

# MOHEGAN LAKE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

## MOHEGAN LAKE ASSOCIATION

Meeting Minutes -- August 9, 1995

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Present:

David Wright (Secretary) .....	Mohegan Colony Assn.
Betsy January .....	Mohegan Highlands
Bob January .....	Mohegan Highlands
Abby Luby-Belenko .....	Amazon Beach
Martha Bowman .....	Section III
Jo King .....	Section III
Leslie Shipman .....	SOLE Beach
Toni King .....	SOLE Beach
Regina Schiarra .....	SOLE Beach
Wendy Wells .....	Mohegan Colony
Bill Stevens .....	Mohegan Colony
Bernie Shuldiner .....	Mohegan Colony
Bob Connick .....	Lake Mgt. Supervisor

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The meeting was held at the Mohegan Colony Schoolhouse and began at 8:00 p.m. Minutes of the July 12 meeting were circulated; no changes were made.

Garbage. Regina noted that there is a great deal of refuse left by fishermen, and we should have a campaign to get it cleaned up. The debris floats to the shore, where lake owners have the chore of picking it up.

Slides. Presentation by Bob Connick, who showed slides of various aspects of the lake, especially microscopic algae and zooplankton. There was a discussion of the "blobs," as well as dragonfly nymphs (which eat mosquitos) and damsel fly. A great white heron was spotted on the lake today. Other slides were shown of mush balls, diatoms and walleye. (Due to child care, I missed much of this presentation).

Fish Netting. There was discussion of performing a fish netting -- to get rid of the small nuisance "pan fish," but this will probably have to wait until Spring. Bob C. also noted that we should remember the egg addling -- shaking the eggs of the geese in the Spring, so they don't hatch.

Lake Day '96. Leslie reminded us that we should start planning a Lake Day for the Spring. There was discussion of having it at one beach versus all around the lake. June 29 was tentatively selected. A committee is to be formed to contact (a) local businesses to support the day, (b) lake associations and their members, and (c) perhaps have an event at the Holland Sporting Club.

Press. Bernie added that it is important to have positive press. It seems like the only time we make news is when we're fighting something, or fighting each other. Every time we do something -- perhaps even after the monthly meetings -- we should send a press release.

Dredging. The dredging project has lapsed into the usual inaction. Dave asked Kim Friedman to handle it, but it became too big for her, so it sits.

Copper. Dave reported that we haven't bothered to get the copper permit, and we haven't had the need for it. Bob C. has been monitoring the water and has generally had good results of 50" or more -- fine for Lake Mohegan.

Bacteria. There was discussion of exploring the feasibility of using bacteria to clean the lake. A firm sells the stuff -- which eats phosphorus, an essential food source of algae. The price tag is estimated to be \$60,000 or more per year, but the lake water quality would probably see a dramatic improvement. It was agreed that Dave and Bob C. will work to test the stuff, and report back to the group before we commit to so much money.

Water Meter. Bob C. is getting our water quality test meter fixed (at great cost), and the cost will be borne by his school, in return for their right to use it. Since we don't need it all the time, this is a good, cost-effective solution.

Aeration. We still don't have the aeration system functioning. We've had great difficulty getting the pumps fixed at a reasonable cost. The lack of aeration doesn't seem to have harmed the lake at all.

Weed Harvesting. The weed cutting program seems to have worked out very well. We are taking a lot out, and we found a local trucker who charges much less than the Town to take it to the town compost station -- about \$50 per week versus \$250! George Edlich has been a reliable and effective worker.

Grant Denied. Dave reported that the federal grant we applied for -- to reduce the impact of the Town storm drain next to Mohegan beach park -- has been denied. We applied for \$42,500 to build a detention area, which we will need to pay ourselves, unless we can get the Town to pay.

Storm Drains. We are working toward having a storm drain cleaning program. Dave located a Town truck which can clean out all the storm drains, but it takes a willingness by the Town (which he feels we can extract), and a plan on our part. The filled-in catch basins allow large quantities of nutrients (mostly fertilizer washed off our lawns) to go right into the lake instead of being trapped in the basins . . . which is what they are designed to do.

They need to be pumped every couple weeks, and Bob C. will generate a map to allow us to start doing this next year.

The meeting closed at 9:45 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 13, 1995 at 8:00 p.m. at the Mohegan Colony Schoolhouse.

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David O. Wright