

BIG ALUM LAKE ASSOCIATION, INC

BOARD MEETING

AUGUST 8, 2024

A meeting of the Board of Directors of Big Alum Lake Association, Inc. ("BALA") was held upon proper notice on August 8, 2024, beginning at 6:45pm at the house of Mark Smith. In attendance were the officers and Board members: Mark Smith (Chairman), David Bellerose (Vice President), Deb Gran (Treasurer), Jen Bailey (Corresponding Secretary), and Jeff Buchanan (Clerk). Also in attendance were the following committee chairs and Board members: Ken Gajewski (Dam and Fishing), Bruce Gran (Environmental); Barb Hitchcock (Membership); Liz Detarando (Recreation), and Tom Clark (Watershed). Absent was Matt Kibbe (Boating). Also in attendance was Chuck Roy. There being a quorum of the Board present, Mr. Smith called the meeting to Order.

The first order of business was to confirm the existing committees and chairs with one exception: Mr. Smith put forth a suggestion that Chuck Roy become the Chair of the Environmental Committee and replace Bruce Gran. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, that suggestion was unanimously approved. Next, Mr. Smith noted that the Appointed Director term of Mike Gionfriddo expired in July, and per section 4.01 of the Bylaws he would like to reappoint him. He also would like to appoint Bruce Gran as a second Appointed Director, also pursuant to such Section 4.01. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, Mike Gionfriddo and Bruce Gran were unanimously elected as Appointed Directors.

The next order of business was to approve the minutes of the Board meeting held on May 9, 2024. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the minutes were unanimously approved.

The next order of business was a Treasurer's report by Ms. Gran, who reported on the income statement and balance sheet (all attached) with a quick summary of the various line items including a summary of the BALA Gala. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the financials (attached hereto) were unanimously approved.

The next order of business was committee reports:

Membership Report: Barbara Hitchcock, Chair

Ms. Hitchcock started by noting that there are 148 probably members, and 145 have paid. Next year's membership drive was discussed, and it was agreed to proceed in the same manner as this year with emails, letters, and follow up calls.

Recreation Report: Liz Deterando, Chair

Ms. Deterando gave a summary of the BALA gala including the various in-kind donations of the Recreation Committee members. In order to track expenses, the treasurer was asked to record the expense of the donated items along with an offsetting contribution. Ms. Deterando noted the new book club sponsored by Lisa Dalberth.

Fundraising Report: David Bellerose, Chair

Mr. Bellerose gave an update on the BALA Gala results. Although, certain goals were hit, there was not a high level of enthusiasm at either auction event. Also, many of the younger people on the lake did not attend. In order to increase attendance and participation, Mr. Bellerose offered that maybe the board should rethink the event. A general discussion was held regarding that topic, and it was agreed that board members should bring some alternative ideas to the next meeting.

Dam/Fishing Committee: Ken Gajewski, Chair

Mr. Gajewski noted that the dam will be opened on November 1 for a 30-inch drawdown.

Environmental Committee: Chuck Roy, Chair

Mr. Roy started by noting that the lake was mapped to determine if the SONAR was working or had any adverse consequences. He noted that the weeds are lower, but not gone with many turning pink (which means the SONAR is working). He pointed out SONAR treatments are slow because they attack the roots, and it takes time. The mapping also found a few mudmat weeds, an invasive species that is difficult to treat. So, this needs to be watched. And thus far this year, there have been no algae blooms – therefore, no treatment will be needed for that.

Watershed Report: Tom Clark, Chair

Mr. Clark noted that Mt. Dan had road and drainage work done this summer and that their swales and retention areas are working very well with no silting into the lake. After the work was done, the residents on Mt. Dan each received a cease-and-desist letter from the Conservation Committee regarding that work. The Mt. Dan Road association will handle that response as the drainage is working well. Mr. Clark also is working with the town DPW on the retention pond on the north end (collecting water from Old Towne Way) with the DPW tentatively agreeing to fix the issues in the fall.

Nominating Report: Mark Smith, Chair

No update

Boating Report: Matt Kibbe, Chair

No update

The next order of business was old business: Mr. Smith, Chairman

The first item discussed was the sound system for the BALA Gala. There were glitches and it will be worked on for next year.

The next item was a Facebook update from Ms. Bailey, who noted that there is good participation.

Next was new business: Mr. Smith, Chairman

The first item of discussion was the possibility of a Tim Harrington (Tall Heights) fund raising concert in 2025. The idea was enthusiastically endorsed, with locations and pricing discussed but no decisions made.

Next Mr. Smith asked Ms. Bailey to send save-the-date notices for the events occurring in 2025.

Next, Mr. Roy noted that the booking page for the island has been created with a digital request feature. Thanks to Rich Suitum for prepping that.

The next item of business was to discuss the dock policy issues before SLAC (the Sturbridge Lakes Advisory Committee) as requested by the town Selectmen and Conservation Committee. The issue has arisen because of the numerous requests for cantilever docks. The background for the issue was laid out by Mr. Roy, with his noting that regulations were issued in 2012 but not necessarily enforced. The state rule on docks was also noted with a 4-foot-wide limitation. SLAC is currently recommending a permissible 250 sf per 50 feet of frontage in any configuration. Various alternatives were discussed, including allowing exceptions for difficult or shallow moorings, and suggestions were made to Mr. Roy to bring back to SLAC.

Finally, the issue of the timing of the board meetings was discussed based on only having one annual meeting per year, with it agreed that the board meetings would be held in November, March, June, and August.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was duly adjourned.

Jeffrey Buchanan, Recording Secretary

Big Alum Lake Association Inc
Profit Loss Statement
January 1 through Aug 7, 2024

	Jan 1 - Dec 31, 23	Jan 1-Dec 31, 24	Jan 1- Aug 7, 24	Jan 1-Aug 7, 24
	Prior Year Actual	Budget	Actual	Per Centage +/-
ORDINARY INCOME				
4000 -Membership Dues	15,000.00	15,000.00	14,600.00	97.33%
4020 -Rec Committee				
50/50	250.00	400.00	330.00	
Cash Drawer Deposit	50.00	0.00	50.00	
Gala Ticket Sales	6,005.00	5,500.00	5,225.00	
Total 4020 -Rec Committee	6,305.00	5,900.00	5,605.00	
4030 -Checking/Savings Int	46.44	50.00	24.13	48.26%
4035 -Short Term CD Interest	188.49	450.00	470.68	104.60%
Total Interest	234.93	500.00	494.81	
4060 -Fundraising				
Apparel	88.77	200.00	0.00	
Auction	7,205.00	6,000.00	7,495.00	
Donation Keep Lake Clean	9,600.00	12,000.00	18,770.00	156.42%
Gala Donation	300.00	0.00	0.00	
Mystery Wine Table	840.00	800.00	880.00	
Total 4060 -Fundraising	18,033.77	19,000.00	27,145.00	142.87%
Total Ordinary Income	39,573.70	40,400.00	47,844.81	118.43%
Expense				
6000 -BALA Administration*				
McGrath Insurance	974.50	0.00	975.00	
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	397.23	
Total 6000 -BALA Administration	2,750.13	2,000.00	2,554.23	127.71%
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	44,495.00	177.98%
Carl Nielsen/TRC	2,500.00	0.00	0.00	
Total 6040 -Lake Environment	23,030.55	26,250.00	45,328.27	172.68%
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	50.00	
Gala Event	6,385.01	5,400.00	6,008.75	111.27%
Meet & Greet	194.23	0.00	340.66	
Total 6080 -Rec Committee	6,629.24	5,400.00	6,399.41	118.51%
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- Aug 7, 24	Jan 1-Aug 7, 24
Total 6090 -Membership	269.13	348.00	206.01	59.20%
Total Expense	34,355.14	37,248.00	54,487.92	146.28%
Net Ordinary Income	5,218.56	3,152.00	(6,643.11)	-210.76%
Other Income				
Town of Sturbridge Betterment	1,400.00	1,500.00	2,917.00	
Website Sponsorship	0.00	200.00	0.00	
Net Other Income	1,400.00	1,700.00	2,917.00	
Net Income	6,618.56	4,852.00	(3,726.11)	-76.80%
Funds Transferred				
To/From Reserve	6,618.56	4,852.00	-3,726.11	
Net Funds Transferred	6,618.56	4,852.00	-3,726.11	

1:09 PM
08/07/24
Accrual Basis

Big Alum Lake Association Inc
Balance Sheet
As of August 7, 2024

	Aug 7, 24
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Big Alum Lake Association Inc	
4050 -Checking Acct 462	14,845.91
4055 -Savings Account 470	20,386.51
Certificate of Deposit	15,059.74
Total Big Alum Lake Association Inc	50,292.16
Total Checking/Savings	50,292.16
Total Current Assets	50,292.16
TOTAL ASSETS	50,292.16
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Equity	
Unrestricted Net Assets	54,018.27
Net Income	-3,726.11
Total Equity	50,292.16
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	50,292.16

