



Phillip LeBel <lebel@montclair.edu>

LMPC Zoom meeting - December 14, 2022

1 message

Phillip LeBel <lebel@mail.montclair.edu>

Wed, Dec 14, 2022 at 8:18 PM

To: Dennis Callaghan <dmcallaghan@verizon.net>, Marilyn Booth <marilyngbooth@gmail.com>, Mark Haverland <haverlanddesign@msn.com>, Tamara and Steve Brewer <stbrewer1@gmail.com>, Ray Brodie <rayjrm1@comcast.net>, John Rue <Johnnyrue@gmail.com>, Chuck Poole <cpoole@wicomicocounty.org>, Phillip LeBel <lebel@montclair.edu>
Bcc: Yvonne Matthews <yvonne.matthews@verizon.net>, "Barbara, Donald, and Donna White" <dwbw70@verizon.net>, Gwen Benny <gbp5420@gmail.com>, Dennis Callaghan <dmcallaghan@verizon.net>, Christopher Murphy <info@classiclawncareinc.com>, Craig Mast <ornurse20002000@yahoo.com>, Randy Bennett <salty21875@yahoo.com>, Anne Haverland <annieh43@outlook.com>, John Trout <jtrout85@gmail.com>, Ernie Matthews <ernie29@comcast.net>, Preston Tawes <marpret18@gmail.com>, Marilyn Booth <marilyngbooth@gmail.com>, Michelle Krempa <michelekrempa@gmail.com>, Steve and Cindy Olney <stephencindy@mac.com>, Mark Haverland <haverlanddesign@msn.com>, Phillip LeBel <lebel@montclair.edu>, Leslie Donnelly <lesliedonnelly@hotmail.com>, Mike Henderson <mmhenderson1@msn.com>, Rob and Connie Sauer <drtimeshare@comcast.net>, Matthew Gedney <mattgedney@gmail.com>, Donna Marie Cooper <dmcooper511@gmail.com>, Lisa Barry <lbarry@wcboe.org>, Tamara and Steve Brewer <stbrewer1@gmail.com>, Alverta McKenna <alvermcken@verizon.net>, Tara Martens <tmartens@wcboe.org>, Kaye Harmon <harmanmotors@aol.com>, Jeannette Brown <jbrown30392@aol.com>, Catherine Emerson <catherine.emerson3@gmail.com>, Carolyn Gruber <COGAVON@comcast.net>, Terrence and Cristal Stratton <stratton_c@hotmail.com>, Gerry and Betty Raimo <jerry.sailor2014@gmail.com>, John Rue <Johnnyrue@gmail.com>, Jeff Farace <jcfarace@comcast.net>, Cathrin Banks <banks.cathrin@gmail.com>, Joan Robinson <jrobinson3346@msn.com>, CINDY & BILL NELSON <billcin@comcast.net>, Kevin Martens <kmart9584@yahoo.com>, Ray Brodie <rayjrm1@comcast.net>, Brigita Safai <brigita55@gmail.com>, Ed Banks <susannebanks@comcast.net>, Clare Emond <claree2121@gmail.com>, John and Michelle Trout <glasschick64@yahoo.com>, Kiya Safai <safai.kiya@gmail.com>, Steve Parsons <steveparsonsrealtor@gmail.com>, Martha Farace <msfarace@comcast.net>, Andy Booth <andrewbooth@comcast.net>, Brian and Colleen Donlin <capekensington@gmail.com>

Greetings, LMPC neighbors,

Some confusion arose this afternoon when Zoom informed me that our meeting was scheduled to start at 6:00 p.m. This was different from the confirmed Zoom meeting link and time that I had shared previously with you. I sent out an email indicating that we were being shifted to 6:00 p.m., and went online shortly after 6:00. When no one joined, I ended that meeting and started another Zoom meeting at the originally confirmed time of 7:00 p.m.

To complicate our meeting, I received a last minute email from Chuck Poole indicating that he would not be able to attend the meeting, but he did send me a summary, the contents of which I will summarize here, and which you can read from the attached pdf copy of his email.

Chuck indicated that his department have been able to hire staff up to the full level after a delay over the past year or so. He indicated that his team would conduct a survey on the pond regarding the status of weed growth to determine targeted areas for application of chemical treatment this summer. He said that after a survey in May, we would receive notification as to when the initial hydrilla treatment would take place in June with restrictions by property owners not to use pond irrigated water for at least seven days following the application. He indicated that a second treatment for surface weed would take place most likely in August, but that it would not require restrictions on irrigated water use.

At our meeting, we agreed that Marilyn has accepted to serve as Treasurer for another year and that I would continue to serve as Volunteer Coordinator for another year. Our budget remains unchanged from last year as there were no revenues collected or disbursed.

Steve Brewer, our LMPC captain for Danwood, is undergoing medical treatment and has asked that we consider a replacement. John Rue has expressed his willingness to serve but will seek out newcomers to the neighborhood to see if someone would be interested in serving while Steve is undergoing treatment. Once we have a confirmed replacement, we will send out an announcement.

Our discussion covered several issues regarding the status of the pond. One is the classic question of jurisdiction. We know that the County owns the pond and that as waterfront property owners, we are stewards working in collaboration with Chuck Poole, Superintendent of Wicomico, Recreation, Parks, and Tourism. This said, several questions arose regarding pond management beyond the traditional one of interacting on weed control.

One issue is the extent to which agency has primary responsibility regarding the status of regulation over the pond. Is it just the County, or does it apply to the State of Maryland or at some other level. This question arose previously when construction at Ponds Edge II was underway. Concern over surface runoff led to some of us to testify at a Zoom public hearing with Ace Adkins of the Maryland Department of the Environment regarding whether Ponds Edge II was in violation of a Maryland statute classifying parts of the north prong as an environmentally sensitive area to be granted protective status. Our concern and testimony apparently had little effect as Ace Adkins granted Ponds Edge II a retroactive construction permit to proceed.

In this context, we asked what is covered by the north prong zoning status, even though it was apparently not respected in the Ponds Edge II decision. What protections are covered over what area, and what kinds of restrictions fall within the purview of the legislation? In addition, would they apply equally to the rest of the pond? If so, what are the implications for personal use of pond resources, e.g., irrigation, boating, fishing? In this context, one question that has been raised is whether the designation of the pond overall as a non-tidal wetland would affect any of the context and jurisdiction regarding multiple uses of the pond as spelled out in the County's current regulations. By copy of this to Chuck Poole, we are asking for some clarification on these issues regarding joint management responsibilities.

Within this same discussion, we also asked about who, if anyone, is responsible for restocking fish into the pond. It has been our understanding that the Maryland DNR undertook this in the past, and we would like to know what species exist in the pond, who does the restocking, and what are the population levels of current aquatic species in the pond.

One suggestion was made that to promote the use of the pond, have County officials ever considered a fishing tournament on the pond now that the COVID threat seems to be receding. This would be a way to promote the pond as part of the County's tourism objectives.

One final point raised was whether any dredging of the pond would help in maintaining the health of the system. As time goes on, periodic falling leaves and trees are leading to a slow eutrophication of oxygen levels of the pond. Some residents are interested in how dredging could be undertaken so as to preserve sections of the pond for boating and fishing.

With a Zoom time constraint, we brought our meeting to a close. A copy of this meeting summary will be sent out by email to all LMPC residents and posted on the LMPC website at:

<https://msuweb.montclair.edu/%7elebelp/LeonardMillPondCollaborative.html>

Phillip LeBel, LMPC Volunteer Coordinator
30408 Mallard Drive
Delmar, Md. 21875



2022 12 14 ChuckPoolePLB - LMPC Zoom meeting, Wednesday, December 14, 2022, 7 00 p.m..pdf

86K