

# LAKES COMMITTEE AGENDA & MINUTES

June 30, 2020 5:45 PM

The meeting notice was posted on the community bulletin Boards by our superintendent on Friday June 26, 2020 at 4 PM.

The meeting and zoom details were also posted on our web site.

5:45 pm meeting start

Location – 2034 Castle Garden Lane.

## Old Items:

- New Item – Meeting Notices. Per Florida law.
- Trespassing issue - explanation to committee about what we discovered regarding fishing and trespassing.
- Aeration system: The Board approved a system for Zach's lake. Mark will get the water tested prior to the aeration system being activated. He will schedule a retest 6 months later. Agreement with property owners reached.
- Dave Krause - presentation – Fish Stocking of Zach's Lake and request for water quality testing. Dave will address the committee.
- Countess Lake - We need a new member from this lake.
- Lake spraying – What to spray – Anovus and what we discovered. Federal invasive rules, etc... Chemicals – all are currently legal.
- Vegetation – We will again be discussing if we will allow vegetation in a section of the lake, or do we continue to spray as we currently do. Issue of Zach's lake Cove. Gerry can explain the Zach's Cove issue. – A Countess lake resident requested no spraying of hatchling bird nests.

## New Items:

Member Lowe – Zosia Grass vs. Saint Augustine.

Adjourn - 6:30 PM

TO: HOA President C. Litow & Secretary Tom Harruff

From: Gale Schwartz and John Mickelson

Date: July 1, 2020

Subj: Lakes Committee Minutes

Please accept the following minutes of the Lakes Committee meeting which was held June 30, 2020 at 5:45 pm. All members present at the meeting were emailed these minutes for approval. Member Lowe did not reply. Please accept the agenda and these minutes as submitted.

Present: Lead Chair HOA Vice President Gale Schwartz, Assistant Chair Director John Mickelson, IGE Superintendent Mark Thieme, Empress Lake representative Caitlin Fortier, Bismark Lake representative Ryan Wiehrdt, Zach's Lake representative Gerry Lowe, and Countess Lake representative Carolyn Bradtmiller.

The committee discussed the issue of people trespassing, (primarily young adults and kids), when fishing on our HOA lake easements. The HOA owns an easement around every lake. As such, the Sheriff will not enforce trespassing or no fishing for any resident. They will enforce trespassing for anyone fishing/trespassing who does not live in the community or is not a guest of a member of this community and who is with their guest at the time. Our By-Laws do not prohibit fishing and without a By-Law change no other enforcement is authorized. We also discussed that parking is not allowed on the grass anywhere in the community, as people have parked on the grass to fish.

Director Schwartz explained the aeration system being installed in Zach's Lake. She outlined water testing to be completed before the system is turned on and within 6 months afterwards for comparison.

Mr. Krauss wanted to address the committee on stocking Zach's Lake with fish at his expense. He was not at the meeting. Mr. Lowe stated he heard if a

public agency provides the fish, it brings up public access to the lake. Director Mickelson researched the issue after the meeting and determined if the HOA used a monetary donation from Mr. Kraus to stock the lake with fish, there is no public interest. It was not decided what type of fish to place in the lake. This will be determined later.

We have identified a resident from Countess Lake who joined the committee. Her name is Carolyn Bradtmiller. Director Mickelson will ask the Board for her formal appointment to the committee at the July meeting.

Lake Spraying. Anovus is the company that manages invasive weeds in our lakes. They spray all invasive vegetation at the current time. Some residents have voiced a concern over spraying. These concerns are:

- spraying to avoid duck hatchlings and other aquatic animals.
- Toxic chemicals being used
- Some people want vegetation allowed.

The committee discussed the following without recommendation to the Board at this time:

1. Lake spraying should be done to avoid wildlife whenever practical and possible.
2. The chemicals used are currently legal and allowed and until science dictates otherwise may be legally used. Anovus uses the same chemicals used on most lawns by lawn services for weed mitigation.
3. Vegetation. The recommendations were:
4. All spraying will control any vegetation deemed by the federal government to be invasive to Florida.
5. There is no current agreement with any lake property area to not be sprayed.
6. Mr. Lowe suggested we consider allowing some vegetation to grow. He provided materials to the committee. He explained smaller fish need vegetation and this in turn feeds the larger fish. His premise being vegetation is good for reducing shore line erosion and it improves small fish breeding, which ultimately leads to larger fish in the lake.
7. It was also discussed that some people do not want vegetation and prefer the view of a clean shoreline. Director Schwartz will reach out to "Lake Watch" which is the source cited by Mr. Lowe on vegetation.

8. It was discussed that the lake between Palm River and our community needs shoreline attention on our side of the lake. Our Superintendent will reach out to our vendor Anovus about the growth.
9. Mr. Lowe removed a portion of the Zosia grass from the easement at Zach's Lake. He brought this turf to the meeting to show everyone that in his opinion, the Zosia should not be planted around any other lake. His observations were that the roots to both grass types were equal. The piece of turf in question had the Saint Augustine grass growing over the Zosia, which was the intent of the planting. At the current time, the roots appear to be equal on the sample piece. No decision was reached and the committee will recheck the grass strip at the next meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Gale Schwartz – Chair

John Mickelson – Co-Chair