

**2016 DEAL LAKE MASTER PLAN PUBLIC HEARING COMMENTS
3-17-16**

My name is Marty Martino and I live on Deal Lake at 1600 Bryan Ave. in Ocean Township. I have owned this home on the lake primarily as a summer home for 13 years and have been through a lot like others: the 2005 storm, Hurricane Irene and Sandy. I moved here permanently this past year so I'm here to stay.

I would like to give you an overview of my background. I have a degree in Chemistry and a MBA both earned at night school, I served in the US Marine Corps for over 3 years. My position was with the same employer for 32 years retiring as a Specialty Chemical Business Manager for a global oil & gas company headquartered in Paris: TOTAL SA. While in night school, I worked in a microbiological laboratory for 10 years so I have some knowledge and experience for what I am about to say. As an experienced Marketing and Business Manager, my comments for all my projects and plans and now your plan are:

WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN, WHERE ARE YOU AT NOW, AND WHERE ARE YOU GOING WITH A TIME ACTION PLAN FOR EACH. DO THEY MAKE ANY SENSE ?

I repeat:

WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN, WHERE ARE YOU AT NOW, AND WHERE ARE YOU GOING WITH A TIME ACTION PLAN FOR EACH. DO THEY MAKE ANY SENSE?

My comments are offered to address these questions.

But 1st, WHY AM I HERE?

I am a CONCERNED resident of Ocean Twp. who lives on Deal Lake. We, like others, pay higher taxes than others because we live on the lake. I've attended Deal Lake Commission (DLC) meetings off and on for 13 years and offered my comments, sometimes very critical, sometimes complementary. I've been a member of the Friends of Deal Lake (FoDL) for 13 years too and presently am the FoDL Chairman of Water Quality - specifically to get an answer to the question:

IS THE DEAL LAKE WATER AND FISH SAFE OR CONTAMINATED ?

It is extremely frustrating for me to watch fishing off the Wicapecko bridge and the recreational activities on the lake which brings me back to the question:

IS THE DEAL LAKE WATER AND FISH SAFE OR CONTAMINATED?

So, back to the question :

WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN? To answer that, you have to review the

"THE STATE OF DEAL LAKE - 2007" AS ACCEPTED BY THE DLC ON 2/21/2008

So let's discuss their 2007 Deal Lake Master Plan :

The professionals are the same ones here today Dr. Sousa, Peter Avakian, and Hunt Perry, Esq.

The Highlights of the report are:

The very 1st sentence of this report reads:

The environmental state of Deal Lake is extremely poor. Pollutants exceed state mandated levels. In many sections of the lake, the water is unfit for human contact.

Continuing on with highlights:

Electrification of the flume gate mechanisms is a mandatory project

Human fecal coliform is finding its way into Deal lake

Major Lake Issues: Flooding, Siltation, Canada Goose Management Programs, Flume Gate Electrification-Cost \$60k, Flume Protective Gate Upgrade - Cost \$14k, Create Flood Level Controls - Cost \$30K for design and implementation and others

For me, most important is in the ADDENDUM A,

DEAL LAKE IS ON THE NJ DEP 2006 303(d) LIST OF IMPAIRED WATERBODIES RELATED TO pH AND PATHOGEN IMPAIRMENTS. THESE CONTAMINANTS HAVE BEEN REPEATEDLY DOCUMENTED.

Add to that, their goal also was "water quality standards for Bacteria" which recommends complete mapping of the sanitary sewer lines.

SO, WHERE ARE WE AT NOW?

OTHER THAN DREDGING AND REPAIRS TO THE FLUME GATE HOUSE, NONE OF THEIR MAJOR RECOMMENDATIONS FROM 2007 HAVE BEEN ACTED ON OR FOLLOWED THROUGH WITH A DEFINITIVE ACTION PLAN.

Flooding, Siltation, electrification of the flume gate, Canadian goose management, and their other recommendations are very important BUT to me:

"TO MEET THE WATER QUALITY STANDARDS FOR BACTERIA" is very, very important. The fishing and recreational activities on the lake cause me a great deal of concern and frustration about how safe these activities are given what I know. Mapping out the sanitary sewers for possible contaminations is critical too along with active and abandoned SEPTIC TANKS. Why haven't you contacted the Ocean Township Sewer Authority for their help?

SO NOW,

WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

I DON'T REALLY KNOW BECAUSE NONE OF THE OTHER DLC 2007 RECOMMENDATIONS HAVE BEEN BROUGHT INTO FOCUS WITH AN ACTION PLAN AND A PRIORITY AND TIME LINE.

It's alarming to think that over the past 8 years, these recommendations from 2007 are still being recommended by the 2016 DLC without an action plan or completion date.

IN FACT, YOUR PLAN IS A REPEAT OF THE 2007 PLAN AND THE ISSUE OF HUMAN FECAL COLIFORM AND PLANS TO REDUCE IT HAVE NOT BEEN SPECIFICALLY ADDRESSED? MY QUESTION TO ALL OF YOU AGAIN IS:

IS THE LAKE WATER SAFE OR CONTAMINATED?

In 2007, the DLC reported that human fecal coliform was finding its way into Deal Lake.

MY MAJOR CONCERN THEN, HAS BEEN AND CONTINUES TO BE "ARE THE FISH BEING CAUGHT SAFE TO EAT AND FOR THE LAKE RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING PADDLE BOARDING, KAYAK, ETC WHERE WATER CONTACT OCCURS FROM FALLING INTO THE WATER, IS THE WATER SAFE FROM COLIFORM BACTERIA PATHOGENS?"

To the best of my knowledge and after I contacted the NJ DEP - Bureau of Fresh Water & Biological Monitoring and Monmouth County Health Dept.:

TESTING FOR COLIFORM BACTERIA E. COLI HAS NOT BEEN DONE SINCE 2007 OR 2008. THE FACT THAT DEAL LAKE IS AND CONTINUES TO BE AN IMPAIRED LAKE BY THE STATE OF NJ WITHOUT AN ACTION PLAN BY THE 2016 DLC IS ASTOUNDING.

THE LAKE IS ALSO UNDER A WATERBODY FISH ADVISORY AND YET THE DLC CONTINUES TO RESTOCK THE LAKE WITHOUT ADVISING THE COMMUNITY OF SUCH.

FLOODING - The lake has never been so low as it has been over the last 2 months, With electrification of the flume gate and lowering the lake level as you have just done, this would be an important step to reduce flooding. This should be your plan.

SILTING - The Mayor of Ocean Township recommended to you the installation of Manufactured Treatment Devices (MTD) which would reduce silting by 60-85%. The DLC should have taken on this project as a #1 priority but the DLC left it to the Mayor to do. YOU SHOULD TAKE CONTROL OF THIS WITH EACH OF YOUR OWN COMMUNITY MAYORS & THIS SHOULD BE A PRIORITY IN YOUR 2016 MASTER PLAN.

SO WHAT IS A LAKE RESIDENT LIKE ME TO DO?

I've expressed my concern to you at DLC meeting before and sent an email to your website about COLIFORM testing without any response. I already met with the Mayor of Ocean Township to express my concerns and I plan to meet with other local Mayors of the DLC to address these issues and specifically ask:

"ARE THE FISH BEING CAUGHT SAFE TO EAT AND FOR THE LAKE RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES PADDLE BOARDING, KAYAK, ETC WHERE WATER CONTACT MAY OCCUR , IS THE WATER SAFE FROM COLIFORM E COLI & OTHER PATHOGENS? "

I ask you to address this in your 2016 Master Plan. I also plan to send "Letters to the Editors" of our local newspapers and will ask the same question that I have asked of you the DLC along with the towns and governing bodies that you represent.

Finally, why are you distancing the DLC from the Friends of Deal Lake by eliminating them from your 2016 Master Plan? The FoDL have been in existence for about 40 years and have the lake interest at heart. WHY, WHY, WHY? To me, it just doesn't make any sense..

MY RECOMMENDATION FOR THE DLC 2016 MASTER PLAN IS TO REVIEW THE 2007 MASTER PLAN , ADDRESS THEIR RECOMMENDATIONS, AND DEVELOP AN ACTION PLAN WITH PRIORITIES AND TIME LINES. UNTIL THIS IS DONE, YOUR 2016 PLAN SHOULD BE PLACED ON HOLD.

DEAL LAKE PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING 3-17-16

1.COMMUNICATION WITH PUBLIC

LAST MINUTES ON LINE DEC.3,2015 WHERE ARE JAN. 2016MINUTES

WHERE IS THE AGENDA FOR TONIGHTS MEETING? BY LAW AVAILABLE 48 HR,S BEFORE MEETING.

REQUEST DLC COMMISSIONERS EMAIL ADDRESS & TELEPHONE BE MADE PUBLIC SO YOUR CITIZENS MAY COMMUNICATE WITH YOU.

2. 2016 DLC APPROVED BUDGET

\$28K SURPLUS APPLIED TO 2016 BUDGET - AN ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANT AT \$16K AND GEN. LAKE MAINTANANCE \$30K PLUS- FOR WHAT?

TO DO WHAT? REMEMBER, THESE \$ ARE TAXPAYER \$, HARD EARNED TAXPAYER \$ ESPECIALLY FOR US RETIREES.

YOU HAVE \$161K PLUS IN SURPLUS - WHAT DO YOU INTEND TO DO WITH IT? NO PLAN IS LISTED IN YOUR 2016 BUDGET?

THE ISSUES IN THE 2008 MASTER PLAN SHOULD BE ADDRESSED.

4. A RESIDENT ASKED ABOUT THE NJ STATE FISH STUDY AND HE WAS ADVISED TO FOLLOW IT ON THE DLC WEBSITE. TO DATE NOTHING ON LINE. SO WHAT IS THE STATUS?

5. HOW ABOUT THE MTD'S TO REDUCE SILTING BY 60-85%

6. FALLEN TREES IN THE LAKE - LYNN PERRY AS A DLC COMMISSIONER DEVELOPED A PROPOSAL TO CLEAR THE LAKE OF FALLEN TREES. IS THIS NO LONGER OF IMPORTANCE?

7. GEESE CONTROL - OT JUST HIRED AN OUTSIDE FIRM TO ADDRESS GEESE AT THECOL. GOLF COURSE. THEY WILL BE COMING INTO THE DL. WHAT IS YOUR PLAN?

8 HOW ABOUT ELECTRIFICATION OF THE FLUME @ \$60K? YOU HAVE THE \$ SO WHY NOT DO IT NOW? IT'S ONLY BEEN 8 YEARS IN DISCUSSION. HOW ABOUT A SPILLWAY CONTROLS AT HOLLOW BROOK TERRACE & LOLLIPPOP POND? COST EST. \$30K/ HOW ABOUT FLUME PROTECTIVE UPGRADE \$14? JUST GET IT DONE1