

**CITY OF AURORA**  
**Save Sunny Lake Committee Meeting**  
**Wednesday, July 19, 2006**

The Save Sunny Lake Park Committee Meeting met in scheduled meeting on Wednesday, July 19, 2006 in the conference room at the Walker Building. Mr. Kraus called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

**ROLL CALL:**

Present:                   Bill Fellenstein  
                              Amy Holsthous  
                              James Kraus  
                              George Mazzaro  
                              John Trew  
                              Rich Wehrenberg  
                              William Zawiski

Absent                     Justin Czekai  
                              Mike DeMay  
                              George Hettinger  
                              Dennis Kovach  
                              Paul Anderson – EPA - will attend future meetings  
                              Bob Davic –EPA - will attend future meetings

Also Present:            Madeleine Marazzi –Recording Secretary

Mr. Kraus explained this meeting would be to review the problems, and start the process of what steps will need to be taken, resources availability and recommendation of possible consultant work needed.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Overview of problem:

Mr. Kraus stated when he started in April he was made aware of a letter sent to Mr. Lipstreu (former Planning and Zoning Director) by Mr. Zawiski (Environmental Scientist, Division of Surface Water, OEPA) about the water quality of Sunny Lake. Mr. Kraus stated they had discussed restoration and maintenance ideas and a joint meeting with Planning and Zoning was held to discuss this further.

Mr. Zawiski stated in the current water shed report for the Chagrin River Basin; Sunny Lake has come up as an issue that needs to be addressed. The biological survey of the chagrin river states, there is good fish population and biologic community above the lake the discharge from Sunny Lake and almost two miles of stream that gets hammered and then it gets restored. There are algae with a nutrient problem in

the lake that must be addressed. Mr. Zawiski stated he was mandated by federal law to fix the problems in the stream and Sunny Lake is one of the problems.

Mr. Mazzaro stated in 1999 or 2000 there were reports to determine the impact of toxic filtration from the industrial surrounding area of the lake.

Mr. Zawiski stated Sunny Lake has a nutrient problem that drives the blue algae. Mr. Kraus stated what is contributing to the lake will be looked into, such as ballfields, farms etc. Mr. Trew stated this was a very serious problem with the possibility of the dam being removed and the public will have to be educated as part of the process. Mr. Trew explained how fortunate we are to have the experts available and we should mirror what they do and adopt their suggestions and move forward as soon as possible.

Ms. Holtshouse (Chagrin River Watershed) asked if it would be possible to get all the reports and studies that were done in the past to help with the history. Ms. Holtshouse stated she understood from the Engineering Dept. a map study was put together concerning the maintenance of the dam. Sunny Lake is classified as a class 2 with 4 being the most dangerous. To keep this class 2 dam it will be somewhat contingent on who is living downstream of the dam as we go through this process. The dam maintenance issues will be a big part of the picture in this process.

Mr. Zawiski stated from the EPA standpoint there the recommendation as it stands now would be modification or removal of the dam due to the ecological condition. This might be changed as the process evolves. Discussion was held on a timetable to evaluate and proceed with the process. Mr. Zawiski stated there is a document by the H. John Heinz III Center for Science, Economics and the Environment, on dam removal decision making, which contains a table for how you organize the process of going through evaluating a structure, which is being used nationwide. Mr. Zawiski stated he will bring a copy of the document as well as information that have been used by other communities on references and removal of dams.

Consultant recommendation:

Mr. Kraus stated he talked with Charles Frederick on providing support consultation to the committee on planning/restoration technical services relating to Sunny Lake Park, Sunny Lake Watershed, and the Chagrin Watershed.

After discussion it was decided to delay using a consultant at this time and use the resources and expertise of the members of the committee.

Mr. Mazzaro suggested establishing a Save Sunny Lake fund to be able to draw on that fund for consultant work etc. as needed upon the recommendation of the committee.

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Future meeting dates and times:

After discussion it was decided to meet every two weeks in Council Chambers at 10:00 a.m. beginning with August 2, 2006.

Mr. Mazzaro suggested sending a memo to Council to keep them updated on the committee's action.

Mr. Kraus stated the contact list would be updated and emailed to everyone.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Mr. Kraus adjourned the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

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James Kraus - Chairman

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Madeleine Marazzi – Recording Secretary