

**Bowman Lake Association Board Meeting  
June 18, 2011**

Sharon Dawes, President, called the meeting to order at 4:08 pm. In attendance were: Janice Anne Kullman, Vice President; Al Trivers, Treasurer; Susan Faulkner, Secretary; Directors: Rob Dawes, Shane Cahill, Bruce Sowalski, Colleen Masters, and Cindy LaFleur; and Water Quality Committee Chairperson, Rovie Simons. Absent were: Anja Carr, Immediate Past President and Director Dave Douthiel.

**Review Agenda for Association Meeting:** Sharon Dawes, President, opened the meeting with a report that attempts had been made to secure a non-residential space for the “business meeting” as had been suggested at a previous BLA meeting, but none was found without having to pay for it. She then made general announcements about resident news since the last Board Meeting.

Sharon indicated that Eileen Cahill would report to the Membership regarding possible options for weed control around the lake including a method used by the residents of Spring Lake. There was general discussion regarding increased concerns about the weeds on the lake.

**Committee Reports:** Rovie Simons, Chair of the Environmental Oversight Committee, reported that cutting off the food supply is the best solution for dealing with the beaver presence on the pond since there is the constant possibility of beavers re-invading the lake from the nearby swamp if removal strategies were to be employed. He referenced the NYS EnCon Nuisance Beaver Control Techniques Manual.

Cindy LaFleur, Chair of the Membership Committee, indicated that she is cross-checking membership lists to come up with a complete list of Bowman Lake Association members.

Bruce Sowalski, Chair of the Social Committee, introduced the need for money for a venue for a new event, a talent show, which would come after the Annual Membership Meeting in August. He indicated this could potentially meet the request for a non-residential space for the meeting while also providing a space for the talent show. This led to a discussion regarding continuing to give the Zion’s United Church of Christ the authorized \$100 per year in the form of payment for the church hall to meet the “business meeting” requirement, maintaining the intent of the yearly donation, and maintaining the budget. The Chair of the Talent Show event will deal with required paperwork if this Venue Rental item is approved by the membership.

**Secretary’s Report:** Susan Faulkner, after the reading of the Minutes from the September Board meeting was waived due to prior reading by the Board, and **the Minutes were approved by unanimous vote, moved by Al Trivers, seconded by Janice Anne Kullman**, introduced community announcements sent to her for the meetings including information from the Taborton Volunteer Fire Department, the Zion’s

United Church of Christ, and the Sand Lake Kiwanis group. These will be sent to Sharon for inclusion on the Website.

**Treasurer's Report:** Al Trivers handed out the 2010/2011 Budget vs. Actuals report and the Treasurer's Report (see attached). Reviewing the Budget vs. Actuals some changes were made based on discussion of the possible change in donation to venue rental status for the Zion's United Church of Christ and engraving expenses for the Blake Cup not listed.

Al indicated concerns regarding an increase in costs for the Winter Festival and it was discussed that the Social Committee will discuss with the event Chairs the need to keep to budgeted amounts. There was some discussion regarding monies being given to the Men of the Mountain event, but since no budget was requested for it this year, it was decided to wait until the event becomes established so a reasonable figure can be included in future budgets. Finally, Al raised concerns that the new dues structure and the amount of money being put into the Water Quality account (currently 50% of dues received) may not leave enough in the operating account to cover planned expenses. He also indicated that if the Membership requires that meetings are held at non-residential venues, any additional costs from this may require an increase in Membership fees.

Discussion followed regarding what kind of assessment and what monies were necessary for water quality control. A number of suggestions were made regarding water quality control including whether weed control is necessary and, if so, what kind, whether to do basic water sampling every two years versus a more expensive assessment every 5-6 years, that whatever kind of report is generated be stated in easily understood terms, and that a report of options be generated to be presented to the Membership in August. Rovie Simons agreed to look into this and have something to present to the Membership.

**Coleen Masters moved to approve the budget with the changes discussed including addition to the engraving budget and the addition of the Venue Rental category with a \$100 budget and a consequent change in donations from \$300 to \$200. Janice Anne seconded, and the budget was approved unanimously.**

**Payment Methods for Dues:** Sharon introduced the possibility of paying Membership fees using PayPal. She indicated that she could talk to Bowman Lake Association Website co-designer, Ian Horne, about setting up a Bowman Lake Association account on PayPal to make paying Membership dues possible on-line. There was discussion about how to do this, how those who chose to pay this way would absorb the account fees in the cost of the Membership fee. Once Ian looked into this, then there would be a presentation to the Membership of this as a possible option. **Shane Cahill moved to have Ian Horne explore PayPal as a possible option for Membership fee payment, Rob Dawes seconded. Motion was approved by majority, with one opposed.**

Sharon then suggested that given the Membership Fee for this year actually covers an 18 month span (\$30/person) that Members be given the option of payment in installments. Al Trivers indicated that this has always been an option informally as long as someone

approached him and his preference would be to not make it a formal policy. The matter was left at that.

**Guest Fees for BLA Events:** Sharon raised the question of whether the BLA should formalize a policy of charging for guests at BLA events. Discussion included how to clarify who is and isn't a guest and how to enforce the policy. Most Board Members did not see this as a serious concern, and the suggestion was made that the Chair of any social event would put a "Donation Jar" placed prominently at events so that those so inclined can put something in for guests. Further discussion of the matter was left open based on whether there will be further concerns about guest expenses.

**Friends of Big Bowman:** Sharon raised the question of whether to create an official "Friends" program for those who want to keep a connection to BLA but do not fit the definition of member. Discussion included what would be the benefits of one being a "Friend" which would be getting the Newsletter, being on the mailing list for BLA announcements and events and maintaining connection with the BLA community. **Shane Cahill moved to have someone explore what the criteria and benefits would be for establishing the category of Friend of the BLA; Coleen Masters seconded; and the motion carried with the majority, with one opposed.** Janice Anne Kullman agreed to explore this and report back to the Board.

Meeting adjourned at 5:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan J. Faulkner  
July 15, 2011