric Null

Lake Manager