

August 1, 2021 Bowman Lake Association Membership Meeting Minutes

Meeting conducted via Zoom

Call to Order: Time: 7:05 pm by Mark Nasuti, President

Current Board Members:	Present	Absent
President: Mark Nasuti	X	
Vice President: Janice Anne Kullman	X	
Secretary: vacant		
Treasurer: Laura D'Agostino	X	
Directors: 3 year terms, 2 directors elected each year		
Rachel Cahill (elected July/Aug 2019; 2 year term)	X	
Bill Kullman (elected July/Aug 2019; 2 year term)		X
Jack Betterly (elected July/Aug 2019)		X
Matt Robilotta (elected July/Aug 2019)		X
Rovie Simons (elected Aug 2020)	X	
Colleen Masters (elected Aug 2020)	X	
Immediate Past President: Dan Coiteux		X

Others Present: Marsha Kelly, Bill Schulman, Vicki Simons, Anja Carr, Lorraine Ferguson, Vicki Fowler, John Losee, Barbara Kivlin, Elaine Megurian, Sharon Dawes

1. **Review of Meeting Minutes:** Minutes have been approved by the Board of Directors per current BLA procedure. Note: Membership Meeting minutes are in draft form and voting is to **approve** the minutes. Board Meeting minutes are finalized and voting is (per BLA tradition) is to **accept** the minutes
 - a. Acceptance of June 23, 2021 Board of Directors meeting minutes
 Moved by: Mark Nasuti Seconded: Anja Carr
 Accepted by unanimous vote of all members present
 - b. Approval of June 26, 2021 draft Membership meeting minutes
 Moved by: Mark Nasuti Seconded: Anja Carr
 Approved by unanimous vote of all members present

2. **Treasurer's Report:** Presented by Laura Dagostino. Current bank balances: Checkbook: \$4030, Savings: \$5910. Laura presented an Excel spreadsheet with 2021 expenses to date and the proposed 2022 budget. The anticipated revenue is \$1700. The budgeted expenditures total \$2175. The budget is not balanced, however for several years the BLA actual expenditures have been significantly less than budgeted. The group agreed to propose raising the BLA annual "dues" at the next membership meeting; Mark will put it on the meeting agenda. The group also requested the BLA Board discuss whether we should, on the Treasurer's ledger, split the savings account into two "accounts": one for general savings, one for water quality. Mark will

add this to the next Board agenda. The group agreed upon several revisions to the proposed budget; the revised document is attached. With these revisions, nobody had any objection to the budget. Per the BLA by-laws the 6 Board members present voted on the revised budget; budget approved by unanimous vote.

3. Committee reports:

- a. Water/ Dam Board Committee. Presented by Anja Carr: We have had a couple of “wicked” storms. The board was out when the storm that washed out Taborton Rd occurred, and the lake water level still rose to 1 foot above the agreed-upon level. Fortunately, no properties were damaged. The dam board has been removed and put back in many times this year in response to changing circumstances. The committee is closely monitoring the water level and weather forecast this summer, and responds quickly as needed. Mark added that established procedures are being followed.
- b. CSLAP Committee. Presented by Rovie Simons: (CSLAP is acronym for Citizens Statewide Lake Assessment Program.)
 - i. Water sampling continues. This summer, John Losee and Jack Betterly have been doing most of the work regarding that. Thanks guys.
 - ii. The summer NYSFOLA (New York Federation of Lake Associations) newsletter includes a tribute to Bruce Sowalski for his work with CSLAP. Bruce was nominated for this by the CSLAP committee.
 - iii. Rovie has ordered and is paying for three 12” X 18” road signs with the “Clean, Drain, Dry” message for anyone bringing outside boats or equipment onto Big Bowman. These signs will be mounted at the Lawson Rd, Manning Way and Howe Road intersections. Sharon Dawes reported that the *Big Bowman Stewardship Guide* is now on the BLA website. Mark Nasuti also e-mailed the guide to everyone with a plea to please share it with family, visitors and renters.
 - iv. After the torrential rain that washed out Taborton Rd. the Schulmans had a sulfur smell in their water (they pump their house water from the lake). NYSFOLA informed us that this was due to the rainfall churning up the bio-matter at the bottom of the lake, it should be a temporary condition, and advised that water intakes not be located near the bottom of the lake. Neighbors helped the Schulmans raise their water intake so it was not as close to the bottom (note we have had ice at least 22 inches thick in winter, so the intake should be at least this deep.) Mark commented that he keeps activated carbon filters on hand to use during times like this, although he noted that they clog up much quicker than the standard sediment filters.
- c. Regatta. Presented by Rachel Cahill:
 - i. The Regatta was a big success. The weather cooperated, and 50-60 people were in attendance. Congratulations to the

LaFleur/Kivlin/Dagostino/VanHoesen float (entitled “The Ark”) for winning the Blake Cup. Thanks to Anja Carr & John Losee for coordinating & cooking the food; thanks to Mark Nasuti & Vicki Fowler for pre-Regatta setup and making the potato salad; thanks to the Kullmans for hosting the Regatta; and most of all thanks to Rachel Cahill for serving as Chairperson for the entire Regatta.

- ii. Total expenses came in at \$338; significantly under budget thanks to charitable donations from John Losee and others.
- iii. Anja Carr has leftover hamburgers/hot dogs. She is planning a potluck/cookout on her new deck for Labor Day weekend.

4. President’s Report: Presented by Mark Nasuti:

- a. Mark said we need a Regatta Chairperson for 2022. Please think about it! Operators are standing by to take your call.
- b. Mark thanked the two outgoing Directors, Rachel Cahill and Bill Kullman for serving on the Board.
- c. Mark said we also need someone to coordinate the BLA Winterfest, an activity that has not occurred for several years. Traditionally, the Winterfest used to occur on Saturday of President’s Day weekend.
- d. Mark asked if we have a date for the Bruce Sowalski Talent Show. Traditionally, the Talent Show was held on Labor Day weekend. Lorraine Ferguson has agreed to host it; she will reach out to Ron Cahill.

5. 2021 BLA Elections:

- a. Positions up for election, and candidates running are:
 - President—Mark Nasuti
 - Vice-President—Janice Anne Kullman
 - Secretary—no candidates
 - Treasurer—Laura Dagostino
 - Board Member—Elaine Merguerian
 - Board Member—Bill Schulman.
- b. The Board of Directors, in its 7-29-2021 meeting, reaffirmed that since every candidate is running unopposed, the voting could be done as one vote for the entire slate of candidates. None of the membership had any objection to this.
- c. Mark moved we vote on the slate of candidates. John Losee seconded. The slate of candidates was elected by unanimous vote of all members present.

6. Blake Cup: How should we engrave the Blake Cup to reflect that there was no 2020 regatta because of Covid? There are four flat (horizontal) areas on the base of the cup that are blank, and traditionally not used for yearly cup winners. The group agreed that one surface will be engraved to state the Regatta was not held during 1941-1945 because of World War 2; another surface will be engraved to state the Regatta was not held during 2020 because of Covid. Anja Carr volunteered to have the plaques made.

7. BLA Charitable Contributions:

- a. At the July 23, 2020 BLA Board meeting, a request was made by a Board member that the following statements (as worded) be voted on by the Membership in 2021. After a brief discussion, a clear consensus was evident regarding these three issues. Everyone agreed to vote on all three with one vote.
 - i. Should the BLA continue contributing to Zion United Church of Christ since they no longer allow BLA to use the hall free of charge?
 - ii. Should the BLA continue to contribute to Taborton Fire Department?
 - iii. Should the BLA continue contributing to the Sand Lake Ambulance?
- b. Moved by: Mark Nasuti Seconded: Janice Kullman
- c. Vote was unanimous by all members present to continue these charitable contributions (\$100 each) on an annual basis.

8. Lake Assessment Study:

- a. Rovie requested the subject of a Lake Assessment Study be included on the agenda for consideration of expenditure for 2022. At this point in the meeting, Rovie was no longer present. A discussion took place in his absence.
- b. It was pointed out that we had a thorough study of the lake completed in 2019 by George Smith of SUNY Oneonta. This study was George's master's thesis in Lake Management, and his study was supervised, reviewed and approved by his thesis advisor(s) at SUNY. This study, for which the BLA paid \$5000, would have cost us over \$20,000 if contracted for in the conventional manner. George's report is on the BLA website.
- c. John Losee said his understanding was that Rovie wanted to ensure that water samples would continue to be taken in the event that this was not part of the CSLAP program next year. NYS DEC (Department of Environmental Conservation) provides most of the funds for the CSLAP program and currently there is a budget battle occurring within DEC. NYSFOLA has informed us that funding for CSLAP could be significantly reduced, resulting in less data collected, or possibly no data in certain years (e.g. 2 years yes, 3 years no). Mark pointed out that the Board has the authority to spend funds that the BLA has in the bank, so the Board can address this issue if we learn that CSLAP will not support water samples in 2022. The group agreed to include this issue on the next Board meeting agenda, and take no action at this time.

- 9. Next Membership Meeting:** The group discussed our current practice of holding one BLA membership meeting in June and one the day after the Regatta. The traditional reason for holding two BLA meetings in the summer is that many people were seasonal residents and could not participate any other time. The group agreed that since we are

now (and expect to continue) holding BLA meetings via Zoom, this reason is no longer valid. Furthermore, we no longer hold the two meetings at the beginning and end of the summer, but instead we hold them only one month apart. This does not seem to be the best way to do things at this point. Therefore, the group proposes to the rest of the BLA membership that starting in 2022, instead of holding two summer meetings, we hold a winter meeting and a summer meeting. If the winter meeting were held the Sunday of Presidents' Weekend that also might increase interest in a BLA Winterfest. The summer meeting would continue to be the day after the Regatta. Therefore, the proposed date/time for the next BLA Membership meeting is **Sunday February 20th @ 7 pm via Zoom**. The group hopes that the BLA members not at the meeting will provide feedback regarding this proposal. Send feedback to the BLA email account and Mark will collect the comments and send them out to everyone.

10. General Discussion (any issue any member wishes to discuss). No other issues were raised.

11. Adjournment: Moved by Mark Nasuti, seconded by John Losee. Meeting adjourned at: 8:48 pm

Minutes taken by Mark Nasuti



“Your meeting’s over. You can relax your Zoom Face now.”

CARTOONSTOCK.COM

CARTOONCOLLECTIONS.COM