

Big Basswood Lake Association Board Meeting
September 21, 2020, 7 PM
Virtual via Zoom

Members present virtually: Larry Allcorn, Nancy Bakemeier, Phil Conley, Joanne Falk, Marilyn Kellum, Leigh Olmstead, Cynthia Wood

The meeting was called to order at 7 PM by the Chair. He reviewed the agenda. Minutes from the 6-22-20 Board Meeting were circulated for review. If there are additions or corrections send them to the Secretary. Minutes are approved pending any changes.

The Treasurer's Report was presented. It represents transactions from 6-1-20 through 9-21-20. The opening balance was \$9,370.37, closing balance is \$8,906.31. The major expense was CADE Insurance at \$1,069.20. FOCA dues are an upcoming expense. The Trillium Account's balance is \$11,163.76. The only transaction was a \$9.00 bank service charge. Larry will check with Tulloch Engineering to see if there is another billing coming.

Joanne reported that so far BBLA has 60-65 members signed up. Marilyn will check with Erik Nowak and Basswood Lake Outfitters to see if there they have received any memberships. The Business Associate Membership list has been updated and submitted to be posted on the web-site. It was suggested that these might be put in a more visible location on the web-site.

A discussion followed about promoting memberships and communicating with lake residents. A letter thanking people for their continuing support and membership was suggested. Additionally a letter to the people who have not renewed this year was proposed. The newsletter could also encourage people to join. Both the newsletter and the web-site provide information about the lake, BBLA and the community. The fall newsletter presents an opportunity to promote and demonstrate the value of a BBLA membership.

Marilyn presented late summer Secchi disks readings taken by Erik Nowak. Readings were taken from 8-6-20 through 9-15-20 and ranged between 10.1 meters to 12.5 meters. These readings are consistent with prior years.

Nancy is still tracking lake history. She will send all of the interviews on record to Phil. Larry plans to reach out to Will Samis to touch base about joint history based events for 2021.

There has been no recent updates about the Thessalon First Nation Boundary Claim. Larry has been in touch with Jane Thomas. The next scheduled meeting will be at the end of the month.

E-mails were sent out in August to lake residents that had not scheduled septic inspections. They were encouraged to schedule an appointment for the inspection through Huron Shores. We have not heard whether or not any have been scheduled.

Over the summer, water levels have been within the desired range. This fall there has been a lot of rain. The Dam Operating Plan was introduced to BBLA in the summer of 2018 and explains the overall plan for maintaining optimal water level plans for each season. There still are some concerns and confusion about this and a follow-up meeting with the MNRF and representatives from Bright Lake and BBLA is planned for this fall.

The new BBLA web-site is up and running. A check was submitted to Radiant in August that has not been cashed. Andrew has been notified and is looking into it. The question was raised

about how the web-site is being utilized. Analytics are probably available and we will check into that.

Larry and Joanne have met to develop criteria for the Mike Hunting Stewardship Award. The first award could be presented in 2022. There still are questions about what the award would be and how the program would be administered. Larry has contacted FOCA and there aren't other programs like this. Marilyn will contact the Stewardship Network, a grassroots non-profit organization, for ideas. An Award Committee was formed consisting of Marilyn, Leigh, Joanne and Larry with Phil as the Chair. The Board was instructed to come up with ideas over the winter.

The Board election that was supposed to occur at the 2020 AGM was postponed during the virtual AGM. The question was raised that Board terms be staggered. This would require an amendment to the By-Laws. Joanne and Marilyn will review the format for this and make a recommendation to be considered by the Board. Also, Board Officers will continue in their present positions until after the 2020 AGM.

Larry has circulated a list of topics for the fall newsletter. He is targeting a mid-October publication and asks that articles be submitted to him by 10-17-20. To be included are the proposed dates for 2021's meetings and are as followed: 6-21-21 Spring Board Meeting, 7-18-21 AGM, and 9-13-21 Fall Board Meeting.

Larry updated the Board on the Huron Shores Private Road Association activities. They had a meeting with the Mayor and two Council members. As a result of that meeting the Association has proposed an accounting practice that delineates the percentages of tax-payer dollars and member dollars. They have not heard back from the Municipality. Jim Falconer, Bob Kellum and Larry Allcorn have been active members of this association.

Joanne has been attending Huron Shores Municipality Council meetings to keep the Board up-to-date with the broadband initiative. So far there has been no business plan or feasibility plan submitted. She will continue to follow this initiative.

Finally, Cynthia raised concerns about the Bill Phillips property. Septic systems, a bridge, number of occupants, structures and trailers have all generated health and safety concerns. The property falls under several jurisdictions (Algoma Health, MOE, Municipality). BBLA will follow-up with these concerns and draft a letter to the appropriate agencies.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:04 PM.

Marilyn Kellum
Secretary