

**LAKE MINNETONKA CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
Public Safety Committee  
Meeting Report**

2:30 p.m., Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Hennepin County Sheriff's Water Patrol Headquarters, 4141 Shoreline Drive, Spring Park, MN 55384

**Members Present:** Lt. Steve Hartig, Sheriff's Water Patrol; Sgt. Chris Mathisen, Sheriff's Water Patrol; Tony Brough, Hennepin County Environmental Services; Chris Jewett, LMCD Board- Minnetonka; Steve Johnson, LMCD Board- Mound; Keith Kask, LMCD Board- Deephaven; Greg Nybeck, Executive Director; Judd Harper, Administrative Technician.

**Lake Minnetonka Solar-Light Project**

Harper provided background on this project, which was initiated in 2002. The project involves the installation of solar-lights on red and green navigational buoys to assist in nighttime travel. He believed that the project has been well received by the public and has incrementally expanded over the years. He asked for feedback from the committee on the following two questions.

1. Should this project be expanded to other types of buoys (Quiet Water, point, & danger)?
  - The consensus of the committee was that expanding solar-lights to other types of buoys on Lake Minnetonka would be confusing to the public.
  - The committee recommended not expanding solar-lights to other types of buoys.
2. What areas of the Lake should solar-lights be expanded to for the 2010 boating season?
  - Harper stated that up to 12 solar-lights were planned for expansion in 2010. He recommended that these solar-lights should be placed at the following locations: 1) two on Priests Bay at the channel leading into Halsted Bay, 2) eight on Phelps Bay at the channel northwest of Goose Island, and 3) two on Maxwell Bay at the channel leading into Stubbs Bay.
  - Harper asked for feedback from the committee on these recommended locations.
  - The consensus of the committee was to expand the solar-light project in 2010 at the following locations: 1) eight lights on Phelps Bay at the channel northwest of Goose Island, and 2) four lights on West Arm at the channel off of Skogsberg Point.
  - Any additional solar-lights available for expansion in 2010 should be at the discretion of LMCD staff.

**Lake Minnetonka Quiet Water Areas**

Nybeck provided background on current Quiet Water Areas and how they are defined in LMCD Code Section 3.02. He reviewed a number of areas on the Lake which are either currently a Quiet Water Area or could be possibly be added/deleted. These areas were highlighted in a memo, dated 1/25/10.

The consensus of the committee was to consider making one change. The committee believed that the current Quiet Water Area on Black Lake was confusing and that consideration should be made to make Black Lake

entirely a Quiet Water Area, possibly as soon as the 2010 boating season. The committee recommended that the Board conduct a public hearing to get feedback on this recommendation.

**Next Meeting**

- The next committee meeting was to be scheduled sometime for the latter part of the 2010 boating season.
  
- Possible topics to be discussed at this meeting include:
  - Establishing a 15 m.p.h. speed limit for all of Black, Emerald, and Seton Lakes during the winter months (using a similar process as establishing a Quiet Water Area)
  
  - Discussion of whether winter speed limits on Lake Minnetonka should be adjusted so that they are consistent with the State of Minnesota.
  
  - The need to conduct housekeeping on some definitions in LMCD Code for the winter.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Greg Nybeck, Executive Director