

**Coventry Lake Advisory & Monitoring Committee**  
**April 11, 2022**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**(ZOOM Video Conference)**

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**Call to Order:** A regular meeting of the Coventry Lake Advisory & Monitoring Committee was called to order on Monday April 11, 2022, at 7:01 p.m. via ZOOM Video Conference by Chair Debby Zeppa. Other members present were Scott Gallo, Carly Imhoff, Laurie Felix, and Rich Pearson.

**Secretary's Report:** On a motion by Mr. Gallo, seconded by Mr. Pearson, minutes of the March 14, 2022 meeting were approved unanimously.

**Special Business/Audience of Citizens:** None.

**Old Business**

**Lake Gate Update:** Mr. Gallo reported on a status update received April 8 from Coventry Public Works Director William Watkins, noting that the lake level as of that date was at 93.2 feet, close to the summer season target of 93.5 feet, having risen quickly after the ice melted. (Note: Winter target level is 91 feet.) Mr. Watkins reported that the gate is open, debris is being cleared every 2-3 days, and a new winch system for the outer gate like that at the back gate is being fabricated. Members discussed the town ordinance adopted in October prohibiting boats exceeding a "slow-no-wake" speed exceeding 6 mph, triggered by a level at or above 94 feet, to prevent waves damaging shoreline properties. Members discussed options for signage in key visible locations to keep the public informed on lake levels in real-time. The Committee will continue to monitor status/conditions going forward.

**Hydrilla Update:** Chair Zeppa noted that the pending FY22-23 proposed town budget anticipates an expenditure of \$90,000 for aquatic plants/hydrilla treatments. She reported on March 30 emails from Eric Trott (Coventry Director of Planning and Development) and Dominic Meringolo (SOLitude) responding to her March 28 email raising questions from the March 14 Committee meeting. Ms. Zeppa found the responses helpful and encouraging, noting Mr. Meringolo's assertion that he and CT Project Manager Drew Felter will direct/monitor efforts this summer to ensure that residents' expectations are met. Responses to the Committee's questions clarified that:

- The irrigation restriction with Sonar (fluoridone) herbicide is 30 days following each treatment. Anticipating three treatments 30-days apart, the practice had been to show 90 days on the initial posters. That practice will be followed in 2022.
- Limiting the irrigation restriction to certain plant species assumes that in-lake concentrations would not exceed 5 ppb. That practice will be implemented in 2022.
- Restricting swimming until later in the day will be implemented in 2022. Although not required on the label, restriction is preferred for logistical reasons in the treatment area while work is underway.
- Signage will be posted prior to each treatment.

**Summer Newsletter:** Chair Zeppa noted that topics for inclusion in the Newsletter must be finalized by the May 9 meeting, with a June 10 target date for completing submissions, including text, photos, and videos (if any). Informal "assignment" of newsletter topics discussed at this meeting included: science investigations kids can conduct at home (Imhoff); aquatic plants update (Zeppa); interview with new marine patrol officer (Felix); interview with Coventry Lake Community Rowing Coach Pam Miller (Pearson); interview with Coventry Lake Waterski Club's Al Semprebon about dock installs/removals and program offerings (Pearson); "slow-no-wake" ordinance (Gallo); Secchi disk and /or beach sand regulations (Choate).

**Libraries Love Lakes:** Chair Zeppa noted that Mr. Pearson contacted Booth & Dimock Library Director Margaret Khan to clarify the library's interest in the LLL program for the upcoming summer. Mr. Pearson reported that Ms. Khan and library staff are enthusiastic about CLAM/B&D partnering opportunities and requested a face-to-face planning meeting with Chair Zeppa, Ms. Imhoff and Mr. Pearson as soon feasible to consider options. Mr. Pearson will follow-up to coordinate dates and efforts will proceed from there. For discussion at the May 9 CLAM meeting.

**Secchi Disk Reading 2022:** Mr. Pearson volunteered to implement the Secchi Disk reading/data reporting for Summer 2022, from June 1 through mid-September, details to be determined.

**Facebook Updates:** For discussion at the May 9 CLA&MC meeting.

## **New Business**

**Correspondence/Communication:** No significant items of correspondence were received or submitted since the Committee's last meeting of March 14, 2022.

**Members Forum:** No further discussion.

**Adjournment:** With no further business to conduct, the meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

**Next Meeting:** May 9, 2022, 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Pearson, Secretary  
Coventry Lake Advisory & Monitoring Committee

*(These minutes are not official until approved by the Committee at its next meeting)*