

Bowman Lake Association

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

May 7, 2026 – 7:00pm – Taborton Fire House & via Zoom

In attendance: Lorraine Ferguson, Joanne Ingham (via zoom), John Losee, Barb Mark, Colleen Masters, Jenn Schmitt

Call to Order : John Losee, 7:18pm

Secretary's Report (Joanne): Review the BOD Meeting Minutes of June 26, 2025. Barb Mark made a motion to approve the minutes. Jenn Schmitt seconded the motion. Approved unanimously.

The minutes of the June 26, 2025 Membership meeting were reviewed. There were no comments. These minutes will be voted on at the June 4, 2026 Membership meeting.

Treasurer's Report (Colleen): There currently is \$6,763.23 in the BLA checking account. There currently is \$920.84 in savings and approximately \$10,000 in a CD, which comes due in June.

Water Quality Oversight: Lorraine reported that, overall, there are no emerging water quality issues that require immediate attention. Details of planned activities will be addressed by committee members.

Book Club (Elaine): The Club is currently reading, The Secret Life of Lake, by Peter Tobiessen.

CEC (Joanne): Joanne reported that the results of the coliform testing August 2025 indicated that the coliform levels measured around the lake indicated extremely low levels of coliform at each of the seven locations tested. Brian Collins, the lead researcher at the Capital Region Environmental Laboratory, indicated that annual testing was not indicated. The sampling process is relatively easy and costs \$270.00. Colleen moved, and Barb seconded a motion to test for coliform levels every other year, and evaluate whether different scheduling might make sense going forward. The motion was approved unanimously.

CSLAP (John): The CSLAP test results for 2025 have been posted on the CSLAP website: <https://extapps.dec.ny.gov/data/IF/CSLAP/1301BOW0444/>

We will be collecting four samplings again this year in June, July, August and September at the CSLAP buoy marker.

NYSFOLA announced that Big Bowman Pond and Spring Lake were selected to utilize new equipment to test dissolved oxygen. Elaine Onion, the DEC CSLAP Coordinator, will be conducting a training on the use of the new equipment on Monday, May 11, 2026. We'll be sharing this equipment with Elizabeth Mastrianni from Spring Lake.

Dissolved Oxygen Testing (Lorraine): Lorraine reported encouraging results. The dissolved oxygen levels in 2025 were similar to levels found in 2024. Going forward with dissolved oxygen testing, we will likely need to use the Secchi disc to make sure the probe at the deepest level is not touching the bottom.

Dam (Barb/John): Since mid-October, lake levels measurements have been taken using a yard stick ant John Losee's and Lorraine Ferguson's docks. In addition, a variety of measures were taken at the dam itself. Lorraine prepared a summary of the data that were collected to inform further discussion of the Dam Policy. Any approved change to the current dam policy would also require a change to the BLA Constitution and By-Laws.

Invasive Species (JA): No report

Lake Level Study (John): Based on the current lake level data collected, the lake level does vary, with a maximum variation of twelve inches. When measuring lake level at the dam, for June and July, the water level was about four inches above the board. From July through September, the water level was consistently below the top of the board.

Barb made a motion that the BOD propose to the Association membership, that we hold a vote to change the dam board policy/By-Laws to state that we will ~~to~~ leave the dam board in year-round, with the proviso that If the lake level rises to more than four inches above the dam board, the dam board will be removed. Further, should there be a significant rain/flooding event, the dam board will be removed. Jenn seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously. The lake levels will continue to be monitored regardless of the outcome of the vote.

Weed Pull (Lorraine): Weed pull parties will be scheduled throughout the summer, beginning in July.

History Group (John): No report

Old Business: Follow up discussion on posting a lifeguard at the diving board by the Kullman's dock during the Regatta. A number of suggestions were offered. The issue is up for further discussion at the membership meeting.

At the membership meeting we will need to discuss concerns about peanuts being used during the Regatta event. A concern was raised about a child with peanut allergies participating in the event and swimming in the lake where the peanuts were.

New Business: The BLA 2026 Calendar of Events were reviewed. Copies of the calendar have been distributed to the membership. BLA elections for 2026 will be held July 30,2026. A Nominating Committee will need to be formed in June.

Meeting adjourned at 9pm