

MOHEGAN LAKE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

MOHEGAN LAKE ASSOCIATION

Meeting Minutes -- March 8, 1995

Present:

David Wright (Secretary).....Mohegan Colony Assn.
Bob Potemski.....Mohegan Highlands
Tony DiemontMohegan Colony
Al and Theresa Tarchoun.....Alpine Woods
Charles Zychal.....Mohegan Beach Park
Denis Horbatuk.....Mohegan Beach Park
Janet Rodzevik (Treasurer)Mohegan Highlands
Toni KingSOLE Beach
Ron Ingram.....Mohegan Colony

The meeting was held at the Mohegan Colony Schoolhouse and began at 8:00 p.m. Minutes of the February meeting were reviewed. Ron noted that he had been in attendance at the meeting. Minutes were otherwise accepted.

Sewers. -- Denis reported that there was an informational meeting concerning sewers on the east side of the lake, February 28, at the Lakeland High School. Unfortunately, only about ten people turned out. It appears that the people who want the sewers have already signed the petition, and those who have not either don't know anything about it or have opposed it. Denis said they have about 30% now, mostly concentrated in the central portion of the proposed sewer district, roughly within the Mohegan Beach Park District. The district as drawn by the Town, and engineer Dan Ciarcia, consists of an area from Maqua, up to Amazon Road, down Dale Street, all the way up through Mohegan Beach Park, and into Mohegan Highlands, up Heyward Street and down Fenimore. This proposed district will pick up approximately 450 households. The original district was a smaller area, focusing on the central sector. Unfortunately, this was sent to the comptroller's office in Albany and rejected due to cost.

Originally, developer Val Santucci was going to run one line, but this would have missed many of the houses on Winona and Lake Shore, right next to the lake. The new plan entails two lines, one of which will pick up most of these homes. One line will run down Tamarac and one down Mohegan. The Town intends to do the job "in house" using its own people and labor, and equipment. they hope to use some private local contractors to assist in doing the individual hook-ups, making it cheaper if we can do so in groups. As the job progresses, we will coordinate this. Dave asked if we could get the petitions, and Denis and he could go around one weekend and get the last signatures needed. Unfortunately, the Town Engineer is unwilling to release the petition, even though that was the only way we got enough

signatures for the sewers on the west side of the lake. Denis suggested he would follow up with Dan, and if he could get the petitions from him, he and Dave will spend a weekend getting the last signatures.

Dave noted that, while he is not comfortable with the economics of the sewer district at the fringes -- in Mohegan Highlands and way up to Maqua -- he certainly feels strongly that a sewer district needs to be adopted in the central area, and we should try to get it set up. If there are a few homes on the fringes, these people would have the opportunity to object during a public hearing, and the line would probably be re-drawn as to not to include the farthest fringes. He also wondered if running the sewer pipe up Dale Street was going to allow density houses to be constructed in the undeveloped areas there, at least some of which is owned by some governmental entity, since it is tax exempt.

Dave also noted that if Denis cannot get the petitions, Dave will serve a Freedom of Information Request and get copies from Ciarcia and we will handle the job ourselves.

Fertilizer -- The January minutes were reviewed with respect to the "lake-friendly fertilizer." Mark Heffler has reported that he is able to get the same fertilizer -- with 0% phosphorous -- from his own suppliers and will do so. Denis and Mark will coordinate with Dave to get out a mailing not later than March 15 (in connection with the mailing we are required to do legally for the copper-sulfate permit) to inform people of the availability and the importance of using this type of fertilizer. Al Tarchoun also noted that as a distributor of a number of consumer products, he has a series of "lake-friendly" low phosphorous products. It was agreed that his products could also be promoted in the same way Mark's fertilizer can be promoted. Although the Lake District does not generally promote private businesses, here there are local people who are selling products which may well help the lake. They are to be encouraged.

Phosphates in Detergents. -- There was further discussion by Al concerning the phosphates in household detergents. It was noted that the federal government removed phosphates from all laundry detergents in the 1970's. Unfortunately, phosphates are still included in dishwasher detergent. It was noted that different types of dishwasher detergent have different percentage concentrations of phosphorous, and the more concentrated detergents end up being much better for the lake, because there is less phosphorous per load of dishes. Tony added that hardness of the water may affect the need for phosphates in the detergent. The harder the water, probably the greater concentration of phosphates is required to do a good cleaning job. There was discussion that the technology has apparently not yet evolved where there is any substitute for phosphates in dishwasher detergents, and no-one had seen any. We should inform people in our March 15 mailing that

different laundry detergents, especially at different concentrations, have different amounts of phosphates per load of dishes. We will try to work up a chart and send it out, at least to inform people.

Lifeguards. -- Denis Horbatuk noted that on March 26 at the Mt. Kisco's Boys and Girls Club, they're having special life-saving courses. There will be one in Yorktown on May 5. Anyone interested should call Denis at 528-2897. WE have been discussing for years the possibility of going out into the community, finding young people who might want to be lifeguards, and sending groups of them to these courses, in part at Association expense. This will provide a larger supply of lifeguards, and reduce the amount we ending up having to pay when we hire them in June. For those interested in finding out the Town's scheduling and availability, they should call Brian Slavin at the Yorktown Parks and Recreation Department, 962-5722. Denis noted that there is a new State course which is now all inclusive, unlike the old separate courses for CPR and emergency first-aid life-saving.

Lake conference. -- Dave reported that the Westchester Land Trust and the Mohegan Lake District will be sponsoring a major regional Lake Management Conference on Saturday, April 1 at the Harvey School in Katonah. The Lake District has contributed a substantial amount of money to co-sponsor this program, and it should receive statewide attention. It will be a wonderful opportunity for people all around the region to exchange ideas and learn more. For example, we can take the "lake-friendly fertilizer", the dishwasher phosphate survey, and other similarly sexy items to discuss. This type of "low tech" solution, may well be the single largest factor in improving lake quality. Several persons indicated an interest in attending, including Dave, Denis, Charles, Toni, and Bob. Dave will check to make sure that all of us get in for free, since we are co-sponsoring the event.

Zebra mussels. -- Toni suggested that we put out something in our March 15 noted about the zebra mussels, and remind people to clean off boats which they are bringing from the Hudson River or other water body which may be infested with zebra mussels. Only by informing the lake users and the boat owners, can we avoid contaminating the lake with zebra mussels.

Various development projects. -- The Mohegan Lake District meeting was closed at the members present had a discussion of some of the Route 202 development, including Homart and others.

The meeting broke up at 9:15 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 12, 1995 at 8:00 p.m. at the Mohegan Colony Schoolhouse.

David O. Wright
Secretary