

BALLSTON LAKE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

Board Meeting, August 18, 2015

Next BLIA Board Meeting will be on Tuesday October 06, 2015 at 7:00 pm at:

**Carney's Tavern
Main Street
Ballston Lake, New York**

Meeting called to order by President Pete Herman at 7:06 pm.

Members and Guests present: Greg Adams, Judy Brodeur, Joanne DeVoe, Wes DeVoe, Dave Duglin, John Gill, Drew Hamelink, Pete Herman, Dave Pierce, Frank Shipp, Paul Troidle, and Gini Whetten

Secretary's Report: The minutes of the May 05, 2015 Board Meeting were accepted as written.

Treasurer's Report: Judy Brodeur

Treasurer Judy Brodeur handed out copies of the 2015 BLIA Budget. Included was the following information:

Checking Balance - August 15, 2015	\$7804.90
Savings Account Balance - June 30, 2015	\$6008.81

The Treasurer's Report was accepted as presented.

Committee Reports:

President's Report: Pete Herman

CSPAP Testing Report

Pete reported that five (5) out the eight (8) CSLAP tests have been completed. The sixth (6) set of samples will be taken this Sunday (August 23, 2015).

Pete also reported that the Lake water is very clear.

BLIA Board Member John Gill's Resignation

BLIA Board Member John Gill noted that the BLIA Bylaws allow the BLIA President to replace a Board Member who resigns. John further noted that BLIA Member Joanne DeVoe has become very active in our organization through her work on the Membership and Social Media Committees and has expressed an interest in serving on the Board. Rather than wait until next June for Joanne to become a Board Member, John Gill offered to resign to create

an opening for Joanne. John indicated that his activities and commitment to BLIA would not be compromised by his resignation.

A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept John Gill's resignation.

Lake Management Report: Dave Pierce

Dave Pierce provided the following:

1. Dave received an email from Dr. Greg Boyer from SUNY ESF indicating that he would be at Ballston Lake on either Monday (August 24) or Tuesday (August 25) to perform a "float by" investigating potential septic tank leaching issues. Dr. Boyer would then provide options for a course of action.
2. Dave indicated that he is planning to get together with Bob Duncan and perform Lake water sampling at the zero oxygen level. They will then check phosphorous levels which should be high in the zero oxygen areas.
3. Dave reported on the efforts to remove water chestnut from the Lake. The situation is fine at the narrows. Some water chestnut was removed from the West side of the Lake opposite Pearse's home.
4. Dave received an email from Dr. Harmon from SUNY Oneonta who stated that Ballston Lake will be considered for a graduate student to work with the BLIA in the fall of 2015. Following a lengthy discussion, the Board indicated that BLIA was not interested at this time. The Board considered that the program would be more desirable in conjunction with a grant.

Membership: Suzanne Bishop, Judy Brodeur, Joann DeVoe, and Terry Harlow

Paid Membership is 192

Feedback from Neighbor - to - Neighbor Drive

The Membership Committee met several people interested in serving on committees. The question is whether BLIA should create committees in order to involve more of our members?

CONCERN – People who want to volunteer and are not utilized tend to "disconnect" from an organization.

BENEFITS – Committee members bring people (family and friends) with them. These people become invested and are future Board Members.

Possible Committees: Clean Up Day, Flag Day Parade, Picnic, Beaver Dam Removal, Lake Water Testing, Social Events, History, Web Page.

Thoughts from Membership Meetings

Should we consider ways to approach local businesses to support BLIA and to possibly feature their businesses on the Website and/or our Facebook page? (Proud Sponsor?)

Upcoming Events

September 20, 2015 – An historic tour of “The Castle” which was built on East Side Drive in 1885 by American artist William Bliss Baker. Immediate neighbors free – BLIA members will get priority booking and a reduced price.

October 19, 2015 – The 2nd “Hello Snow – Bye, Bye, Birdies” **members-only** party will be held at Carney’s.

Early October 2015 – An informal “Gathering of Elders II”.

Activities that Were Spontaneously Acted Upon Since Last Meeting

Flag Day Parade – 4th of July cancellation.

Presence at Saratoga County Fair through our participation in the Southern Saratoga County Chamber (Sue Bishop, Joanne DeVoe, and Alice Rubin)

Social Media: Joanne DeVoe, Suzanne Bishop, and Judy Brodeur

Facebook – BLIA presently has 301 Friends, and it is very active. Facebook is considered a good mechanism for sharing information.

Website – Still underutilized, but a good “repository” of information with the ability to easily “eblast” members is a great tool.

Flood Insurance

BLIA Member Frank Shipp gave a presentation on his recent experiences attempting to obtain flood insurance. Frank noted that as part of refinancing his home mortgage, the bank indicated that his home was in a “flood plain”, and he would need flood insurance. As Frank noted, the assumption is not true. However, in order to prove you are not in a flood plain, you will need to spend a significant amount of money for a surveyor to determine the elevation of your property.

The take away from Frank’s presentation was that anyone interested in buying property around the Lake should be aware that they may be told to purchase flood insurance unless they can prove that they are not in a “flood plain”.

Newsletter: Greg Adams

Greg Adams reported that the BLIA Annual Picnic at the Lakeside Farm Barn was a huge success. Greg noted that there were more than seventy (70) people in attendance including six (6) young families.

Greg Adams indicated that there are plans for an October BLIA Newsletter. Greg noted that we need to get the Newsletter out before the Sewer Referendum on October 14, 2015. Greg requested that individuals get their input to him by September 20, 2015.

Old Business:**Sewer Committee Update: Drew Hamelink**

Drew Hamelink provided the following update:

- The Sewer Project Referendum will take place on October 14, 2015 at a site to be determined.
- The Clifton Park Town Board met last night. The first item on the September 08, 2015 Town Board Meeting will be the Sewer Project. Supervisor Phil Barrett indicated that he would like to have the Sewer Referendum for Clifton Park residents to be on the same day as the Town of Ballston Referendum.
- Each designated individual will have one vote for the Referendum.
- Currently there is a debate going on between the Towns of Ballston and Clifton Park. The Clifton Park engineer considers that the residents in the Clifton Park portion of the sewer project do not need a pump station.

New Business:**Motion to Accept Joanne DeVoe to the BLIA Board of Directors**

A motion was made, seconded, and passed to accept Joanne DeVoe as a Board Member of BLIA. Joanne will fill the position vacated by John Gill.

Gini Whetten Proposal to Resign from the BLIA Board of Directors

Gini Whetten volunteered to resign from the BLIA Board in order to allow John Gill to continue to serve on the Board. A motion to accept Gini's resignation was made, seconded, and defeated. Gini will remain as a BLIA Board Member.

Finance Committee Proposal

BLIA Treasurer Judy Brodeur made a proposal that a BLIA finance committee be formed. Judy noted that BLIA needs more individuals to be involved. Wes DeVoe has

volunteered to take over “matching funds”. Judy noted that we need someone to create the necessary forms that will be required now that BLIA is a 501(c)(3) organization.

Following discussion, a motion was made, seconded, and passed to form a BLIA Finance Committee.

A motion was also made, seconded, and passed to move \$4000.00 from the BLIA checking account to the BLIA savings account.

BLIA Logo

Joanne DeVoe noted that she has spoken with Kelly Smith about designing a new Heron logo for BLIA. Following discussion, a motion was made, seconded, and passed to have Kelly Smith design a new BLIA logo.

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted: Dave Duglin

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