

Bowman Lake Association

Membership Meeting

June 4, 2026, 7:00pm, Taborton Fire Department & via Zoom

In attendance: R. Cahill, L. Ferguson, J. Ingham, M. Ingham, J. Kullman, J. Losee, B. Mark, C. Masters, E. Merguerian, G. Schmitt, J. Schmitt, B. Shulman, T. Simons

Call to Order: J. Losee, 7:13pm

Secretary's Report: Review of the minutes from July 31, 2025 Annual Meeting Minutes. Michael Ingham made a motion to accept the minutes; Lorraine seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Colleen Masters reported \$920.94 in savings, \$6,565.84 in checking, \$10,165.83 in a CD, Paypal \$299.45 and Checks/Cash of \$150.00. Colleen will explore the options for rolling over the CD.

Expenses include Winterfest, Pot Luck, Zoom account, Water Quality expenses, The Sing, Poker Run, LOL Cocktails Party, Chili Octoberfest, Postage & Supplies, NYSFOLA membership and other small items. Lorraine made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report; Tip Simons seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Group Reports

Water Quality Oversight Committee: Lorraine reported that we now have access to new equipment from the DEC (through NYSFOLA/CSLAP) to measure dissolved oxygen. Dissolved oxygen will be measured eight times this summer, every other week. The equipment will not be available during the winter months. Lorraine shared reports for dissolved oxygen from last year with the membership.

Book Club: Elaine Merguerian reported that the book for this summer is The Secret Life of a Lake. She suggested we meet over the summer to discuss the book.

Chemicals of Emerging Concern: Joane Ingham indicated that the results from last year's coliform testing indicated that coliform levels in BBP are extremely low. The membership agreed to test for coliform every other year with the understanding that, if needed, the testing schedule could be modified.

CSLAP: John Losee reported that CSLAP testing will take place four times this summer in the months of June, July, August and September. There is no CSLAP fee, only NYSFOLA Membership fee.

Dam Report: John reported that, again, a beaver was under the bridge and damming the creek. John pulled the beaver materials out from under the bridge in mid-May, and placed the board in the dam.

Vote on Dam Water Level / Dam Management Policy: The Board of Directors presented a proposal to change the Dam Policy and the related Constitution and By-laws sections. A motion was made to permanently insert the 11.5-inch dam board. The board would be removed at any time the water reaches a high mark at four inches above the board. Those voting (either by show of hand, by proxy, or by email) voted the motion down with 24 voting no to the changes, 9 voting in favor, and 1 abstention. The proposal was defeated. The Dam Policy is unchanged.

During discussion prior to the vote, the Dam Committee offered to put together a list of homeowners whose homes may be impacted by lake water level. The Dam Committee will contact these individuals to check on concerns about water level as the need arises.

Lake Level Study (LLS): Beginning in the summer of 2025, Lorraine Ferguson and John Losee tracked water levels at John's dock, Lorraine's dock and took several different water level measures at the dam. Copies of those results were shared with the membership. At John Losee's dock, the water level varied from .5 inches lower to 7 inches lower during the summer. At Lorraine's dock, the water level varies from 1 inch to 4 inches lower over the summer. At the dam, the highest water level was up 6.5 inches above the dam board after a heavy period of rain.

The membership requested that John and Lorraine perform a special water level test. They will take a measure at the two docks and dam, when the water is at the top of the dam board. They will then take the board out for 48 hours and repeat the measures to determine the change in water level at the docks and dam with the board out for two days.

PRISMs: Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management: Nothing to report.

Weed Pulling: Lorraine will set up a week pulling schedule beginning in July.

Old Business

The calendar of events for the BLA were finalized and mailed out to the membership.

The Regatta: John Losee will send out a sign-up sheet to the various tasks that need to be done to run the regatta. Volunteers are encouraged to sign up to help. The Peanut Race will be held

as the last event of the day due to some children with peanut allergies. Further, it was recommended that a spotter be stationed at the Kullman diving board to make sure that no one is diving due to safety concerns.

Elections Committee: Elections for the 2026-2027 BLA Board of Directors will be held at the next membership meeting on July 30, 2026. The Nominating Committee currently includes Karen Cobden, Barb Mark. A third member is needed. John Losee will send a note to the Committee with instructions.

Liability Insurance: There is a continuing concern that the BLA and the BLA Officers might need liability insurance. The Adamos want the BLA to have liability insurance for their protection to cover the Dam Board Committee members should they be injured while at the dam. Janice indicated that the Adamos could only be held liable if they created a danger or hazard on the property. They would not be held liable if they did nothing to create a hazard. The BLA owns the right of way to the dam and as a non-for-profit has no liability. Michael Ingham agreed to investigate the issue further and report back.

New Business:

The BLA will hold a new event, Murder on the Lake. Invitations were sent out.

The Bowman Lake History group. We will kick off delving into the BBP history at the fall Chili Cook-off and Octoberfest.

Motion to Adjourn: Colleen moved to adjourn the meeting. Ron Cahill seconded. Passed unanimously. Approximately 8:48pm.

Submitted by Joanne Ingham