

Big Moose Property Owners' Association
Annual Meeting
July 18, 2020

Call to Order:

The 2020 Annual Meeting of the Big Moose Property Owners' Association was called to order at 9:10 by President John Burrows via Zoom video and teleconference, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The following individuals were listed as Zoom Attendees:

Name	Name
Peter Adams	Paul McMahon
Laurie Scalzo Beauchamp	Laura McSweeney
Betsy Bicknell	Walter Menand
Dan Boerger	Chris Menand
Becca Bowes	Barb Morgan
John Burrows	Kathryn Orbanek
Bill Burrows, Jr.	Paul Powers
Bill Burrows, Sr.	Camp Raymond
Mike Buttimer	Lisa Ricci
Sara Carr	Kathy and Paul Van Scott
Marge Correll	Steve Seitz
Cathy Crabtree	Peter Straley
Patricia Hinkle	Jay Taylor
Lisa Humphrey	Susan Taylor
Janet Ingraham	Gail Tobin
Keriann Kaercher	Paul Traverse
Linda & Bill Keener	Paul Van Slyke
Hubbell Knapp	Richard Widdicombe
Shane Kovacs	Sara Winch
Bob Kreitler	Colleen Zogby
David Lee	
Alison Strack & Barry Levin	
Bill Locke	
Dick & Meredith McCaughey	

Invocation

President Burrows called on Rev. Dr. McCaughey to deliver an invocation.

President's Remarks

President John Burrows noted the unusual nature of the meeting and thanked the Board of Directors for their efforts and participation over the year. He reminded the attendees of the BMPOA mission statement and encouraged membership, especially Associate Membership, for all who have an interest in the betterment of Big Moose Lake and surrounding community. John noted that the Association is in a strong financial position and continues to carry out its work, despite the impact of the pandemic.

Water Quality – Paul Powers

Paul reported on the results of the July bacteria testing. Most sample points have undetectable levels of *E. coli*. He is also engaged in testing as part of ALAP, and he shared the ALAP 2019 report with the meeting. This report will be posted on the BMPOA web site.

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Paul noted that the ALAP report documents what many of us have seen: that our water has become less transparent over time. Paul says this is no cause for concern. He also noted a decrease in acidity—a good trend—and now the lake is typically at a pH of 6.0-6.5. He reported that the lake is overall in great shape, thanks to everyone's vigilance with septic tanks.

Invasive Species – John Burrows

John reported that we rely heavily on Ken Hinkley and the staff at Dunn's Boat Service to assure that only clean boats and trailers enter Big Moose Lake. We have worked with Ken over the years, and he has always been very supportive of inspecting incoming boats and trailers. John noted that the Association has previously purchased a hot water powered washer for Ken, who conducts yearly training for his crew on invasive species prevention. We have had no issues or concerns this year.

COVID-19

John reported that he had formed a committee to study and recommend changes to BMPOA programming as a result of COVID-19. The committee: Marge Correll, Sara Carr, Laura McSweeney, Kurt Pardue, and Colleen Zogby, considered public health guidelines related to the Recreation Program and decided to recommend cancelling for the year, which the Board did at its May meeting. This decision had many ramifications (in addition to the obvious) including the need to return fees and donations and adjusting the Association's budget.

Recreation Program – Sara Carr

Sara reported that she is already planning with Kurt and Maggie for Summer of 2021. The Chicken Barbeque fundraiser is still being held this year (July 18th, today). Thanks to Kurt, Mike Canne, and Kip Bruyn for their grill work, and thanks to the community for supporting the Recreation Program in this way.

Sara indicated that there would be a boat parade on Saturday, September 5 to close out the summer. John thanked Sara for all her work, and thanked Kurt and Maggie for their flexibility. John reported to the membership that the Board decided to allow Kurt and Maggie to use the Strack house for the summer, and that they would return for the Summer of 2021. The Board has provided Kurt with 50% of his normal compensation.

Youth Protection – Marge Correll

Marge Correll noted that we are using the Boy Scouts program to provide information and training about Youth Protection. Next year, we will ask parents to take training again, as we did not focus on it this year in the absence of a Recreation Program. Marge pointed out the key principle of the training, which is "two deep leadership": There should be two adults present in every interaction with kids (including virtual/electronic interactions). Anyone can go to the Youth Protection Training area of the Boy Scouts web site to learn more and receive (free) training.

Boat Safety – Sarah Winch

The in-person Boating Safety Course has been cancelled, but the course can be taken on-line. Information is on the BMPOA web site. Sarah reminded people to pay attention to proper night-time lighting, and check that all lights are working before setting out at night. This applies to all

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boats, including kayaks and canoes. She also encouraged distance swimmers to have visible flotation devices and an accompanying spotter in a boat. Be visible! Finally, she encouraged the use of engine cut-off lanyards, which will shut down the engine if the wearer is thrown out of the boat or otherwise upset.

The buoys are out in their usual spots, many with reflective tape.

Government Relations – John Burrows

There are no significant items to report. Garbage pick-up continues as in prior years (Monday/Thursday, 9-10 at the Higby and Crag Point road intersection. White Metal pick-up day is July 18 (today), and the Town has suspended routine dye testing due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Insurance – Peter Adams

John noted that responsibility for BMPOA insurance matters has transferred from Jim Schunck to Peter Adams, who reported via Zoom from the Chicken Barbeque. Peter noted that responsibility had come full circle—from Charlie Adams to George Schunck to Jim Schunck and now to Peter. Peter noted that he had been able to secure savings on the Association's insurance expense because the Recreation Program is not being held this summer, so certain coverages could be lowered or dropped altogether. John thanked Peter for his willingness to serve.

Communications – Jay Taylor

Jay noted that the web site, www.bmposa.com, remains the destination for information about BMPOA activities and information of general interest to the membership. Over the winter, he has ensured that all available electronic minutes, both for Annual and Directors' meetings, are posted on the web site, as well as information about water testing and links to various studies that include Big Moose

Membership – Jan Ingraham

Jan reported that there are currently 175 paid full, and 36 Associate members, a decrease from last year. She welcomed new members Kelley and Gary Uvanni, Kathy and Paul VanScott, Pharon and Mary Ann Metzger, and Associate members Laurel and Paul Fitzmaurice. She made a plea for Associate membership to people who are adult children of camp owners on Big Moose.

Buildings and Grounds – Don Dew

John reported in Don's absence that the buildings and grounds are in good shape, thanks to Don's attention and caretaking. In the last year, electrical work has been completed at the Strack House to bring it up to code, and high-speed internet has been installed for member use in the Association Center (and at the Strack House for the Rec Program director). The AED is in place for the season, complete with newly-purchased batteries and pads. Finally, John explained that porta potties were used behind the center in lieu of opening the Association Center bathrooms because there is no septic tank for the association center, so all waste must be pumped and hauled out, so in general it's more economical to lease porta potties than fill the holding tank.

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Treasurer's Report – Richard Widdicombe, Paul VanSlyke

The Association is in good shape, especially considering the COVID situation. Per the statements made available to the membership, we have about \$20K in checking and \$44K in savings. 23 people have not paid dues this year, and to date Richard has not sent reminders, being sensitive to what could be difficult economic circumstances. He strongly encouraged dues payment in January, as it creates significant additional work for him when dues payments trickle in over the other months of the year.

Richard thanked Paul for all his work and help to keep our financial affairs in order. It was noted that the Association has about a \$40,000 annual budget and seeks to operate on a break-even basis. John noted that, over the years, there have been additional donations to the Recreation Program, Dock fun, etc., which has allowed a slow but steady improvement in the balance sheet.

Review of Books – Joe Hanlon's report

John reported that Joe Hanlon, CPA has reviewed Richard's work. This is not a formal audit, but a review of the information provided. Joe has written a letter with recommendations which the Board will take up later in the season. Joe's review was of the general ledger and selected invoices, and all payments could be tied out to invoices.

John said that Joe's recommendations include making sure that we are annually getting the best price on our insurance coverage, and that a board member reviews payroll and payments made (which Paul does). Joe noted that Richard is very organized and provided all records in good order.

Old Business

Association Center Upgrades

John noted that upgrades were being considered for the Association Center, notably the roof, exterior appearance, and interior aesthetics, which improvements are estimated to cost more than \$100K. John had originally planned to get approval and begin a capital campaign this year but thought it advisable in light of COVID-19 to suspend further work for at least a year. John showed some conceptual drawings Hap Holmes provided (which were helpfully synched with a live view of the existing structure by Peter Adams!). John expects that as plans are firmed up, some of the funding would come from the treasury and the remainder via a capital campaign.

Thanks

John expressed thanks to the following outgoing Committee Chairs, Directors and Officers:

- To Becca Bowes, completing her two terms on the Board
- To Jim Schunck, for many years of insurance work
- To Bill Burrows, Sr., involved in the BMPOA since 1971, most recently as Legal representation for the association
- To Jay Taylor, for 12 years of note taking and executing the duties of Secretary of the Association

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New Business

Nominations – Laura McSweeney

On behalf of the Nominating Committee, Laura proposed the names of Kerianne Kaercher for her first full term, Paul Powers for his second, and Hubbell Knapp and Shane Kovacs, new board nominees. On a motion by Peter Straley, seconded by Paul VanSlyke, the slate was adopted without opposition.

Thanks, John!

Jan Ingraham thanked John for his years as President and on the board, noting that the job is not easy and John has done it well. John said he had enjoyed all of it, and all the people he's worked with.

Note about "amazon smile"

Kathryn Orbanek put in a plug for the use of Amazon Smile to direct part of the money spent on the amazon.com web site to the Big Moose Ambulance Company. This information is on the front page of bmpoa.com.

Adjourn

There being no other business to come before the meeting, the meeting was adjourned at 10:31.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jay Taylor
Secretary