

Big Moose Property Owners' Association
Annual Meeting
 July 23, 2022

Summary of Decisions

At this meeting, the BMPOA Membership...

- Approved the By-law changes as proposed.

Call to Order:

The 2022 Annual Meeting of the Big Moose Property Owners' Association was called to order at 9:00AM by President Colleen Zogby at the Community Center. The following individuals were listed as in-person Attendees:

John Burrows	Peter Straley	Marge Correll
Colleen Zogby	Lorraine Schunck	Paul VanSlyke
Ed Chase	Hubbell Knapp	Bob Krietler
Richard Widdicombe	Jay Taylor	Paul Powers
Donna Hartz	Sarah Dew	Al Popkess
Lucy Popkess	James Schunck	Rebecca Forbes
Bob Derrenbacker	Larry Schunck	Candy Wachterman
Dick McCaughey	Susan Taylor	Sarah Winch
Carmen Mastroianni	Debbie Sleeper	Les Knox III
Betsy Bicknell	Fran Knorr	Matti Van Scott
Olga Adams	Laura McSweeney	Amy Kordziel
Walt Menand	Lisa Humphrey	Paul Kordziel
Betsey Hadden	Ford Fay	Alison Strack
Katie Taylor	Tom Matthews	Martha Shanahan
Brian Allen	Karen Knorr Como	Peter Grieves-Tunnell
Keriann Kaercher	Barry Levin	Jane Wilson
Barb Morgan	Kathy Orbanek	Les Knox
Faith Eastwood Shore	Linda Critchfield	Tim Critchfield
Anne Dew	Steve Menand	Pat Duffy

Invocation

President Zogby called on Rev. Dr. McCaughey to deliver an invocation where he commented it was a joy and privilege of being together and mentioned those who are no longer with us.

President's Remarks

President Colleen Zogby reminded those in attendance about the coffee and donuts in the back of the room and thanked the Board of Directors for their efforts and participation over the year. She 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. Colleen specifically thanked outgoing Directors Paul VanSlyke, Peter Straley, Bill Locke and outgoing Secretary John Burrows for their years of dedicated service to the BMPOA.

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Water Quality – Paul Powers and Ed Chase

Paul reported on the results of the July bacteria testing. Most sample points have undetectable levels of *E. coli*. Average pH of the lake is up while our water has become less transparent over time. Paul says this is no cause for concern. He also noted the 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 in overall great shape, thanks to everyone's vigilance with septic system updates and testing.

Colleen reported that APIPP (Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program) surveyed the lake in late June with two crews and boats looking for signs of vegetation. She was happy to report no signs of invasives were found however the complete report is pending. Once received, the APIPP report will be posted on the BMPOA website. Linda Critchfield reminded us that the Clean Air Act of 1990 has had a lot to do with the improvement of our lake's pH level.

Colleen further reported that we rely heavily on Pat Duffy and the staff at Dunn's Boat Service to assure that only clean boats and trailers enter Big Moose Lake. Pat Duffy reported that the boat service inspects all boats entering the lake and have recently found zebra mussels and milfoil. Most of the boat owners are cooperative with removing the debris or not entering the lake. Thank you to Dunn's for their dedication to our clean lake.

Recreation Program – Anne Dew

With a big smile, Anne reported that over 40 kids of various ages have participated in the rec program activities so far this summer. Swim lessons are being provided with 5 different skill level classes from 3-13 years of age. A big thank you to the Wertz/Shore families for allowing the use of their lake front for swimming lessons. Unfortunately, the Boat safety course had to be cancelled due to a lack of attendees. Kurt led a hiking group of 11 parents and kids up Wright's Peak. It was reported that the lake swim is scheduled for Saturday July 30th and there is a scheduled boat parade and bonfire for Saturday 9/3. The Chicken Barbeque fundraiser is being held 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.

Loon Conservation

Lisa Humphrey and Barry Levin have begun an initiative to recognize Big Moose Lake as a "Certified Loon Friendly Lake" by increasing awareness of the Loons and protecting their natural habitat. Certification requires an annual lake clean up. Currently this cleanup is being done on an individual basis and the BMPOA will consider doing a more wide-spread community clean up in the future. Barry reported that he is monitoring the 3 loon nests on the lake which only produced one viable loon chick. If you have old lead fishing sinkers, you can turn them into the Old Forge Hardware and receive a voucher to purchase new non-toxic ones.

Youth Protection – Marge Correll

Marge Correll noted that we are using the Boy Scouts of America training program to provide information and training about Youth Protection. She encouraged parents and grandparents to take the training. 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

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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. She also reported that the policy has been amended to include the youth protection training that SafeSport (uscenterforsafesport.org) provides as well. Please send a copy of your training certificate to Marge for record keeping.

Boat Safety – Sarah Winch

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 boats, including kayaks and canoes. Long distance swimmers should have visible flotation devices and an accompanying spotter in a boat. She also 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 displaced.

Government Relations – Colleen Zogby

Colleen reported that summer trash pickup schedule began on Monday June 27th and white metal day was July 16th. The town is only picking up trash on Mondays. The town is over their diesel fuel budget so they had to cut out a day of service. No Thursday pick-up. The Town of Webb has resumed dye-testing of septic systems after a halt due to COVID-19.

Insurance – Peter Adams

Colleen reported for Peter Adams and noted that our insurance coverages have all been renewed with a slight 1% increase over the expiring price. Colleen thanked Peter for his willingness to serve the BMPOA.

Communications – John Burrows

John noted that the web site, www.bmpoa.com, remains the destination for information about BMPOA activities and information of general interest to the membership.

Membership – Colleen Zogby

It was reported that we have 200 paid full members, 36 paid associate members and 25 unpaid members that have been sent reminders. Colleen recognized new members during the Annual meeting.

Social Media – Keriann Kaercher

Keriann reported that our BMPOA private Facebook account has 218 followers, and our private Instagram account has 30 followers. She is always looking for content to post on the sites. It's a great way to directly communicate with our membership. Reach out directly to Keriann to join the sites.

Buildings and Grounds – Don Dew

Colleen reported in Don's absence that the buildings and grounds are in good shape, thanks to Don's attention and caretaking. New LED lights have been installed in the rec center and all are working. Unfortunately, all the large Tamarack trees on the BMPOA property have died and had to be removed at considerable cost. The culprit is the tree-burrowing eastern larch beetle which is native to the U.S. There are a number of smaller Tamarack trees in the field that look healthy.

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Treasurer's Report – Richard Widdicombe, Paul VanSlyke

The Association is in good financial shape. Per the statements made available to the membership, we have a favorable cash balance of about \$80,000 but some of that will be used to pay bills for the rec program and other costs. It's expected that the Association will run a small operating deficit in 2022 due to the increased buildings and grounds maintenance expenses. The Board may consider some level of dues increases as it believes our expenses will be increasing in future years. BMPOA has purchased some new software called Constant Contact to help with email communication and bill/invoice paying with our membership. The system has recently been used for the 4th of July picnic and the Chicken BBQ.

Review of Books – Joe Hanlon's report

Colleen reported that Joe Hanlon, CPA has reviewed Richard's work. This is not a formal audit, but a review of the information provided. Joe did review the invoices provided by Richard and compared those to the Quick Books that Richard shared. Joe found no issues with our bookkeeping but suggested that the BMPOA get competitive bids for large expenses.

New Business

Colleen reported that the BMPOA Board of Directors recommends changes to the BMPOA By-Laws: (1) to reflect and acknowledge that ownership of real property is no longer necessarily held by individuals and that legal entities or trusts are common forms of ownership widely used to acquire real property; (2) to allow individual owners, trust owners and entity owners a vehicle to designate representatives to act on their behalf at meetings and be eligible to serve on the Board of Directors; and (3) to permit and encourage family members of owners to be more involved with BMPOA and the wellbeing of our lake community. The proposed amendments drafted by Al Popkess (Legal) were sent electronically to the membership on July 12, 2022 for their review and consideration. Paul VanSlyke made a motion to approve the by-law changes as proposed and Sarah Dew seconded the motion. Some good discussion and thought was had by the membership regarding the understanding of the changes, and the impact of these changes on the membership voting and Director participation requirements. With no further discussion, Colleen called for a vote and the motion passed by more than two-thirds.

Big Moose Ambulance Company

Sarah Dew reported that the Big Moose Ambulance Company closed its doors on January 1, 2022 due to lack of volunteers. Old Forge has the "certificate of need" for the Big Moose territory. If you call 911, Old Forge ambulance will respond or they may ask Inlet Ambulance to respond if they are available. Sarah suggested we contact the town if we have concerns about coverage for our area.

Nominations – Laura McSweeney

On behalf of the Nominating Committee, Laura proposed Lisa Humphrey for her second term, and Peter Greaves-Tunnell, Barb Morgan and Brian Allen, as new board nominees. On a motion by Susan Taylor and seconded by Kathy Orbanek, the slate was adopted without opposition.

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The BMPOA Board and its members would like to thank Colleen Zogby for her long-time dedication to the mission of the BMPOA, serving as a Director and her time as President. Colleen will be stepping down as President to focus on her Doctorate of Palliative Care.

Adjourn

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

Respectfully Submitted,

John Burrows
Secretary