

**Mohegan Lake Improvement District Meeting**  
**31 March 2021**  
**Meeting conducted via Zoom platform**

In attendance:

Ken Belfer, president—Mohegan Colony  
Laura Kosbar, vice president—Lake  
Mohegan Park  
Shelley Reid, secretary—MHPOA  
Patrick Byrne, treasurer—Mohegan Beach  
Park  
Stacy Williams-Kerr—Mohegan Beach Park

Felicity Arengo—Mohegan Beach Park  
Adriana Estrada Genao—Lake Mohegan  
Park  
Randall Duggan—MHPOA  
Abby Luby—Amazon Park  
Sara Schoenwetter—Mohegan Beach Park  
Katherine Jewell—Lake Mohegan Park

**I. Minutes**

The minutes for the previous meeting were reviewed and approved.

**II. Updates**

Ken reported that the lake water level is very high. He had observed that the outlet was fully obstructed, and contacted the town highway department to request that the outlet be cleared, a task which the highway department said it carried out. Lake Manager Mike Chiappa also reported that he had cleared the outlet of a combination of organic debris and trash the following day. We will continue observing the outlet to determine whether the obstruction continues to re-develop, and whether beavers are the cause.

Stacy Williams reported that there is a petition at [change.org](https://www.change.org) concerning the proposed Taco Bell on Rte. 6, and that the public hearing on the site is scheduled for 12 April. Pre-registration is required for this zoom event; the recording will be viewable from the town's website afterward.

Ken reported that contracts are signed with SOLitude Lake Management LLC for lake water treatments; we are still waiting on permits to be issued.

**III. Mohegan Lake Day**

Given the uncertainty over the timeline concerning our community's emergence from COVID guidelines, it was decided to postpone the decision on in-person activities one more month. The general lineup of events, activities and displays was discussed, along with virtual options.

**IV. New York State Federation of Lake Associations (NYSFOLA)**

[NYSFOLA](https://www.nysfola.org) will be conducting its [annual conference](#) virtually over two days, 29–30 April. Members of MLID typically attend this conference as an opportunity to further educate ourselves about issues in lake water quality and the growing body of knowledge about potential steps to improve lake health. The individual online registration process for the virtual conference precludes our usual procedure of submitting a purchase order for registration fees as a group; Ken will inquire about the possibility of individual members applying for reimbursement of the \$25 registration fee.

## **V. Canada Goose Overpopulation**

In the past meeting, several volunteers had stepped forward to learn more about reducing the Canada goose population on the lake; no action was taken, and the group agreed to address the issue going forward. Ken has information passed on from other lakes, which he will distribute to the volunteers.

## **VI. Staff salaries**

A vote was conducted on a resolution to set lake staff pay at \$15/hour, and the lake manager at \$28.50/hour. The resolution was passed unanimously.

## **VII. Tall Timbers Hiking Trail**

Stacy Williams-Kerr discussed with Jane and Walt Daniels, authors of Walkable Westchester and leaders in the local hiking community, the proposal of creating hiking trails in the east and southern slope of Jones Hill. They supported it, and advocated for not only establishing a trail system in the area, but connecting it, if possible, to the Sylvan Glen trail network. With that recommendation, issues discussed included the costs and labor of creating a walkway in swampy terrain, private property and possible right-of-way agreements, and the first step of notifying the town of MLID's intention to explore the possibility of a new trail network under the direction of NY-NJ Trailways. A vote was held, with unanimous support for going forward with the exploration of the trail network. Several MLID members will visit the site on 4 April.

## **VIII. Miscellaneous**

### *Battle of Yorktown: Roadside Trash Pickup Event, 24 April*

There will be an organized pick-up of debris along the strip of Mohegan Avenue between Faith Bible Church and CVS at 1 pm.

### *History of Mohegan Lake Community*

Shelley Reid proposed the collection of oral histories of older long-time residents of the community in order to enrich our understanding of Mohegan Lake history.

### *Website/Social Media*

Shelley continues to encourage the submission of materials for the website, particularly officers/membership guidelines for Mohegan Colony and SOLE. All beaches are still encouraged to submit additional photos, including different views of their beaches, different seasonal photos, and particularly photos of people and activities. The website is also a vehicle for educating the community about topics such as Rock Hill Park that we might deem underpublicized; "guest columns" in the blog from knowledgeable individuals would be helpful towards that end.

## **IX. Next Meeting**

The next meeting date was set for 28 April, via Zoom.