

Big Alum Lake Association, Inc

Fiskdale, MA



Big Alum Lake Association Annual Membership Meeting Minutes for 2024

SATURDAY, JULY 19, 2024 @ 10:00 AM HELD @ ST. ANNES OUTDOOR PAVILLION

BOARD MEMBER ATTENDEES	<p>Officers of BALA Chuck Roy (President) Mark Smith (Vice President) (absent with Covid) Debbie Gran (Treasurer) Jeffrey Buchanan (Recording Clerk) Jennifer Bernardo-Bailey (Corresponding Secretary)</p> <p>Committee Chairs A. Membership Committee – Barbara Hitchcock B. Recreational Committee – Liz Deterando (absent) C. Dam and Fishing Committee – Ken Gajewski D. Environmental Committee- Bruce Gran E. Boating Committee – Matt Kibbe F. Fund Raising Committee – David Bellerose G. Nominating/Election/Bylaws Committee – Mark Smith H. Watershed Drainage Committee – Tom Clark</p> <p>Appointed Directors Mike Gionfriddo</p>
BEGIN TIME	10:05 AM
MATERIALS	Agenda; Meeting Minutes from 8/19/23 Meeting; Treasurer P&L Report for 2024; 2025 Budget
RECORDING CLERK	Jeffrey Buchanan

1. REVIEW OF MEETING PROTOCOL AND AGENDA

DISCUSSION	Meeting Protocol and Agenda Review.	Chuck Roy, President
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reviewed Protocol of meeting and agenda items 	

2. DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

DISCUSSION	Quorum determination by Chuck Roy, President
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quorum was determined. Mr. Roy reported that minimum of 1 presiding officer and 15 voting members is needed to be present to obtain quorum and those requirements were determined to be met for this meeting

3. MEETING MINUTES

DISCUSSION	Approval of meeting minutes from August 19, 2023, meeting by Chuck Roy, President
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting Minutes were provided for review from the last all BALA Membership Meeting held, 8/19/23. Upon a motion properly made and seconded, a vote was held, and the minutes were unanimously approved

4. TREASURY REPORT

DISCUSSION	Treasury Report and Approve Financials by Deb Gran, Treasurer
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Gran presented P&L and balance sheet for 2023. Income was just under \$40,000 included dues of \$15,000, BALA Gala auction income of \$7,500, and Friends of the Lake donations of \$9,600 (all approximate). Expenses were just under \$34,000 and included work on an Order of Conditions from the Conservation Committee and the hiring of Lake Manager. Thus, there was a surplus in 2023 of \$6,618. For the period from January 1, 2024 through July 8, 2024, dues so far are \$14,500 and Friends of the Lake donations were very high at \$18,600. BALAGala has yet to be held. Expenses so far totaled just over \$37,000 and included approximately \$33,000 for weed treatment. The current cash balance is just over \$50,000. After further discussion, and upon a motion duly made and seconded, the financials were approved. Ms. Gran noted that the budget approval would be handled in new business.

5. MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

DISCUSSION	Update Report by Barbara Hitchcock, Committee Chair
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Hitchcock noted that the current membership tally was up to approximately 97% of expected qualified residents, which was a very high number. She then gave a summary of her activities including her membership mailings, calls, and follow up.

6. RECREATION COMMITTEE

DISCUSSION	Update Report by Mari Roy
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Deterando, Chairman, was absent, and Ms. Mari Roy gave the report in her absence. She noted the following 2024 events: (1) Welcome to the Season (and new residents) was held in May at Rapscaillon with 70 people attending, (2) a boat tie up was held on July 18th with four boats, (3) BALA Gala will be held on August 2, and (4) the next boat tie up is scheduled for Aug 9th. The Welcome Event will be held next year in May.

7. DAM AND FISHING COMMITTEE

DISCUSSION	Update Report on Dam and Fishing on Big Alum by Ken Gajewski, Committee Chair
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was reported that the lake level is at normal levels, and that dam will be closed on Nov 1· 2023, for a drawdown of 30 inches. The draw down in 2025 will be 36 inches.

8. ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE/SLAC COMMITTEE/SLAC

DISCUSSION	Environmental status of Lake Report by Bruce Gran, Committee Chair
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Gran noted that Ponds & Lakes has started the new treatment regimen with the application of SONAR. He noted that generally there are two types of weeds in Big Alum: (1) clasping leaf, a native plant that grows fast and is easy to pull out in your swimming area (lay out to dry and then throw away) and (2) curly leaf, an invasive species that is in just a few locations mostly down by the boat ramp. Mr. Gran noted that the clarity of Big Alum is very good.

9. WATERSHED/LAKE DRAINAGE PROTECTION COMMITTEE

DISCUSSION	Watershed/Lake Protection Issues Report by Tom Clarke, Committee Chair
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Clarke started by noting that the water in Big Alum comes from springs and runoff and his focus is to ensure the runoff is as clean as possible and not silty. He mentioned three areas he is focusing on: (1) Mt. Dan Rd – the Mt Dan Rd Association hired a contractor to regrade and pitch the unpaved road, add retention ponds, and clean all sump basins and ponds. He noted that the contractor did a great job and that no silt is flowing into the lake. (2) Paradise Rd – there was some silting issues with a house under construction across the road (not on the lake) but that the contractor has fixed the issues. (3) North End – there is a retention pond that is not working to contain the flow down from Old Towne Rd and he is working with the town and landowners to remedy.

10. NOMINATING / BYLAW COMMITTEE

DISCUSSION	Annual Officer Elections Report by Chuck Roy
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mark Smith, Nominations Chair, was absent and Chuck Roy gave the report in his absence. Mr. Roy noted that elections are every two years (in the even year) and thus the current terms are expiring. The Board has proposed the following slate, which will be voted on in new business: <p>Mark Smith, President David Bellerose, Vice President Deb Gran, Treasurer Jen Bailey, Corresponding Secretary Jeff Buchanan, Clerk and Recording Secretary</p>

11. BOATING COMMITTEE

DISCUSSION	Boating Activity Report Matt Kibbe, Committee Chair
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The island is clean – a slight uptick in usage this year Someone is untying the buoys in the north end All navigation buoys will be taken out just before draw down.

12. FUND RAISING COMMITTEE

DISCUSSION	Report on Fund-Raising Activities by David Bellerose, Committee Chair
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Bellerose noted that he was still looking for donations for auction items in the upcoming BALA Gala

13. OLD/NEW BUSINESS/ADJOURNMENT

DISCUSSION	Chuck Roy, Chairman
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The first item to be address was the weed program for 2024. Mr. Roy acknowledged that the weeds are far worst in the last few years caused by a variety of conditions including no freezing of the lake in winter and wetter and warmer summers. At the end of 2023, the board decided to hire a lake manager to help oversee the weeding program. In addition, the Board applied to the Conservation Committee to institute a new weeding regimen, which includes SONAR -- a granule that takes at least 90 days to have an impact. This approach is much more comprehensive that the old regimen of using a contact herbicide which didn't deal with the roots. The next treatment will be on July 16. The next issue was a SLAC (Sturbridge Lake Advisory Committee) update. SLAC is a collective of representatives from the various town lakes and advises the Town on lake issues. Mr. Roy noted that the plethora of applications for cantilever docks has precipitated an examination of the regulation of docks by the Selectmen and the Conservation Committee. SLAC is being asked to put together recommendations on various proposals including excise taxes on docks and limitations on sizing. Mr. Roy asked anyone with comments to reach to him before the end of July. The next item of business was to approve the budget. After discussion, and upon a motion duly made and seconded, the attached 2025 budget was approved.

- The next item was to vote on the proposed new officer slate. First, Mr. Roy asked if there were any nominations from the floor. None were offered. Thus, on a motion duly made and seconded, the proposed officer slate listed in Item 10 above was unanimously approved.
- The next item of business was for Mr. Roy to note that Rich Suitum will donate work on a web page to digitize online reservations for the island.
- Next, Mr. Roy noted that a CPR class will be held on July 27th at Betsy Peppel's house at 9:00am.
- Next, the Board presented a Friend of the Lake Award to Chuck Roy for his work as president of BALA. Mr. Roy gave a short speech of appreciation and farewell.
- Mr. Roy then asked if anyone had any further questions and there were none.
- Mr. Roy noted that the next annual meeting will be held on July 12, 2025
- Meeting adjourned at 11:40am upon a motion duly made and seconded, and then a unanimous vote

Jeffrey Buchanan, Recording Clerk

DRAFT

Proposed Budget

Actuals 2023		2024 Approved Budget		2025 Proposed Budget	
Income		Income		Income	
Membership	\$15,000.00	Membership	\$15,000.00	Membership	\$14,500.00
Fundraising -		Fundraising -		Fundraising -	
Apparel	\$88.77	Apparel	\$200.00	Apparel	\$100.00
Keep Lake Clean Donations	\$9,600.00	Keep Lake Clean Donations	\$12,000.00	Keep Lake Clean Donations	\$15,000.00
Gala Auction	\$7,205.00	Gala Auction	\$6,000.00	Gala Auction	\$7,000.00
Gala Donation	\$300.00	Gala Donation	\$0.00	Gala Donation	\$0.00
Gala Wine Table	\$840.00	Gala Wine Table	\$800.00	Gala Wine Table	\$800.00
Fundraising Total	\$18,033.77	Fundraising Total	\$19,000.00	Fundraising Total	\$22,900.00
Rec Committee -		Rec Committee -		Rec Committee -	
Gala 50/50	\$250.00	Gala 50/50	\$400.00	Gala 50/50	\$250.00
Gala Ticket Sales	\$6,005.00	Gala Ticket Sales	\$5,500.00	Gala Ticket Sales	\$5,500.00
Rec Committee Total	\$6,255.00	Rec Committee Total	\$5,900.00	Rec Committee Total	\$5,750.00
Total Income	\$39,288.77	Total Income	\$39,900.00	Total Income	\$43,150.00
Expenses		Expenses		Expenses	
BALA Administration	\$2,750.13	BALA Administration	\$2,000.00	BALA Administration	\$2,750.00
Boating -	\$0.00	Boating -	\$350.00	Boating -	\$307.00
Lake Environment -		Lake Environment -		Lake Environment -	
Porta Potty	\$1,401.63	Porta Potty	\$1,250.00	Porta Potty (8 mos x \$140)	\$1,500.00
Weed Treatment	\$12,975.00	Weed Treatment	\$25,000.00	Weed Treatment	\$10,000.00
				Post Treatment Mapping	\$2,500.00
Lake Environment Total	\$14,376.63	Lake Environment Total	\$26,250.00	Lake Environment Total	\$14,000.00
Fundraising -		Fundraising -		Fundraising -	
Apparel	\$0.00	Apparel	\$0.00	Apparel	\$50.00
Gala Wine Table	\$368.51	Gala Wine Table	\$400.00	Gala Wine Table	\$400.00
Misc.	\$66.36	Misc.	\$0.00	Misc.	\$0.00
Total Fundraising	\$434.87	Total Fundraising	\$400.00	Total Fundraising	\$450.00
Membership -		Membership -		Membership -	
Annual Membership Mailing	\$269.13	Annual Membership Mailing	\$198.00	Annual Membership Mailing	\$261.00
Supplies	\$0.00	Supplies	\$150.00	Supplies	\$125.00
Membership Total	\$269.13	Membership Total	\$348.00	Membership Total	\$386.00
Rec Committee -		Rec Committee -		Rec Committee -	
Gala Event	\$6,385.01	Gala Event	\$5,400.00	Gala Event	\$5,400.00
Ticket Refund	\$22.00	XXXXXXXXXX	\$0.00	Rapscaillon Kick-off Yr Event	\$400.00
				Tie up and Other Activities	\$250.00
Rec Committee Total	\$6,407.01	Rec Committee Total	\$5,400.00	Rec Committee Total	\$6,050.00
Watershed Committee	\$1,050.00	Watershed Committee	\$2,500.00	Watershed Committee	\$2,000.00
Total Expenses	\$25,287.77	Total Expenses	\$37,248.00	Total Expenses	\$25,943.00
Net Income	\$14,001.00	Net Income	\$2,652.00	Net Income	\$17,207.00
Net Funds Transferred	\$14,001.00	Net Funds Transferred	\$2,652.00	Net Funds Transferred	\$17,207.00

**Big Alum Lake Association Inc
Profit Loss Statement
January 1 through Jul 8, 2024**

	Jan 1 - Dec 31, 23	Jan 1-Dec 31, 24	Jan 1- Jul 8, 24	Jan 1-Jul 8, 24
	Prior Year Actual	Budget	Actual	Per Centage +/-
ORDINARY INCOME				
4000 -Membership Dues	15,000.00	15,000.00	14,500.00	96.67%
4020 -Rec Committee				
50/50	250.00	400.00	0.00	
Cash Drawer Deposit	50.00	0.00	0.00	
Gala Ticket Sales	6,005.00	5,500.00	0.00	
Total 4020 -Rec Committee	6,305.00	5,900.00	0.00	
4030 -Checking/Savings Int	46.44	50.00	21.27	42.54%
4035 -Short Term CD Interest	188.49	450.00	410.94	91.32%
Total Interest	234.93	500.00	432.21	
4060 -Fundraising				
Apparel	88.77	200.00	0.00	
Auction	7,205.00	6,000.00	0.00	
Donation Keep Lake Clean	9,600.00	12,000.00	18,600.00	155.00%
Gala Donation	300.00	0.00	0.00	
Mystery Wine Table	840.00	800.00	0.00	
Total 4060 -Fundraising	18,033.77	19,000.00	18,600.00	97.89%
Total Ordinary Income	39,573.70	40,400.00	33,532.21	83.00%
Expense				
6000 -BALA Administration*				
McGrath Insurance	974.50	0.00	0.00	
Spinelli CPA PC	550.00	0.00	1000.00	
US Postal Service	176.00	0.00	182.00	
Website Mgmt Fee	350.00	0.00	0.00	
Other Expenses	699.63	2,000.00	192.16	
Total 6000 -BALA Administration	2,750.13	2,000.00	1,374.16	68.71%
6020 -Boating	0.00	350.00	0.00	
6030 -Watershed Drainage Committee	1,050.00	2,500.00	0.00	
6040 -Lake Environment				
Porta Potty	1,401.63	1,250.00	833.27	66.66%
GEI Engineering Study	6,153.92	0.00	0.00	
Ponds & Lakes/Stahl Holdings	12,975.00	25,000.00	33,445.00	133.78%
Carl Nielsen/TRC	2,500.00	0.00	0.00	
Total 6040 -Lake Environment	23,030.55	26,250.00	34,278.27	130.58%
6060 -Fundraising				
Stickers	191.22	0.00	0.00	
Sports and Apparel	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Wine	368.51	400.00	0.00	
Misc.	66.36	0.00	0.00	
Total 6060 -Fundraising	626.09	400.00	0.00	
6080 -Rec Committee				
Withdrawal for Cash Drawer	50.00	0.00	0.00	
Gala Event	6,385.01	5,400.00	1,100.00	20.37%
Meet & Greet	194.23	0.00	340.66	
Total 6080 -Rec Committee	6,629.24	5,400.00	1,440.66	26.68%
6090 -Membership				
Annual Membership Mailing	269.13	198.00	206.01	104.05%
Supplies	0.00	150.00	0.00	



	Jan 1 - Dec 31, 23	Jan 1-Dec 31, 24	Jan 1- Jul 8, 24	Jan 1-Jul 8, 24
Total 6090 -Membership	269.13	348.00	206.01	59.20%
Total Expense	34,355.14	37,248.00	37,299.10	100.14%
Net Ordinary Income	5,218.56	3,152.00	(3,766.89)	-119.51%
Other Income				
Town of Sturbridge Betterment	1,400.00	1,500.00	0.00	
Website Sponsorship	0.00	200.00	0.00	
Net Other Income	1,400.00	1,700.00	0.00	
Net Income	6,618.56	4,852.00	(3,766.89)	-77.64%
Funds Transferred				
To/From Reserve	6,618.56	4,852.00	-3,766.89	
Net Funds Transferred	6,618.56	4,852.00	-3,766.89	

9:53 PM
07/08/24
Accrual Basis

Big Alum Lake Association Inc
Balance Sheet
As of July 8, 2024

	Jul 8, 24
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Big Alum Lake Association Inc	
4050 -Checking Acct 462	2,354.73
4055 -Savings Account 470	27,297.22
Certificate of Deposit	20,599.43
Total Big Alum Lake Association Inc	50,251.38
Total Checking/Savings	50,251.38
Total Current Assets	50,251.38
TOTAL ASSETS	50,251.38
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Equity	
Unrestricted Net Assets	54,018.27
Net Income	-3,766.89
Total Equity	50,251.38
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	50,251.38

