

**MINUTES****BALLSTON LAKE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION**  
Annual Membership Meeting, June 19, 2019

**Call to order: President, Pete Herman at 7:08**

**Attendance: 63 Members were present.**

**Secretary's Report:** Joanne DeVoe presented the Minutes of the 2018 Annual Meeting. Accepted as amended.

**Treasurer's Report – Larry Hausheer** presented the Financial report which was accepted as presented. Noted features included the reduction of the expected insurance premium from \$2500 to \$1396. The checking account balance is \$10,134.82. The \$27,066.36 in the savings account is restricted to lake management expenditures i.e. providing the matching portion of certain environmental grants. The Treasurers Report was accepted as presented.

**Peter** Herman introduced Town of Ballston Supervisor Tim Szczepaniak who surprised Dr. Herman before their scheduled sewer presentations with a beautifully framed Town of Ballston Resolution signed by the entire Town Council honoring Peter for his over 30 years of service as President of the BLIA. Additionally, the Town of Ballston will dedicate the Fishing Pier on Outlet Road in Pete's honor at a public sign unveiling ceremony later in the summer.

**Town of Ballston Councilman, Bill Goslin and Supervisor Tim Szczepaniak**, presented a very well received update on the proposed Ballston Lake Sewer District. The bids for the total project will be divided into 5 separate projects to make them more nimble. Additional funding has become available through grants. The message was one of encouragement that the Ballston Lake Sewer Project **will happen**. Councilman Goslin and Supervisor Szczepaniak participated in an informative Q & A session after the formal presentations with additional comments from Town of Ballston Sewer Committee Members and BLIA Board Members Wes DeVoe and Drew Hamelink. Supervisor Szczepaniak, who sits on the Saratoga County Board of Supervisors reported that the recent merger of SEDC and Prosperity Partners will result in many benefits to the Town of Ballston including the complimentary services of a professional grant writer.

**President's Report –** Pete Herman thanked the board and membership for their support during his tenure as President. He explained the CSLAP process which he will continue to work on, assisted by Larry Hausheer, during his retirement.

**BLIA Lake Management Committee Report - Dave Pierce** reported on concerns about the level of lake water. Drainage is slow and flooding occurs. In the aftermath of recent flooding at the end of Westside Drive and Outlet Road, Dr. Pierce put together a site meeting at the

Outlet with representatives from the town and NYS DEC. The US Army Corps of Engineers will also be called in to help with a solution to spring high water and flooding. Beaver activity and the need to clear a virtual jungle of vegetation prevent good drainage and flow. He also presented a map of 8 sites where streams flow into the lake. These are tested for fecal coliform bacteria. The results are tabulated at the Bolton Landing Lab and sent to the DEC. Ballston Lake is 5<sup>th</sup> in the state on a list of impaired lakes, a fact that indeed might make us more eligible for mitigation funding. The Town of Ballston received notice of a \$19,000 DEC grant to revise the present lake management plan. PRISM will be conducting a study of invasive species in the lake this summer. A question about water chestnuts was answered positively – these nuisances have seen a significant reduction in the lake.

**Potable Water:** New board member **Tim Sorrentino** has done extensive work on water filtration systems. [tim.sorrentino@outlook.com](mailto:tim.sorrentino@outlook.com).

**Membership:** **Nick Trotta** Nick reported our membership count to be at 145 plus which is slightly lower than last year. He is very interested in customer satisfaction and welcomes members and former members to approach him with concerns and problems. He can be reached at: [trotta.nick@gmail.com](mailto:trotta.nick@gmail.com).

**Social Media:** **Marisa Goddard** was introduced as the new Social Media Chair. She will be updating the Web Site ([ballstonlake.org](http://ballstonlake.org)) and has us set up on Instagram and Twitter as well as Facebook. She would welcome good photos of lake activity to further enhance our social media presence. Please send jpg's to [goddard.marisa10@gmail.com](mailto:goddard.marisa10@gmail.com).

**Newsletter – Greg Adams** reminded members who wish to receive their newsletters (3/year) electronically will have the benefit of color. The publications that are mailed are in black and white. Also, there is a savings to BLIA associated with printing and postage costs when it is mailed. He thanked the many contributors for their stories, photos and reports. He will begin to send the newsletter electronically to Marisa for social media including the web site. Greg can be reached at: [adamsgreg01@gmail.com](mailto:adamsgreg01@gmail.com).

**Annual Picnic – Greg Adams** reported on what a nice social event BLIA's Annual Pot Luck Picnic is – it's always at Lakeside Farm the first Tuesday of August. Feel free to invite your neighbors. He extended special thanks to Erin Kelly Smith and Suzanne Bishop for providing quality activities for children. Grills available, provide your own beverage

**Ballston Lake Water Safety Committee – John Gill** has been in touch with Saratoga County Sheriff Michael Zurlo who has promised that we will see at least two sheriff patrol vessels during prime weekend time this season. John spoke of a report of a woman driving a very good water skier guy without an observer this previous weekend. He mentioned how the boat driver was struggling to keep her course and turning to check on the guy. Such distracted boating is very dangerous; to the driver, the skier and other lake users. John urged that "Common Courtesy" prevail. John Gill can be reached at: [jgill5@nycap.rr.com](mailto:jgill5@nycap.rr.com).

**Old Business:** Janet Troidle and others expressed concern that the buoys installed by NYS Parks & Rec at the “No Wake” zone at the narrows would ideally be installed earlier in the season. It was determined that BLIA augment the buoy inventory with a purchased set so they can be installed as soon as the boating season begins. Dr. Pierce conducted “on the spot” research and answered a question about the length from shore a boat is allowed to be moored. The length of the “swing” is 50 feet from shore. And, yes, a permit is required.

**New Business:** A crew of young men who have ventured into the Outlet in adverse weather conditions to clear brush and evidence of beaver activity and thus increasing the flow of water and reducing the high water level were thanked.

**Election of Officers and Directors – Ann Pierce** presented a slate of officers and explained about the terms of directors. A Nominee for President was absent from the original slate. Peter Herman called for nominations from the floor. Jack France nominated Wes DeVoe for BLIA President. The nomination was seconded by Nick Trotta. The president called for discussion; there being none, he called for the slate to be acted upon. The slate passed unanimously. The 2019 – 2020 BLIA officers are: Wes DeVoe, President; Dave Pierce, VP Lake Management; Greg Adams, VP Newsletter; Pete Voss, VP Clifton Park liaison; Drew Hamelink, VP Sewer; Nick Trotta, VP Membership; Joanne DeVoe, Secretary; Larry Hausheer, Treasurer; and Pete Herman, Immediate Past President. Directors and their terms are: Marisa Goddard, Director 2019 – 2022; Ron Lind, Director 2019-2022; Tim Sorrentino, Director 2019-2022; Bob Wilson 2019-2022. Current Directors and their terms are: Bill Bashant through 2021; Ann Pierce through 2020 and Gini Whetten through 2020. Joanne Frame’s term has expired.

**Drawing –** Tickets for door prizes of four \$25 Gift Cards to area restaurants were drawn. The membership enjoyed this feature, the idea of which emanated from Dave Pierce and the operation of which was handled by Membership Chair Nick Trotta.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:26. A social time with refreshments followed the adjournment