

**Continental Village Park District Joint Advisory Committee Meeting
Cortlandt-Philipstown-Putnam Valley**

The Continental Village Park District Joint Advisory Committee (JAC) held an open meeting at 7:30 p.m. on March 11, 2025.

Attending Joint Advisory Committee members were:

Cortlandt	Ryan Palace Charles Park Bernie Zipprich
Philipstown	Lou Liotti Christopher Lubbers
Putnam Valley	Gorkey Estrella

Also present:

Superintendent	Fred Romer
Recording Secretary	Orly Lynn

Charles Park served as the acting Chairperson. The following items were discussed:

Guest Presentation – Lake Assessment by GEI Consultants:

Aj Reyes, Aquatic Ecologist with GEI Consultants, joined the JAC to present findings from the recent lake assessment. Reyes noted that Cortlandt Lake is classified as a shallow water body, which allows it to heat up more quickly and encourages both native and invasive aquatic plant growth. The presence of plants reaching the surface is a key indicator of concern.

Reyes emphasized the role of the lake-to-watershed size ratio in contributing to sediment and material deposits that further promote plant proliferation. The current condition will not resolve without intervention. The committee was asked to consider what level of plant and

**Continental Village Park District Joint Advisory Committee Meeting
Cortlandt-Philipstown-Putnam Valley**

sediment management, such as mechanical harvesting, herbicide treatments, or sediment removal, they are willing to implement moving forward.

Another key takeaway was the influence of Canopus Creek on the lake's condition. Protecting the watershed is essential for long-term lake health. Reyes recommended working collaboratively with local municipalities to create a watershed protection plan that would help unlock state and federal funding for preservation efforts. He also referenced potential support from the Hudson Highlands Land Trust, a nonprofit that offers assistance with funding initiatives for watershed protection.

Reyes further advised pursuing a pre-application process with the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) for sediment dredging. GEI will prepare this pre-application. While dredging will not significantly change the lake's depth, it may support longer-term goals of aquatic plant management.

Correspondence:

The committee clarified points from February's Building and Grounds report regarding exit pathways and keying of exterior entrances.

A motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting was made by Lou Liotti, seconded by Chris Lubbers, and unanimously approved.

Acting Superintendent Fred Romer shared that he had reached out to Victoria Cafarelli in Levenberg's office about the Crest Grant application for the playground and the initiation of the bid document process. Victoria confirmed that while the bid document process could begin, funds could not yet be allocated. A sample application has yet to be received, and the Clerk's Office is managing that process.

**Continental Village Park District Joint Advisory Committee Meeting
Cortlandt-Philipstown-Putnam Valley**

Fred also corresponded with Legislator Nancy Montgomery regarding potential state or town energy efficiency programs. Nancy connected him with Sustainable Putnam to arrange for an energy audit and facility walkthrough. A meeting is pending.

Fred reported that a quote of \$26,000 was received for new roofing for the clubhouse, quotes for the gazebo and shop building to be provided at the next meeting. Additionally, signage has been created for the park, basketball court, and tennis court. Charles Park reached out to Van Tassel's office and Highway Department to request pavement marking assistance and additional signage support. The resurfacing of the tennis court is still pending.

Fred noted that work on the catch basin and boom installation for the dam is expected to begin next month.

Building & Grounds Committee:

No updates were reported.

Lake & Dam Committee update:

Chuck reported that dates were secured with the weed harvester for shoreline clearing in June and August.

Finance Committee:

There were no significant updates. The newly approved budget was shared with the committee for review.

Communications:

No new updates were reported.

**Continental Village Park District Joint Advisory Committee Meeting
Cortlandt-Philipstown-Putnam Valley**

Old Business /New Business:

No additional business was discussed.

Public Commentary:

No public commentary.

JAC By-Laws/ Appointments / Action Items / Next Meeting:

A motion to adjourn was made by Lou Liotti, seconded by Bernie Zipprich, and unanimously approved. The meeting concluded at 9:25 p.m.

The next JAC meeting is scheduled for April 8, 2025, at 7:30 p.m. in the Clubhouse.

Respectfully submitted,

Orly Lynn

Reporting Secretary