

SYLVAN LAKE JOINT COMMISSION
MINUTES
June,18 2025

This meeting was held at the Avon Municipal Building

ATTENDANCE: Anne Politi, Kathy Martin, Sharon Luba, Dennis Luba, Greg Matthews, Mary Brennan, MLFarmer (late), Jeff Casner, (late)

Not Present: Councilman Nowicki

Also Present: Ray Castellano

1. Mary Brennan moved and Kathy Martin seconded the passage of the **Minutes of May 21,2025 as written. Passed unanimously.**
2. **Ongoing Lake Restoration Projects** (see attached table)
 - CMEs proposal for the **Gate repairs** at the east end of the Lake was received but didn't include the pricing associated with monitoring. (estimated to be \$45,000).
 - A question was raised about asking the contractor for the New Jersey *DEP funded* outfall pipe for a proposal on the gate repairs once the design is completed. This possibility will be considered further as the design of the gate repairs progresses.
 - New Jersey *DOT funded* bulkhead repairs on the Bradley side. It is a DOT funding requirement that the competitively bid construction contract be awarded by April 2026. The status of the survey and borings is not known. **ACTION ITEM: Chair Matthews will ask Councilman Nowicki about the status of the borings and survey.**
 - *DOD REPI funded* restoration project: Captain Al has stated at previous TAC meetings that he is hopeful that there will be funding to continue the work, but the status of federal government projects is uncertain. **ACTION ITEM: Chair Matthews will provide any new updates on the status of funding reported on at the TAC meeting later this month.**
 - *Promenade/Bulkhead* extension along Ocean Ave. **ACTION ITEM: Councilman Nowicki will be asked for an update, particularly with regard to the potential use and amount of sediment from the Lake that could be used.**
3. **Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting** for Sylvan Lake Restoration
The most recent TAC meeting was held April 25, 2025. The May meeting was postponed and the next meeting is scheduled for **June 27, 2025. ACTION**

ITEM: Chair Matthews will discuss with Marty McHue the result of the dye that was injected into the ‘vault’ on the west end of the Lake.

4. Other Topics

- **Geese:** Some progress has been made.
- **Other:** CLOnet meeting to be held on Monday, June 23, 2025 at Monmouth University regarding the water quality of the coastal lakes. Chair Matthews will attend and also present on Sylvan Lake. He will provide a recap at a future meeting.
- Avon and Bradley Mayors sent letter to NJDEP Director of Division of Land Resource Protection requesting an expedited permitting process for the lake control gate repairs.

5. New Topics:

ACTION ITEM: Mayor Bonanno will discuss with Down to Earth the proposal and timetable for the removal of the *knotweed*.

6. Adjournment

APPROVED

Sylvan Lake Projects

June 18, 2025

Project	Project Stage	Consultants/ Contractors	Funding Agency	Status
DOD REPI funded restoration project	Planning and design	REPI Team* ¹ , Princeton Hydro	Department of Defense	Ongoing. Monthly TAC mtgs on last Friday of each month. Princeton Hydro Contract signed for go ahead on Sediment Sampling Plan. Plan (9 composite samples) was submitted to NJDEP mid-March. Application for construction funding must be submitted by June 2025 for June 2026 Funding. Sediment sampling results and permits required for application.
Living Shoreline Avon Side	Phases 1 and 2 Complete	Down to Earth Landscaping (Phase 2)	NJ DEP Bureau of Watershed Mgmt	Construction Complete. Phase 1 Maintenance by Avon and Phase 2 by Down to Earth.
New Jersey DOT funded bulkhead repairs on the Bradley side	Design Phase	Design by CME (Bradley Town Engr.)	New Jersey DOT	Topo Survey was previously scheduled February 2025 – has this occurred? Soil borings scheduled for Spring/Summer 2025. Alternatives relating east end of Lake and possible impacts to Bradley Blvd currently being evaluated.
Gate repairs at the east end of the Lake	Design Phase	Colliers and CME submitting design proposals	Bradley and Avon cost share	Temporary repairs completed on multiple occasions and gate is currently operational. Final design and construction planned for later in 2025. Permitting issues may impact schedule. NJDEP treating as Category 3 or 4 dam and associated permitting is required. Letter sent from Avon and Bradley mayors requesting expedited permitting process due to critical nature of the problem. Proposals by Colliers and CME being evaluated.
New Jersey DEP funded outfall pipe	Planning Stage	Construction Contract Awarded to: —	New Jersey DEP	Construction start expected in Fall 2025. Contract awarded to Earthworks. Fish and Wildlife is evaluating if construction can start in September 2025.

Project	Project Stage	Consultants/ Contractors	Funding Agency	Status
Promenade/Bulkhead extension along Ocean Ave	Design Phase	CME	New Jersey Boardwalk Preservation Fund	Design scheduled to start in 2025. Sediment sampling results from REPI funded project may help determine if dredged sediments may be suitable for use on this project. If so, this may enable more extensive dredging of Sylvan Lake.
Lake Alberta and Upstream Discharges to Sylvan Lake	Studies	???	Federal and County	Flows from Lake Alberta in Neptune contribute water and sediments to Sylvan Lake. Understanding these contributions are important to the various ongoing Sylvan Lake related projects. Current flood studies being performed by the county should help in understanding the impacts. Current issues relate to difficulties in locating piping systems carrying the flows and whether federal funds will remain available. It is reported that the County will proceed with studies if funds are not available.

1. REPI Team Leaders: Capt. Alek Modjeski, Habitat Restoration Program Director, American Littoral Society; Marty McHugh, JD, Director Regulatory Affairs, Groundwater & Environmental Services; Thomas Herrington, Ph.D., Urban Coast Institute at Monmouth University. Design Consultant: Princeton Hydro.

APPROVED