



Big Alum Lake Association

Fiskdale, MA

Big Alum Lake Association, BALA Full Board Meeting Minutes

THURSDAY, MARCH 21, 2019

@ 6:45 PM

HELD @ VICE PRESIDENT MARK MINNUCCI'S RESIDENCE

ATTENDEES	<p>Officers of BALA Chuck Roy (President) (conference via phone) Mark Minnucci (Vice President) Debbie Gran (Treasurer) Jennifer Bailey (Recording Clerk) Lisa Sanderson (Corresponding Secretary) Jeff Buchanan (BALA Board Member at large) (conference via phone)</p> <p>Committee Chairs and Member(s) – At- Large A. Membership Committee – Jill Roy (conference via phone) B. Recreational Committee – Mari Roy C. Dam Committee – 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. Watershed Drainage Committee – Tom Clark</p> <p>Excused/Absent Fishing Committee – Robert Scobel History Committee – John Puffer</p>
	6:48 PM
MATERIALS	Agenda; Meeting Minutes from 11/13/18 Meeting; Treasurer's P&L Report; Watershed Committee Details and Information;
RECORDING CLERK	Jennifer Bailey

1. REVIEW OF AGENDA

M.MINNUCCI

DISCUSSION	Agenda Review.	Mark Minnucci
Reviewed agenda items.		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Move forward through the Agenda items.	Mark Minnucci, VP	N/A

2. DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

M. MINNUCCI

DISCUSSION	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 12/15 present for this meeting, March 21 st , 2019.		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
None- completed; BALA Vice President Mark Minnucci determined there was quorum present to proceed with voting needs for meeting.	M.Minnucci, BALA Vice President	N/A

3. MEETING MINUTES

M. MINNUCCI

A. Meeting Minutes were provided by Jennifer Bailey, recording clerk for review from the last all Board Meeting held, 11/13/2018. 1 st motion to accept meeting minutes by Jennifer Bailey, 2 nd by Tom Clark and accepted by all members of BALA Full Board Present.		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
None- completed; Meeting minutes were approved.	M. Minnucci, BALA Vice President	N/A

4. REVIEW OF TREASURY REPORT

D. GRAN

DISCUSSION	Review of Treasury Report	Debbie Gran	
<p>A. Debbie Gran, BALA. Treasurer reported that Profit & Loss Statement has been set up for review. Deb recapped monies coming into and expenses applied against the BALA Association. A balance sheet was provided for review.</p> <p>B. Debbie Gran explained, not a lot of activity from P & L. Deb states things have been on the quiet side collecting dues from members currently. We have collected a good portion of dues to this point.</p> <p>C. Discussed possibility of going to all electronic mailings of membership versus completing both paper mailings and emailing to save costs. Something to think about in future.</p> <p>D. 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> <p>E. Treasurer Report was reviewed and a motion to accept the treasurer report by Tom Clark, second by Tracy Murphy and accepted by all members of BALA Full Board Present with zero no accepts.</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	
<p>A. Jill Roy discussed how happy she was with the mailings and thanked Jennifer Bailey for completing the mailing packets.</p> <p>B. Jill Roy also discussed how happy she is with the response of receiving 98 membership dues to date and very optimistic with the satisfaction of those responses.</p> <p>C. Chuck Roy discussed that we have 78% of Lake as members and he would like to target increasing this by 5%. He would like more households of group associations to become individual members as they are not members through their association.</p>			
ACTION ITEMS		PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Mailings sent out for the upcoming year and still receiving the dues, Jill Roy		Jill Roy	April 2019 but continual

6. RECREATION COMMITTEE

MARI ROY

DISCUSSION	Mari Roy reported on Recreation Committee		
<p>A. Mari Roy spoke on behalf of the recreation committee. She has requested time on submitting the budget for the recreation committee as she and the recreation committee needs to review the survey results. Mari would like to review the survey results with the recreation committee to determine which events they would like to host and than she would know what is needed to submit for a budget.</p>			
ACTION ITEMS		PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Discussion of Budget review, winter meet up at Altruist and survey results.		Recreation Committee, Mari Roy.	N/A

7. DAM COMMITTEE

KEN GAJEWSKI

DISCUSSION	Ken Gajewski reported from the Dam Committee		
<p>A. Ken Gajewski reported that the Dam has come up 30 inches. The lake will have water spilling over damn as ice melts. We have reclaimed all the lake water and admits probably too high.</p> <p>B. Matt Kibbe helped close damn and fix leaks.</p>			
ACTION ITEMS		PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
No further action is required at this point.		Ken Gajewski	NONE

8. ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

BRUCE GRAN

DISCUSSION	Bruce Gran discussed environmental status of Lake.		
<p>A. Bruce Gran reported that the lake is in good position. He is setting up meeting with Dominic and Josh from the water treatment company, Solitude to discuss weeds as responses to survey. Josh is the engineer who handles the weed treatment for Big Alum Lake. Bruce would like to meet with both Dominic and Josh about additional treatment for the good weeds, looking at possibly helping to thin them out a bit in areas where they have become bothersome.</p> <p>B. Bruce Gran also discussed that with invasive weeds the BALA organization has been spot on in getting rid of them. In regards to clearing out non-invasive weeds in cove and some surface pond weed, will look at mid-season.</p>			

- C. Bruce Gran will be sending out an email to all lake members inquiring about Lawn Service Companies and asking which companies households use. He would like to know if the companies offer low-phosphate lawn products.
- D. Bruce Gran would like to put information on the website to educate home owners the importance of using appropriate lawn products. More frequent education to help communicate on how to keep the lake clean.
- E. SLAC meeting from this past Tuesday, it was reported that South Pond is going to be doing an Alum oxide injection for the deep water areas and drainage issues due increase in phosphorous. Alum will sink the algae to the bottom and neutralizes, our lake does this naturally. This is going to cost South Pond \$400,000 which they are going to try to get grants such as 319 grant and needs matching funds, to help pay for this. This shows the investment they are willing to put into keeping their lake clean

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

9. WATERSHED/LAKE DRAINAGE PROTECTION COMMITTEE

DISCUSSION	Tom Clark presented about Watershed/Lake Protection Issues and Concerns	
<p>Tom Clark presented with video and slides about concerns of protecting Big Alum Lake Quality. Tom Clark identified areas that were problematic all around lake. Areas 2-6 have water that flows to swamp area not into lake but these areas need to be continually monitored. Area 2 is area on Mt. Dan Road that is preexisting but some damage to swails which is approved already by conservation committee. Area 3 is 52 Mt. Dan Road, opposite of pumping station has run off down forcing water down the driveway of 52 Mt. Dan Road that flows directly into the lake. Tom did speak to town on this. Area 4 is mountain drainage that is a stream that is small at end of Mt Dan road with a culvert is working and functioning, this may need to be flushed out. Area 5 is problematic area as the swamp behind drains directly into the lake, easy fix. Area 6 is area put in with some subsidy on opposite side of lake and this has been cleaned by paradise lake members. Area 7 is a main feed to lake as there is a swamp across lake and drains through yard into lake, this is a sediment basin and flows into the lake. Area 8 is worst area on lake, hill to lake road, road washes out, grooves in road. Area 9, lake road down hill a culvert between both sides of road, functional and working but needs to be watched and maintained. Area 10 is across from Italian Club and is problematic creating deep grooves in land and draining into lake. Tom showed videos of areas of what it looks like with drainage flowing into the lake which was impressive and dramatic to review. Explained how some areas will require work from an engineer and contractor versus some areas just needing clean up. Tom spoke and met with engineer and reviewed every single area around the lake. Tom reviewed ala carte quotes on a couple of areas for the association to focus on. Watershed meeting on Feb 19th reviewed areas of concern. New engineer for town and was very receptive to Tom's concern and meeting. Town engineer discussed to Tom that he could provide silt to fill in the road. Burton engineering North end engineering work 7,000; Maclare Engineering said \$16,000 for same area that Burton quoted at \$7,000. Tom would like to focus on going forward with the Lake road and Italian Club areas. Deb Gran mentioned that in past there is a \$6,000 approved in 2005 for Lake Road study and another \$2,000 for the Lake Road area was voted on in 2018. Chuck Roy asked the board to approved up to \$10,000 for engineering study for both areas. Tom discussed grants and that Scott Sandersen offered to try to obtain grants to help fund this. Also, Tom mentioned he will encourage use of materials supplied by town. All present discussed how informative and need of presentation Tom provided. All present feels that yes we need to move forward to correct these issues but also will need to communicate this out to the members. Chuck Roy presented waiting until July to ask the members about funding engineering studies but than Tom Clark and Ken mentioned that you need the study to find out how much work would need to be completed. Tom also mentioned the importance of the board to educate the membership on what the silt and drainage does to the lake, to have people understand the importance of needing to fix these problematic areas. Tom mentioned the importance for the need to keep the lake clean, Chuck Roy asked for the whole board to vote on waiting until the July membership meeting on spending the funds to go ahead and start the engineering work. Tom explained at great length that this money has been allocated for keeping the lake clean already in past and we need the engineering study to actually present to the membership at the July meeting. Bruce Gran voiced the need to fund the engineering work as can. Chuck Roy asked for amount to be increased to \$12,000 to cover both north and south end engineering evaluation and asked for someone to make a vote on this. Ken Gajewski made first motion to fund up to \$12,000 for engineering evaluation work for areas of lake road and Italian club once permission is obtained at Italian Club for possible repairs of both north and south end, Matt Kibbe second the motion and rest of board members in favor except for one oppose of motion.</p>		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Tom Clark to go ahead with engineering study on north and south end, ensure frequent communication to entire membership about ongoing, and to present the need for drainage work to lake protection at July Meeting.	Tom Clark	Ongoing

10. NOMINATING COMMITTEE

DISCUSSION	Tracy Murphy reported on the nominating committee	
<p>A. Tracy Murphy continuing to look and review bylaws. Finding areas where bylaws look ok versus needing tweeking. He has bylaws from other associations to help modify current BALA Bylaws. No election this year so the change in bylaws won't need to be completed until August meeting.</p>		

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Tracy Murphy to create a ByLaw change review.	Tracy Murphy	Ongoing

11. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

DISCUSSION	BALA Vice President, Mark Minnucci discussed old/new business.	
A.	Debbie Gran mentioned that the two (2) committees that have submitted budgets already were boating and environmental committees.	
B.	Chuck Roy and Mark Minnucci discussed need of moving the fiscal year Jan to December and will reflect for committees. Need approval of moving fiscal year, Debbie Gran 1 st motioned, Jennifer Bailey 2 nd motioned and all BALA Board members present approved.	
C.	Mark Minnucci stated that we are tabling some items on agenda for timing reasons, town hall meeting discussions, and any further bylaw discussion.	
D.	Website information in regards to discussion regarding sponsors and classified presented by Jennifer Bailey. Jennifer Bailey researched other lake websites and spoke with board members in regards to their lake web sites. Jennifer contacted board members of Indian Lake, Webster Lake, Lake Quinsig and Cedar Lake. Lake Quinsigamond—Classifieds- not available, Sponsors- not available but they ask for donations; Indian Lake—Classifieds- not available, strict covenants and rules, Sponsors--not available, strict covenants and rules; Cedar Lake--Classifieds- offer online for members only and for a fee, Sponsors- online and for events for a fee at different levels; Webster Lake—Classifieds- does not offer classifieds as they send out emails to membership occasionally, Sponsors- they have business sponsor listing for fee \$100-200 per year to be listed with business info only. Rules limited to members paying dues, publications limited. Board not to vote on this at this time as we will discuss this further for what the mission is for BALA members.	
E.	Review of Survey Results by Lisa Sandersen, response rate 41% of members which is great as members took the time and responded. Overall, survey responses were positive. Responses were -- 2/3 year round, 1/3 seasonal. Overall, most very satisfied with BALA, few satisfied neutral. Only (1) one person not satisfied with BALA. 81% are very satisfied. Lisa Sandersen reported from the survey that 67% said they attend the meetings, and some people wrote that they would like a week night meeting earlier in season, earlier in June and later in fall. Question if meetings dates should be changed. Chuck Roy would like more survey questions in regards to dates of meetings versus voting on changing the dates at this time. Bruce Gran mentioned that these dates were chosen by those that attend the meetings and agrees that the dates should stay at this time. Lisa Sandersen would like to have more questioning/surveying about this and ask for more feedback at the July and August meetings. 83% of members responded wanted online payment of dues, 70% of members responded wanted online registration of events, 35% responded that they would like live streaming of meetings if they cannot attend to help them stay informed and participate even if they can't attend. Lisa Sandersen discussed from the survey that people responding in regards to the recreation survey was about 2/3 participate, 1/3 do not participate in the survey. Events people like include BALA GALA, 4 th of July parade, winter get together, kayaking morning. Lisa mentioned getting more kids involved as recreation events are geared toward adults. Mari Roy will take this information back to the recreation committee to decide on which events to focus on.	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Old/New Business items to completed by each those responsible for items.	Multiple responsibilities.	Ongoing

12. ADJOURNMENT

DISCUSSION	BALA Vice President, Mark Minnucci 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 May.	Chuck Roy for meeting date	Ongoing