



Big Alum Lake Association

Fiskdale, MA

Big Alum Lake Association, BALA Full Board Meeting Minutes

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2018 @ 6:15 PM HELD @ RECORDING SECRETARY JENNIFER BAILEY'S RESIDENCE

ATTENDEES	<p><u>Officers of BALA</u> Chuck Roy (President) Mark Minnucci (Vice President) Debbie Gran (Treasurer) Jennifer Bailey (Recording Clerk) Lisa Sanderson (Corresponding Secretary) Jeff Buchanan (BALA Board Member at large)</p> <p><u>Committee Chairs and Member(s) – At- Large</u> A. Membership Committee – Jill Roy B. Recreational Committee – Taylor Nelson C. Dam/Drainage – Ken Gajewski D. Environmental Committee- Bruce Gran E. Boating Committee – Matt Kibbe F. History Committee – John Puffer G. Fishing Committee – Robert Scobel H. Nominating Committee – Tracy Murphy I. Engineering Committee – Tom Clark</p> <p><u>Excused/Absent</u> Mark Minnucci (Vice President, Executive Board) Taylor Nelson (Recreation Committee)</p>
CALLED TO ORDER	6:35 PM
MATERIALS	Agenda; Meeting Minutes from 05/12/18 Meeting; Treasurer’s P&L Report; Watershed Committee Details and Information; Boating Committee Information Sheet and Rulings Pamphlet
RECORDING CLERK	Jennifer Bailey

1. REVIEW OF AGENDA C. ROY

DISCUSSION	Agenda Review.	Chuck Roy
Reviewed agenda items.		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Move forward through the Agenda items.	C. Roy, President	N/A

2. DETERMINATION OF QUORUM C. ROY

DISCUSSION	Quorum determination.	Chuck Roy
A. Quorum was determined. 13/15, Executive Voting Full Board Members present.		

B. Chuck Roy reported that 8/15 is needed to obtain Quorum which was determined with 13/15 present for this meeting, November 13th, 2018.

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
None- completed; BALA President Chuck Roy determined there was quorum present to proceed with voting needs for meeting.	C. Roy, BALA President	N/A

3. MEETING MINUTES

C. ROY

1. Meeting Minutes were provided for review from the last all Board Meeting held. 1st motion to accept meeting minutes by Tom Clark, 2nd by Tracey Murphy and accepted by all members of BALA Full Board Present.

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
None- completed; Meeting minutes were approved.	C. Roy, BALA President	N/A

4. REVIEW OF TREASURY REPORT

D. GRAN

DISCUSSION	Review of Treasury Report	Debbie Gran
<p>1. Debbie Gran, BALA. Treasurer reported that Profit & Loss Statement has been set up for review. This is to recap monies coming into and expenses applied against the BALA Association.</p> <p>2. Debbie Gran explained, from January 1st of this year, BALA has a net loss of negative balance of \$2,376.54 which includes the recreation event costs over the past year. Discussed there is a basic need to run the association. Since there was a drop in the fee of dues, BALA costs have stayed same but BALA has been operating at a loss. The loss was felt that due to the fee drop and that over the past couple of years, the recreation events have been running at a loss versus making some money or breaking even as in the previous years.</p> <p>3. Tom Clarke would like to use June 1st as fiscal year versus January 1st, Chuck Roy agreed that we need to discuss this for future reportings to report the lowest point of collecting monies at end of fiscal year. To project out a year in plan of a budget.</p> <p>4. Tom Clarke also rediscussed need for filing taxes, which has been discussed at great length with new executive board over the last two (2) months.</p> <p>5. Chuck Roy, President and Debbie Gran, Treasurer discussed two versions of how the BALA P & L Statement to be reported and would like to have a vote on which version to use.</p> <p>6. Debbie Gran, Treasurer discussed the purchase of Quick Books for more automation has been completed and reports very easy to use. This cost has been listed under the BALA Administration costs.</p>		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Debbie Gran to report for vote both versions of P&L	Debbie Gran	End of Meeting

5. MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

JILL ROY

DISCUSSION	Membership Committee Update.		Jill Roy
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Jill Roy putting letter and packet to be put together beginning of January for mailings by end of January. 2. Jill Roy discussed costs of stamps going up as she reflected that in her budget to Debbie Gran. 3. Jill Roy reported importance of need to do both online version and paper mailings as not everyone is not only online. Reminder mailing of membership in May, and Jill Roy emphasized importance to do paper mailings as not everyone has email. 4. Chuck Roy reported early voting on Membership Committee budget to allow for the mailings to be completed. 			
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	
Mailings for upcoming year to start end of January, Jill Roy and Jennifer Bailey	Jill Roy	End of January	

6. RECREATION COMMITTEE

LISA SANDERSEN

DISCUSSION	Lisa Sandersen reported on Recreation Committee for Taylor Nelson		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lisa Sandersen reported that the Rec Committee has not had a planning meeting yet for next year, but with the attendance being down this past year and over the past (2-3) two to three years, Lisa is recommending a survey to be sent out to the association at large to see what people would like from the recreation committee. 2. Chuck Roy, recommended the survey to go out with the paper mailings from membership at the end of January. Jill Roy agreed that paper mailings with the membership mailings is a good idea along with an email version. 3. Lisa Sandersen mentioned that the recreation committee stated that they don't have any other events planned other than the GALA as of now, and Tom Clark asked about the January meet up at Rapscaillon as a nice winter time meet up which doesn't take a lot of effort or cost for the committee. 			
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	
Survey to be included in January mailings. Discussion of January, winter meet up at Rapscaillon.	Recreation Committee, Taylor Nelson, Lisa Sandersen.	N/A	

7. DAM COMMITTEE

KEN GAJEWSKI

DISCUSSION	Ken Gajewski reported from the Dam Committee		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ken Gajewski reported that the Dam has been opened Nov 1st and is going down very slowly due to amount of rain we have had. 2. Higher than normal water from spill ways about 4-5 inches. 3. Chuck Roy reported next draw down is going to be possibly 2020. 			
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	

No further action is required at this point.	Ken Gajewski	NONE
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8. ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

BRUCE GRAN

DISCUSSION	Bruce Gran discussed Solitude Lake Management Report	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Bruce Gran discussed the report presented by Solitude Lake Management. This report is already uploaded on the website. Bruce doesn't want to see members panic as the weeds reported are normal Lake weeds. Chuck Roy reported that it is important for the board / association to be transparent of the report even though members may question the weeds. Important to put out a Q & A of the report to explain what the report means. Bruce Gran explained he is always willing to answer any members concern of any weeds or questions they may have of growths. Bruce reported that many times members panic but it just turns out to be native weeds or algae. 		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Solitude Lake Management Report has been uploaded on website. Bruce to create a Q&A information sheet for members to understand report and will answer any questions the members may have.	Bruce Gran	Ongoing

9. BOATING COMMITTEE

MATT KIBBE

DISCUSSION	Matt Kibbe discussed boating rules and needs.	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Matt Kibbe discussed that he collected all the buoys that are placed by the lake association. He will put them back in just after April School Vacation timeframe. Matt Kibbe submits budget for the buoys, already approved at all last year meeting. Matt Kibbe has created committee objectives to be uploaded for the BALA website to explain what the Boating Committee entails cost and timewise. Matt Kibbe explained it is the Sturbridge Police responsibility to deal with any boating violations, not the BALA committee. Matt Kibbe also explained that is tries to maintain the island and ensure the regulation of the island so people are not just residing on the island at times. Lisa Sandersen brought up that the Boating materials should be more friendly versus legality rules to present in the document of the boating rules. Matt Kibbe along with Chuck Roy and other board members explained that it is important to have the laws of rules of boating documented as BALA has no ruling governance over the lake therefore having the rules documented is needed. 		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
None as completed	N/A	N/A

10. WATERSHED/LAKE DRAINAGE PROTECTION COMMITTEE

DISCUSSION	Tom Clark explained about the Watershed/Lake Protection Committee	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tom Clark discussed the importance of the Watershed/Lake Protection Committee. Tom has picked representatives from all points of the lake to report any issues they notice regarding drainage to protect the lake. 2. Tom Clark put together a hand out to explain the importance of the committee. 3. Tom Clark has also reported that he has himself as he is the chair and he is watching the Lake Road end, Scott Sandersen for Paradise Lane end, Tom Baxton Jr for Mt. Dan Road, Dave Belerose for Big Alum Road, Matt Kibbe for the Trail Road, Les Sargent who is also a civil engineer experience as the group consultant. 4. Tom Clark discussed engineering research completed on drainage and silt going into lake from run off near Lake Road/North End. 5. Many members discussed the need to survey the entire lake and prioritize work to be completed around the lake per imminent need. 6. Tom Clark agreed need for inclusion of the entire lake and need to prioritize need for entire lake. Tom Clark explained need to complete the North end issue as this has been an ongoing issue and has entire agreement from the North end residents. 7. Lisa Sandersen questioned if the committee has formally met and Tom Clark said yes they are a strong committee and working well together. Tom explained they communicate a lot via email and in person as needed. 8. Debbie Gran is looking at vote issue for the North end costs and issue. 9. A lot of discussion was brought about the potential costs that work could be ongoing for protection work around the lake which could exhaust any funds that the BALA association has. 10. Tom Clark explained that there are potential grants that this committee will need to look into to help with potential costs of repairs. Tom discussed the Lake Tahoe issues in past to learn from that experience. Tom explained that studying potential issues will prevent any longstanding issues which is the purpose of this committee to understand any potential issues, problems, costs. 		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Tom Clark to present the need for drainage work for Lake Road end.	Tom Clark	Ongoing

11. HISTORICAL COMMITTEE

JOHN PUFFER

DISCUSSION	John Puffer reported on the Historical Committee for BALA History
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. John Puffer reported that he has a lot of information given to him over the years by members of BALA. He reported that the charter has agreed to 	

move the information from the old historical website to the new BALA website to integrate the information onto one platform.

- John Puffer requested more information from all member to be submitted on the history of BALA. John has created a letter to request more historical information on BALA.

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
John Puffer and historical committee to continue receiving historical information on BALA.	John Puffer	Ongoing

12. FISHING COMMITTEE

ROB SCOBLE

DISCUSSION	Rob Scoble discussed that the lake is stocked with fish.	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Rob Scoble discussed that Big Alum Lake is stocked with fish by the state fishing department. He stated that they don't give him the quantity of fish they stock the lake with but the state department supplies when the lake will be stocked. Many fish the department stocks are thin 12 to 14 inches in hopes they survive and grow. Brown Trout is native not stocked fish. Many fish are in the brook with the dam draw and they catch and relocate the fish back into the lake. Rob Scoble is to create factual information sheet of stocking information and he types of fish that is native versus stocked to the lake. Rob Scoble is to create this document and submit this to be uploaded to the website. 		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Rob Scoble is to create an information sheet to be uploaded to the website on fish within Big Alum Lake.	Rob Scoble	End of January

13. NOMINATING COMMITTEE

DISCUSSION	Tracy Murphy reported on the nominating committee	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Tracy Murphy reported that he has nothing to report on the nominating committee. Chuck Roy reminded Tracy Murphy that he has to create a committee for the Bylaw review for cleaning up the bylaws. 		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Tracy Murphy to create a ByLaw change review.	Tracy Murphy	Ongoing

14. OLD BUSINESS

DISCUSSION	BALA President, Chuck Roy discussed old business.	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Chuck Roy discussed old business which included review of Quick Books where it was voted to use Quick Books but to also purchase the Quick Books one time purchase version versus the online version as this saves the Association money. Deb Gran discussed that Quick Books is working well. 		

2. Chuck Roy discussed that he would like a vote on the format of the P&L on version (1) one or (2) two. Tom Clark made 1st motion to accept version (1) one and Jeff Buchanan second the motion for version (1), Deb Gran and Bruce Gran both opposed, remainder accepted the version (1) which has passed based on quorum reached 11/15.
3. Chuck Roy discussed need of raising of dues to create a (0) balance in future at next July meeting. In the mean-time using the reserve funds to pay for the deficit that has been created in past. Chuck reported leaving membership fee currently at \$25 and looking at the budget for 2020 to see where the fees need to be set.
4. Lisa Sandersen discussed why the fees were cut in the past, as in hopes people would put that extra money in the legal fees for the walking fund lawsuit which did not happen. Chuck Roy brought up that the walking fund should have no bearing to the fees of the BALA association and that the fees for BALA will be based on the running upkeep of the lake only.
5. Rob Scoble felt that communication should be presented to the member committee to let members know that fees may need to be increased.
6. Chuck Roy also explained that town hall meetings are still a possibility to communicate the need to keep the lake clean.
7. Web Site was discussed by Lisa Sandersen and Chuck Roy about new logo. Having website clean and simple to navigate for the community.
8. Voting policy is being looked into, via mail or email for all members is quorum of voting membership. This needs to be fixed in the ByLaw as an update/change.
9. Jeff Buchanan was confirmed as Board Member at large. Congratulations Jeff.
10. New BALA website is up and running just not viewable to public yet. Website to include viewing of the new logo, ByLaws, Committee information, Events Page, Resources, History of Big Alum Lake, Lake quality and environment but NEED tips to help the lake to staying clean. List for homeowners and landscape companies to inform residents of do's and don't's. Bruce Gran to provide tidbits on this. Decision to publish website is requested tonight. Tracey Murphy voted on website out on website and table the vote for changing of the logo in future member meeting. Tom Clark provided 1st motion to publish website as work in progress, Tracey Murphy second the motion to publish website as work in progress with the new logo and remainder of members agreed on this vote with subject of acceptance by full membership vote at July 2019 meeting.

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Old Business items to completed by each those responsible for items.	Multiple responsibilities.	Ongoing

15. NOMINATING COMMITTEE

DISCUSSION	Tracy Murphy reported on the nominating committee	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. New logo for Big Alum website was voted on to be published for viewed but was tabled to not fully change to this new logo and was chosen as a group to not be voted on at this time. Rob Scoble, Deb Gran and Bruce Gran all requested that the logo not be changed at this time. It was discussed to wait until the full member meeting to discuss this further as the last logo was voted on by full member in past. 2. Classified for the website was discussed. Information to collected by Jennifer Bailey in regards to the classifieds set up for the website. Classified are felt to be important and a benefit for the members which Jennifer Bailey is willing to put the time into this for upkeep and regulation to help this be an offer for the members. Jennifer Bailey was appointed to research and present the governance rules and regulations of classified discussion to present at the February meeting. 3. Service ads will be considered in future but not discussed at this time. Taylor Nelson has offered in the future to regulate the possibility of service ads. 4. Chuck Roy brought up for discussion of listing or not listing BALA members names and physical addresses on the website. Motion was brought forth to not post members names and / or addresses by Jeff Buchanan with second motion by Tracey Murphy with remainder of board members in favor of not listing member names and / or addresses on the website. 5. Jill Roy brought forth for discussion that in order for a person to volunteer as on a committee, their household needs be a member of the BALA Association regardless of being part of another association that is associated with Big Alum Lake. This was brought to vote first motion by Jill Roy and second by Jeff Buchanan and remainder of board was all in favor. 		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Tracy Murphy to create a ByLaw change review.	Tracy Murphy	Ongoing

16. ADJOURNMENT

DISCUSSION	BALA President, Chuck Roy closed out the meeting.	
Meeting adjourned at 8:22 PM		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Committees each have action items listed above. Next Meeting date to be determined for Feb.	Chuck Roy for meeting date	Ongoing