



# Big Alum Lake Association

## Fiskdale, MA

### **Big Alum Lake Association, BALA Full Board Meeting Minutes**

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2020 @ 6:45 PM

HELD @ VICE PRESIDENT MARK MINNUCCI'S RESIDENCE

<b>ATTENDEES</b>	<p><b>Officers of BALA</b>                  Chuck Roy (President) (conference via phone)                  Mark Minnucci (Vice President)                  Debbie Gran (Treasurer)                  Jennifer Bailey (Recording Clerk)                  Lisa Sanderson (Corresponding Secretary)(Absent))                  Jeff Buchanan (BALA Board Member at large)</p> <p><b>Committee Chairs and Member(s) – At-Large</b>                  A. Membership Committee – Jill Roy (conference via phone)                  B. Recreational Committee – Marion Reilly                  C. Dam Committee – Ken Gajewski                  D. Environmental Committee- Bruce Gran                  E. Boating Committee – Matt Kibbe                  F. History Committee – John Puffer (Absent))                  G. Fishing Committee – Robert Scobel                  H. Nominating Committee – Mark Smith (conference via phone)                  I. Watershed Drainage Committee – Tom Clark (conference via phone)</p>
	6:49 PM
<b>MATERIALS</b>	Agenda; Meeting Minutes from 11/12/19 Meeting; Treasurer's P&L Report; Boating Rules and Updates;
<b>RECORDING CLERK</b>	Jennifer Bailey

**1. REVIEW OF AGENDA** M. MINNUCCI

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Agenda Review.	Mark Minnucci
Reviewed agenda items.		
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>
Move forward through the Agenda items.	Chuck Roy, President and Mark Minnucci, VP	N/A

**2. DETERMINATION OF QUORUM** M. MINNUCCI

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Quorum determination.	Mark Minnucci
A. Quorum was determined. 13/15, Executive and Full Board Members present. B. Mark Minnucci reported that 8/15 is needed to obtain Quorum which was determined with 13/15 present for this meeting, February, 4th, 2020.		
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>
None- completed; BALA Vice President Mark Minnucci and President, Chuck Roy determined there was quorum present to proceed with voting needs for meeting.	M. Minnucci, BALA Vice President and Chuck Roy, President	N/A

**3. MEETING MINUTES** M. MINNUCCI

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Meeting Minutes were provided by Jennifer Bailey, Recording Clerk, for review from the last all Board Meeting held, 11/12/2019. 1 <sup>st</sup> motion to accept meeting minutes by Jeff Buchanan, 2 <sup>nd</sup> by Tom Clark and accepted by all members of BALA Full Board Present with no abstains.	
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>
None- completed; Meeting minutes were approved.	M. Minnucci, BALA Vice President	N/A

**4. REVIEW OF TREASURY REPORT** D. GRAN

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Review of Treasury Report	Debbie Gran	
<p>A. Debbie Gran, BALA Treasurer presented the YTD Profit &amp; Loss Statement for review as well as the EOY 2019 P&amp;L. Deb recapped income and expenses for both the EOY and YTD P&amp;L's.</p> <p>B. The EOY P&amp;L showed an operating loss of \$669 that was covered by a transferred from the savings account. This shortage in operating costs was quite a bit less than last year's, and this was mostly attributable to the money made at the BALA Gala this year. Looking good financially.</p> <p>C. Next the EOY and YTD Balance Sheets were provided for review.</p> <p>D. Debbie Gran, explained the EOY Balance Sheet shows net assets of \$70,037.17 for 2019 in all the accounts. BALA in good shape going into 2020.</p> <p>E. Debbie Gran explained that 2020 dues were starting to come in and that we also received funds from the sale of several web site sponsorships..</p> <p>F. Debbie Gran stated that to date a payment to Solitude for this year's weed study, and another to Burton Engineering Co for partial payment of the engineering study, reduced our assets by \$2,599.33, leaving a balance of \$67,437.84 in the first quarter of 2020. These expenses were anticipated in the 2020 budget.</p> <p>G. Mark Minucci asked about the PayPal payment of dues and Debbie Gran said that PayPal is not really working properly as of yet, so this year's dues will be collected the same way as they have been in the past. Hopefully PayPal will be in place for next years dues. Treasurer's Report was reviewed and a motion to accept the treasurer report was made by Mark Smith, second by Bruce Gran and passed unanimously by all members of BALA Full Board Present with no abstains.</p>			
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>		<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>
Debbie Gran to update P & L and Budget as directed.		Debbie Gran	End of Meeting

## 5. MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

JILL ROY

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Membership Committee Update.	Jill Roy	
<p>A. Jill Roy discussed how she has finished the Welcome Membership letter with updates. She updated the membership form to request a primary email from each member. Jill would like membership forms to be sent to Jill's email directly or to Deb Gran through the BALA email. Forms may also be mailed to Deb Gran along with the dues check as has been done in the past.</p>			
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>		<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>
Mailings to be sent out electronically for the upcoming year, Jill Roy		Jill Roy	Continual

## 6. RECREATION COMMITTEE

MARION REILLY

<b>REIDISCUSSION</b>	Marion reported on Recreation Committee		
<p>A. Marion Reilly spoke on behalf of the Recreation Committee. Marion Reilly mentioned there will be a Welcome Reception, on Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7pm, at the Red Barn in Fiskdale for members of BALA to meet new owners and their families that have recently purchased on the lake (within the last 5 years or so ). Marion Reilly mentioned the recreation committee is also working on this year's Gala event for the summer; it is slated for July 31<sup>st</sup>. A suggestion was made that drinking water be provided at this year's Gala, and a short discussions about providing water, maybe with labels, followed.</p>			
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>		<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>
Communication for the welcome reception and GALA to be provided soon.		Recreation Committee, Marion.	N/A

## 7. DAM COMMITTEE

KEN GAJEWSKI

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Ken Gajewski reported from the Dam Committee		
<p>A. Ken Gajewski reported that the Dam had been open from Nov 1<sup>st</sup> to first week of December. Ken mentioned that it took a while for the lake water to go down. To date, the lake has gained back 14 ½ inches from the 30 inches that was drawn down, and we should not have a problem reaching the goal of 30 inches by Memorial Day.</p>			
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>		<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>
No further action is required at this point.		Ken Gajewski	NONE

## 8. ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

BRUCE GRAN

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Bruce Gran discussed environmental status of Lake.		
<p>A. Bruce Gran reported that BALA received approval from the Town to extend the order of conditions for a 30 inch draw down of the Lake for the next 3 years. This request was filed by Solitude on behalf of Big Alum. Solitude</p>			

needs this order of conditions in order to put together a 3 year cost estimate for our annual weed treatment program. The annual lake survey will occur later this year than last year to ensure a more accurate study of weed growth in the lake and to determine the needed weed treatment areas. However, Bruce Gran will make certain the study and weed treatments are done prior to the end of June deadline imposed by the Town for our proportional reimbursement to BALA from SLAC. Bruce will also ensure that Solitude gives us advanced notice as to when they will conduct weed treatments for better communication to the membership.

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Bruce Gran would like to update website with environmental information and to also will meet with Dominic and Josh from Solitude about weeds.	Bruce Gran	Ongoing

## 9. WATERSHED/LAKE DRAINAGE PROTECTION COMMITTEE

DISCUSSION	Tom Clark presented about Watershed/Lake Protection Issues and Concerns	
A.	Tom Clark spoke about the work for the watershed drainage concerns of the lake. Tom mentioned that the engineering co will be submitting a plan to the Conservation Committee in March. A payment of \$2000.00 has been made to Burton Engineering to get the study started.	
B.	Chuck Roy asked Tom that once the plans are made up by the engineering company, will he than take that plan to contracting companies to bid on the work. Tom Clark mentioned that he has already had (3) three different companies request to bid on the work. Chuck Roy stated that he would like to have all this information for presentation at the July 2020 Membership Meeting for voting.	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Tom Clark to continue going forward with obtaining plans and bids to present to members for voting on bids at July meeting.	Tom Clark	Ongoing

## 10. NOMINATING COMMITTEE

DISCUSSION	Mark Smith reported on the nominating committee	
A.	Mark Smith asked the current Board if everyone was going to stay on in their current roles ,and if not to let him or Chuck know so a replacement could be found. If there are any positions that need to be filled, Mark would like to send out an email in April to the membership asking for nominations to fill those positions.	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Mark Smith will send out an email in April to the members about roles.	Mark Smith	April

## 11. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

DISCUSSION	BALA Vice President, Mark Minnucci discussed old/new business.	
A.	Boating Update given by Matt Kibbe. The guidelines for safe boating brochure are being updated. Matt mentioned that the updates looks good and almost complete. Matt mentioned this is not the final draft but getting close.	
B.	Bruce Gran with SLAC, starts back up in March, boating courses set for May 2 <sup>nd</sup> , June 27 <sup>th</sup> . Sturbridge Host Hotel has been sold and under new management, SLAC is trying to find out if the hotel is still going to offer the room for free or a new venue will need to be used. Safe ice article was posted on website from SLAC.	
C.	Mark Minnucci mentioned his concern of open water on lake and people using the lake for skating and ice fishing. Chuck Roy mentioned that updates to the Ice Safety article has been published.	
D.	Jennifer Bailey, updated Reports on Classifieds and Sponsorships. Classifieds have been submitted by various members and are continually updated as needed.. Exsel, Mary and Rich have done an amazing job with the Classifieds and the presentation on the website looks very good. Sponsorships on our web site are also available for sale and may be purchased by any business that feels that Big Alum is a good market for them. To date, we have received (3) three monetary donations – Lakeview Marine, Integrated Financial Services and Flynn/Wirkus/Young attorneys at Law. OSV, St. Annes Church and Exsel were also updated as sponsors for their support and work to Big Alum Lake. Hyland’s will also be added as a sponsor for allowing us to use their facility for the GALA.	
E.	Discussion of fundraising programs. Chuck Roy asked the Board members if the Board feels we really need a separate fundraising group and chairperson as discussed in the previous meeting. Chuck Roy stressed that the point of the fundraising would be to replace money in the reserve fund used for projects undertaken by BALA now and in the future. He did not want to encourage fund raising for the sake of fund raising. Mark Minnucci mentioned that the membership dues is for basic operating of BALA and for the annual lake weed treatment program. The reserve fund is earmarked for any extra work done to keep the lake clean and free of pollutants. Jennifer Bailey mentioned that this is what sponsorship fees, outside classified ads fees, and funds generated by the BALA Gala silent auctions should be used for. Jennifer Bailey also mentioned that is why she spearheaded the concept of sponsorships. These projects will take a team / village effort to continue forward. Jeff Buchanan mentioned that there should also be the option for anyone to contribute additional money above and beyond the	

membership dues if they so desired. Bruce Gran mentioned that at Cedar Lake, they have a program to encourage donations above the dues with recognition for Bronze level, Silver level or Gold level donation status. Chuck Roy asked if anyone wanted to make a motion for the creation of a fundraising committee. Tom Clark stated that he felt no need for a new committee for fundraising at this time. Tom suggested trying the volunteer program for a year to see if extra funds would come in voluntarily, and next year, if needed, to revisit a new committee and chair for fundraising. No motion was made and the issue was tabled. Chuck Roy stated the membership letter will ask Members if they are interested in donating above the dues level, and whether or not the donors wanted their names mentioned publicly or if they would rather remain anonymous. One Board member said that his company will anonymously donate up to \$2500 in matching funds. Chuck Roy asked for a motion, Jeff Buchanan moved to add to the membership fee as an optional volunteer request of additional funds with a second from Tom Clark, with all Board members present in favor with no abstains.

- F. Jill Roy mentioned that she has an anonymous donor that would like to update the Boat Ramp Signage. Discussion needs to be had over who owns that sign, the State versus BALA.
- G. Matt Kibbe discussed the Big Alum Boating Rules, being updated from the 2016 boating rules. Currently the 2020 updated Boating Brochure being worked on is more in line with the State's laws and it will be posted on the BALA website when finished. Matt would like to add a link from BoatUS about rules of road that is easier to understand and more graphically displayed. Some of the changes and updates are just wordsmithing to be more in line with the verbiage that the State uses.
- H. Future use of electronic payment of dues, sponsorships, GALA tickets, and classified ads was next discussed. Debbie Gran, as the treasurer, mentioned her concerns with electronic payment and the timeliness of receiving the funds from PayPal. Chuck felt that, though we certainly want to move in this direction for the convenience of the Membership, more study was in order. He suggested that we put this debate on next quarter's Board meeting. The motion for suspending electronic payment for now was brought forth first by Jeff Buchanan with second by Marion Reilly and rest of board agreed with motion to suspend electronic payment with one board member present abstaining.
- I. Chuck Roy brought up the program Friends of Big Alum and wanted people to submit any suggestions for Friends of Big Alum award. Jennifer Bailey mentioned Tom Clark for all his work on helping to keep our lake clean. Chuck Roy mentioned Mark Minucci and Jeff Buchanan for their contribution to Lake Walking by allowing residence to walk over their property to get round the lake. Mark Minucci as well as other members mentioned Dan Molta for all that he does and donates for the lake. This will be discussed further at the next Board meeting.
- J. Annual BALA Membership Meetings will be held on Sat, July 11<sup>th</sup> and Sat, Aug 15<sup>th</sup>. We will try for St. Annes to hold the meetings and if that is not available than we will ask OSV. Jennifer Bailey will contact for room availability.
- K. Next Meeting: May 12, 2020, 6:45 at Chuck and Jill Roy's house

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

## 12. ADJOURNMENT

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	BALA Vice President, Mark Minucci closed out the meeting.	
Meeting adjourned at 8:11 PM		
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>
Committees each have action items listed above. Next Meeting date to be determined for May.	Chuck Roy for meeting date	Ongoing