

Minutes
BALLSTON LAKE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION
BOARD MEETING
Thursday May 12, 2022, = 7:00 PM Finnigan's--Hybrid
(ZOOM and in Person)

Attendance: Wes DeVoe, Dave Pierce, Pete Voss, Drew Hamelink, Joanne DeVoe, Larry Hausheer, Pete Herman, Bill Bashant, Bob Duncan, David Vanderwerker, Patrick Whitton, Bob Wilson, Erica LeVan. Chad Munkres, Jack France, Jr.

Guest: Todd Etesse

Call to Order: President Wes DeVoe called the meeting to order at 7:07 and welcomed Todd Etesse.

Todd Etesse, Todd is the current owner of the Finnigan's property, the restaurant building, the adjacent parking lots and the boat launch across the street. He made a casual overview of the current status of the launch and entertained questions. The launch is open, a locked box for fees and registering to use the launch is located behind the restaurant. Bob Duncan and Joanne DeVoe will summarize the details of launching including special \$20 limitless launching (no parking) deal to lake residents, daily and weekend fees for boats, fees for kayaks, parking, capacity limits, etc. This information will be sent via constant contact to our stakeholders and posted on Facebook and on BLIA website. Larry Hausheer will be in touch with our Portable Outhouse vendor and the cost (\$300/season in the past) will be shared between BLIA and Etesse.

Minutes Accepted - sent to board for changes/input – no input (edits) assumes approval.

Treasurers Report - Larry Hausheer_Total assets are \$47,814.30

In general expenses and income are as expected. Membership income is near budget, and we expect additional memberships to come in after the annual meeting. Expenses are high, but we expected and planned for the upcoming \$2500 beaver deceiver. We paid for the new, approved but unplanned \$2300 expense for the new lake level monitor. Because of the beaver control expenses, we expected a slight year end loss. However, it looks like we will break even or be slightly ahead of budget by year end. **Financial report accepted. Motion Bill Bashant, Second Pat Whitton.**

Membership: -Bob Wilson – We currently have 141 active residential members, 10 paid business members and 8. "in kind" members. Total of 159 members

Sewer Project Status: - Drew Hamelink via Zoom

Contract 1 has completed the area from the pump station along Mill Lane. They still have a lot to do we expect will be working into the Summer and probably Fall. Contract 2 is complete. This is the largest section that goes from Carney's along Westside Drive, the west side of the lake to Outlet, under the bridge and along Lake out to Shenentaha park. Contract 3 which is the Ballston part of the east side of the lake is almost complete and should be done in a couple of weeks. Contract 4 which is East Side Drive is now also complete.

Saratoga County Sewer District (SCSD) staff have been through all of Contracts 2, 3 and 4 and only had a few minor punch list items which are being addressed. This is the County's review of the work of the contractors in preparation for their acceptance of the system. (The Town will own the system while the debt service is being repaid but the County has agreed to maintain it.)

The Town of Ballston allocated up to \$350,000 ARPA (American Recovery Plan) program funds for financial assistance to residents who qualify for financial hardship under the sewer use law. The application window closed on Friday. The final number of residents who qualify was not available at this writing, but the number is expected to be in the low teens which will mean that all residents costs are likely not be covered.

ARPA funds can be used to assist financially challenged homeowners with their sewer hookup. Criteria will be same as in the current sewer use law for financial hardship connection deferral, i.e., 3X the Federal poverty level. 15 households applied for the funding.

CLEAN UP DAY = Joanne DeVoe – Almost 100 volunteers participated in Clean Up Day 2022. The Gazette carried a “High Note” column photo and story.

Social Media = Bob Duncan created a collage of photos from Clean Up Day. View it by clicking here [Cleanup Day - Thank You - Ballston Lake Improvement Association](#).

LAKE MANAGEMENT – DAVE PIERCE

Beaver Deceiver progress:

On May 9th Skip Lisle met me at Curtis Industrial Park to evaluate placement of the beaver deceiver. He recommended putting it in a new beaver dam in Ballston Creek where the National Grid power line goes over the creek. Since this is a new location, I told Skip to delay installation of the deceiver until we get more BLIA members to evaluate the location.

On May 10th Bill Bashant, Bob Duncan, Wes DeVoe and I met at the dam in question to discuss the beaver deceiver location. We agreed with Skip about the new location as being the major hold back in the flow in the outlet.

Later that night I reported this plan to the Ballston Town Board at their May meeting.

They wanted proof that this new location was on land owned by Curtis Industrial Park and they also wanted NYSDEC to approve of this project.

On May 11 I called NYS DEC and spoke with Tim Watson. I sent him the maps Bob Wilson made and explained the project to him. On May 12th we received an email from DEC notifying us that they approved this project.

One May 13th the Ballston Town Attorney and Joe Whalen from the Highway Dep gave us the OK to proceed with the project. I then notified Skip and he said we were on his list of projects and he will get back to us in a few weeks.

Lake Management Plan

Upstate Freshwater institute completed their work and presented the plan to the Town of Ballston on February 22. I sent a copy of the plan to the BLIA board. I would like to summarize the document and answer any questions at the BLIA Annual meeting June 2022

LAKE LEVEL MONITOR – Has been ordered and paid for – will be installed on Ron Lind’s dock upon delivery.

OUTLET CLEANING – Give time to assess how the beaver baffle is working before doing any manual clean-up of beaver property

Shoreline Clearing – Bill Bashant proposes a posse of kayakers with a support collection boat (Pat Whitton) to participate in debris removal at the northeast corner of the lake over two weekends. A call for volunteers will go out.

NEWSLETTER & ANNUAL PICNIC – GREG ADAMS

Newsletter- The newsletter needs to announce the details of the annual meeting (June 15) and the slate of officers and directors at least 2 weeks before the annual meeting per our bylaws and so people can plan and put it on their calendar.

If we are to do a newsletter the deadline needs to be four weeks before it (May 25). Alternately the meeting and slate can be sent to the membership via Constant Contact.

Picnic- Date has been approved for the first Tuesday in August at the Lakeside Pavilion. This will be a “Potluck” supper with a “Bring Your Own Supper Option”. We can promote specifics in the June newsletter, social media, Constant Contact, and the annual meeting.

BH-BL BPA Annual Flag Day Parade, Thursday, June 9, 6 PM

Annual Meeting Wednesday, June 15, 7 PM Lakeside Farms Pavilion

BLIA Boat Parade, Monday, July 4 – starts at 3 PM at south end of lake

Next Board Meeting Tuesday June 7TH 7:00 PM at the home of Jack France, JR, France Lane. Finnigan’s is closed on Monday and Tuesday and the Flag Day Parade is on Thursday. We have traditionally met on Tuesday evenings – hoping this works out satisfactorily – thanks Jack and Leslie France for your hospitality.

Board Meeting at Jack France, Jr.’s barn France Lane will have zoom option.