

**MINUTES
BALLSTON LAKE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION
BOARD MEETING**

Tuesday, February 4, 2020 = 7 PM – CARNEY’S TAVERN

ATTENDANCE: Wes DeVoe, Joanne DeVoe, Bill Bashant, Dave Pierce, Ann Pierce, Drew Hamelink, Larry Hausheer, Pete Voss, Pete Herman, Greg Adams, Tim Sorrentino, Gini Whetten, Bob Wilson

EXCUSED: Nick Trotta, Janice Nicole, Ron Lind, Marisa Goddard

Call to Order: 7:10 PM by President, Wes DeVoe -

Secretary’s Report: Joanne DeVoe Minutes of December meeting were accepted as corrected.

- Clarification of By Laws Change **Proposal:** “As allowed by recently approved change to Article XIII of the By Laws on December 3, 2019, the BLIA Board of Directors approves direct deposits from PayPal for member dues and from The GE Foundation for matching gift payments. “ Motion by Gini Whetten
Second by Pete Voss

Treasurer’s Report: Larry Hausheer provided a financial summary update/ \$3,885.00 received as membership dues (51 members) no expenses have been incurred so far in this billing cycle

- Monthly Financial Statement (attached) accepted by a motion from Tim Sorrentino with a second by Bob Wilson
- Deadline for membership dues with incentive is February 28th (drawing for \$100 Gift Certificates donated by Hyde’s Marine Services and Mohawk Valley Marine)

Committee Reports

Sewer Project: Drew Hamelink / Wes DeVoe

Drew presented a project update (Attached) the Town of Ballston is awaiting official notification of the \$5 million grant. There is considerable push back from residents who claim not to have been informed of monetary details before the Lake Sewer Referendum. Drew urged board members to write letters to the Town Board and to be present and speak at Town Board meetings when “privilege of the floor” is on the agenda. The web site <http://www.ballstonsewers.org/> has been updated and is a good source of accurate sewer information.

Lake Management: Dave Pierce

- **Lake level** has varied about 7 inches since Nov 1st Ron Lind has implements on his dock to record changes in water levels..
- **Watershed Management Plan** In July 2019 DEC awarded the Town of Ballston a grant of \$26,000 to complete a 9 Element DEC Watershed Management Plan for Ballston Lake. Between July and November we worked with the Town to develop an RFP to hire a company to complete the work that this grant will fund. 2 bids were received in December that were too high and 1 bid did not address all aspects of the RFP. Discussions with DEC revealed that DEC did not understand our proposal and would not fund a watershed plan but would fund activities to develop a lake management plan. We are now developing a new RFP to reflect our discussions with DEC and go forward with using this grant.

CSLAP: Pete Herman / Larry Hausheer -

- There will be a CSLAP training session at the NYSFOLA annual conference on Saturday May 2nd in Lake George. Board members may wish to participate. (The date conflicts with our Clean Up Day).

- CSLAP dues are **\$470** annually for our size lake – BLIA also made a \$200 donation to NYSFOLA.

Water Safety Committee Bill Bashant – Bill crafted a cautionary document to be e-blasted to the lake community with advice on safety issues when the lake is frozen. Among a few reminders: Lake Residents with bubblers protecting docks should monitor their impact to not over extend the open water area. Post a sign, light or other marking to alert travelers of the bubbler presence. Everyone using the lake should be aware that the inlet streams, and dock bubblers, create weakness in the ice, and each walker, skier, ice fisherman, snowmobiler or ATV/motorist should be aware of their surroundings to be safe. Wes has been in touch with the Saratoga County Sherriff Department. He found out: NYS speed limits (55MPH) for snowmobiles & ATVs on the lake, and snowmobilers & ATVs on the lake should operate at a minimum speed when within 100 feet of a skater, ice fisherman, ice fishing shack or other person not on a snowmobile/ATV.

Committee members will be taking photos of “best practices” re: ice safety i.e. lights and cones and signs near places where bubblers are installed.

Newsletter Deadline: Greg Adams - Greg needs newsletter items and photos for the March newsletter as soon as possible.

Membership: Report Sent by Nick Trotta - Initial 2020 Dues Mailing went out January 16. 131 members were sent cover letters and applications in an effort to save mailing and printing costs. By January 31, 33 members renewed by mail and 18 renewed electronically. Nick is thankful to Janice Nicoll for the e-mailing through Constant Contact. The membership information on the web site has been updated.

Social Media / Communications

- 1.) **Web site, Instagram, Twitter: Marisa Goddard sent in her report:** Please email updated information regarding the sewer progress to her goddard.marisa10@gmail.com so she can a blog post on our website.
- 2.) Please also email me any current lake updates-Examples include if the lake has an algae bloom, if the ice is not solid enough to be on. I added a drop down from lake info on the website that says Lake Update. I am hoping to update this as often as possible.
- 3.) Continue to send me any pictures of the lake. This includes winter pictures, not just summer pictures.
- 4.) Thank You Bob for catching the typo on the website. I have updated it under lake info. As always please continue to email me anything else you catch on the website. I do my best to update as many things as I can when I can but sometimes, I may miss something. Thank you.
- 5.) Anything else you think should be added on the website, please just shoot me an email of what you'd like to see! As always, thank you again.
- 6.) I would like to throw out an event idea for next winter for those that stay here during the winter months. I noticed that Brant Lake does a winter carnival on the lake which includes ice hockey, ice bowling, broom ball and fireworks at the end. It looked like something that may make winters more enjoyable on our lake with a fun event to look forward to. We could put together our own ides obviously but just an idea I wanted to throw out!
- 7.) **RESPONSE of Board to Item 6** – new events are most welcome as always budgetary and leadership considerations need to be in place.
 - **Face Book: Joanne DeVoe** – FB is very popular – we endeavor to include community events when appropriate.
 - **Constant Contact: Janice Nicoll** – It was noted that Jan does an excellent job.

Finalize Board Meetings / BLIA Calendar 2020 - Joanne DeVoe – The only change in the calendar is the extended deadline for incentive eligibility for received dues.

Clean-up Day Sat 5/2/20 - Wes DeVoe – Wes has met with Chris Newell from BPA and Bob Wilson and Pete Herman from BLIA. The date is Saturday, May 2. A TOB dump truck has been requested through Joe Whalen. The expense of new T-Shirts will be shared between BLIA and BPA.

Nominating Committee: Ann Pierce polled those in attendance about their continued BLIA board membership. Everyone present at the meeting is remaining.

Eagle Nest Platform Project with O'Rourke Middle School Students – Industrial arts students from O'Rourke Middle School have taken on a project to install an Eagle Nesting platform along Outlet Road. The platform has been constructed and will be installed by National Grid pending favorable weather conditions in the spring.

Annual Meeting Tuesday 6/16/20 BLFD – BLIA Board will be looking into Speakers and an appropriate program

Next Board Meeting Tuesday April 7, 2020 7pm Carney's

Respectfully Submitted,

Joanne DeVoe, Secretary