

BOWMAN LAKE ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

MEETING HELD ON JUNE 6, 2024

Meeting conducted at Taborton Fire House and via Zoom

Call to order: Time 7:06 pm by John Losee, President

Attendance of Current Board Members:

Board Member Name	Board Member Position	Present	Absent
John Losee	Acting President	X	
Ed Farrell	Vice President	X	
Kiley Adamo	Secretary		X
Colleen Masters	Treasurer	X	
Elaine Merguerian	Board Member	X	
Bill Schulman	Board Member		X
Kathy Hale	Board Member	X	
Jack Betterly	Board Member	X	
Barb Mark	Board Member	X	
Janice Kullman	Immediate Past Pres.	X	

Others Attending: Jen Schmitt, Lorraine Ferguson, Karen Cobden, and Pat Betterly.

Meeting Minutes:

- 1.) Approval of minutes of July 31, 2023 Annual Meeting.
 - Jack moved to accept the minutes as written. Barb seconded.
 - Vote was unanimous to approve the minutes. Minutes approved.

- 2.) Treasurer's Report
 - Colleen went over the Checking Account – balance is \$9,145.96.
 - Colleen went over the Savings Account – balance is \$5,916.09.
 - Colleen discussed the 2024 budget, mentioning that she just used the projected amount of dues expected to be received that Laura Dagostino (our previous Treasurer) provided. To date we're short of that goal. More dues were collected prior to the meeting though, and others may still come in. Colleen also mentioned that we spent less on the Winterfest than anticipated, but a few dollars more on the Zoom renewal fee.
 - Karen moved to accept the report. Lorraine seconded.
 - Vote was unanimous to approve the report. Report approved.

- 3.) Committee Reports:

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- Book Club – Elaine told the group that we have been reading “Diet for a Small Lake” and were learning a lot. We have been sending the lake community an e-mail after each meeting with what we feel were the main points made in the chapters we read. We will be finishing reading the book, and will have our final meeting, in person, at the Betterly’s camp (and via Zoom) on Sunday June 30 at 2 p.m.
- CSLAP – John told the group that the committee consists of himself, Jack, and Joanne Ingham. He said that this year, as in the past, we will be performing 8 samplings, beginning this coming Sunday (June 9), and continuing every other week into September. He said the 2023 report was recently added to the CSLAP website. Anyone can view it at the following link: [Big Bowman Pond \(ny.gov\)](#)
- Dam Committee – the Dam committee is comprised of Anja Carr, chairwoman (term expires end of this year), Robbie Dawe (term expires end of 2026) and three permanent members: Mark Nasuti, Bruce Mereness, and Justin Adamo. In Anja’s absence John told the group that around May 10 he sent the committee a reminder that according to current BLA policy the larger (11-1/2”) board was to be placed in the dam in mid-May. A “spirited” discussion ensued between the members, during which came out that Anja has been using her old concrete dock (under her new dock) to gauge when the water is high or low (as is referred to in the dam policy). Justin pointed out that the old concrete Buckner/Choudhri dock mentioned in the policy has broke apart, shifted and parts lean and have sunk. The dock is no longer a feasible means for gauging the optimal water level. In the end, the board was placed into the dam around May 16, and remains there with just a tiny bit of water flowing over the top. John mentioned that when the dam was built the board was made the width necessary to maintain the water at the level the membership agreed was optimal, and there is no need to measure the water depth anywhere else. Jack said that it would be valuable to maintain a gauge of the proper level at other points on the lake as well. After a discussion, the board agreed that at the next membership meeting on July 25, 2024, we will propose a change to the Dam Board Policy, simply removing the sentence “The water level with the 11 ½ inch board is between 3-4 inches below the concrete surface of the Buckner/Choudhri docks.”, as it adds no “direction” for the Dam committee to follow when regulating the dam, and is outdated both in the fact the dock has shifted, and the Buckners haven’t been on the lake in 20 years or so. It was noted that as part of implementing the remaining testing recommended and accepted during the February 2023 Membership Meeting, that there will be a lake depth measurement activity which may affect this policy further later on.

4.) Old Business

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- Implementation of the remaining Water Quality Activities from the 1st proposal made at the February 19, 2023 Membership Meeting, that were approved by the Membership:

John outlined the structure he was implementing to deal with all the various water quality committees. He has created a Water Quality Oversight committee, chaired by Lorraine Ferguson. Other members are Janice Kullman and Pat Betterly. They will coordinate the various already existing and new water quality committees. The CSLAP, Dam, and Weed Pulling committees will fall under this committee, as will some new committees. Those new committees are: The EPA O2MC, LOCSS, CEC, and PRISMS committees.

The EPA O2MC Committee is the result of Lorraine having found the opportunity for us to work with the Federal EPA, and apply for a grant for the loan of equipment to test the dissolved oxygen levels in the lake – and we were awarded the grant. We are currently working with Rachael Leta-Graham of the Federal EPA. John and Lorraine are meeting her on June 30 for training and to get the equipment. We'll test every 2 weeks while we have the equipment at various locations (at least the SW and SE corners, north end, the outlet, the cove, & the CSLAP buoy) to check the dissolved oxygen levels. More volunteers are needed for this committee.

The LOCSS (Lake Observation by Citizen Scientists and Satellites) committee will obtain special equipment that can be used to monitor the depth of the lake. (For more information – see [About - LOCSS](#)). We will monitor and record lake depths over time. More research needs to be done, and we need to form this committee yet.

The CEC (Chemicals of Emerging Concern) committee will be tasked with sampling lake water to test for various chemical compounds present in the water, such as fecal coliform, phosphates, nitrates, etc. Test kits and/or equipment will need to be obtained for use in this testing. More research needs to be done, and we need to form this committee yet.

The PRISMS (Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management) Committee will be chaired by Janice Kullman. Basically this is a group of like minded citizens/groups who discuss via ListServes anything to do with Invasive species that are moving into a lake or area. Membership is free. It allows users free access to professionals to whom we can submit photos of a lake weed and ask for assistance in understanding what it is, etc. For more information – see [Partnerships for Regional Invasive Species Management \(PRISM\)](#)

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[Factsheet \(ny.gov\)](#). Janice moved that we join this group. Ed seconded, and all were in favor. Janice will follow up.

5.) New Business

- John noted we need a Nominating Committee. Nobody has yet volunteered. Karen Cobden was “volunteered” to serve, and reluctantly agreed to be on the committee, but not to head it up. Barb said she’d talk with Cathy Berman. We still need one more person. John will endeavor to find someone.
- John discussed the calendar of events.

He mentioned that we would run the Regatta the same way as the last year or two with sign-up sheets. He mentioned he was uncertain about attending, and therefore would not be volunteering for anything, but would help that day if it turned out he was home. He also said that Chuck and Mary Ann Bogosta had offered to fill out the certificates the day of the event. John will circulate the signup sheet seeking more volunteers. Janice told the group about the calendars she’d created using the photos from last year’s photo contest, that would be for sale for \$20 each (or a discounted price if purchasing 5 or more) at the Regatta.

We discussed other activities on the Calendar of Events, and Janice explained how the Poker Run works for those who didn’t know. Basically people go around the lake in boats and stop at 5 docks to pick up a playing card. Also they get a drink and a snack. Then they go to the Van Hoesens’ for a Pot Luck, and whoever has the best hand with their 5 cards wins the event. She said we still need 5 volunteers to host at their docks. John will send an e-mail asking for hosts.

Ed outlined the Fishing Contest that Eddie will Chair – it will be a one day event, for kids. Kids will fish, and bring their prize fish to Eddie at the Farrell’s dock for measurement and weighing. Certificates and prizes will be awarded. Date/further details to follow.

6.) Adjourned

Ed moved we adjourn, Barb seconded, all were in favor – we adjourned at 8:05.

Respectfully submitted by John Losee and Colleen Masters