

BMLAA Board Meeting
June 12th at 2:00pm via Zoom

Board members present: Scott Bentson, Marge Lorentzsen, Matt Hanson, DeDe Krieg, Justin Johnson, Linda Bentson, Paul Stadem, Jane Gudmundson.

Association members present: Mary and Glenn Follett, Jill and Jim Eisle, Kathleen and Bill Holiday, Barb and Rolf Christiansen, David Weiss, Wayne Gudmundson, Howard and Debby Bonem, Monette and Paul Lundquist, Wayne Gadberry, Joe Evans, Curt Halbakken, Missy Borgen, Kurt Withnell, Steve Lindow.

Secretary's Report: The board met virtually on May 8 via Zoom. Linda Bentson moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Justin Johnson and approved.

Announcements: Veronen's Resort has gained a permit to hold their annual July celebration. Actual dates TBA. They would appreciate contributions.

Treasurer's Report: Marge Lorentzen

Checking account balance : \$10,278.81

AIS donation balance: \$7,355.24

General Account funds available: \$4,287.90

Note: COLA is not requiring membership dues so the \$300 that is usually paid in October will be retained.

SEE Committee: Matt Hanson presented updates on the S.E.E. (Safety, Education, Etiquette) Committee which was formed last summer to inform and encourage safe and respectful ways for everyone to enjoy the water. The committee met via zoom in the spring to discuss how best to communicate this message. They decided on creating an informational sheet to be distributed via the BMLAA website, and the BMLAA e-mail list. A paper version will be printed for distribution to visitors at the resorts on the lake. Motion to accept report: Justin Johnson Second: DeDe Krieg.

Old Business:

The Annual BMLAA meeting this summer has been cancelled.

Marc Shannon, VP of BMLAA, resigned from the board in May. Matt Hanson will assume the VP position. DeDe Krieg and Jane Gudmundson will take over the secretary role that Matt held last year.

The search for a ninth board member is in process.

In lieu of the cancellations of the Annual Meeting and no printed Newsletter this Spring/Summer, there will be an "Annual Report" summarizing the affairs of the Association posted via the BMLAA website and e-mail list with a target date of mid July.

Processing data from the 3 year Lake Study headed by Rick Koch is behind schedule due to the Pandemic. Projected date for the summary report is end of August.

AIS prevention is ongoing. Thanks to designated AIS funds from BMLAA members of \$7,400 and a donation of \$2,500 from the Forest Township, coverage by AIS inspectors at the public access has been increased to 10 hours a day from Memorial Day - Labor Day. Three inspectors share the work load. Becker County has notified the board that Bad Medicine Lake has 800 banked hours of inspection time available to pay inspectors this year. Additional hours will be invoiced to Forest Township or BMLAA.

Consideration of water ski slalom course issues:

The slalom Ski Course discussion included questions, observations and concerns expressed by those in favor of the course being installed for the whole summer as well as those who oppose having the course installed in front of their property. In addition two property owners voiced their views of the board actions in this regard.

To give some context, Bad Medicine lake is a public resource. A slalom ski course can legally be installed on the lake for day use without securing a permit. For longer periods of time a permit from the county sheriff is required. The issuance of a permit requires written approval from the BMLAA Board of Directors

History to give perspective: Originally the ski course, which belongs to Kurt Withnell, was granted a permit to be in place for a three week period in proximity to his family cabin on the north-east side of the lake. For the last three years the course has been installed for the duration of the summer with the BMLA approval based on no formal complaints. Last summer, in communication with property owners directly affected by the course, they expressed a need for “a break” from the course being in front of their property. In response the skiers sought out other potential sites for the course to be installed on a rotational basis during the summer of 2020. They identified four possible locations. In May Justin Johnson, on behalf of the skiers reached out to some, but not all property owners who would potentially be affected. Several property owners now feel strongly they were not given the opportunity to voice their views in a timely manner regarding the proposed rotation of location for the course. Currently there is no permit pending. Kurt and Justin have withdrawn their request for a permit. The board acknowledged process mistakes and poor communication that contributed to resident concerns.

In finding a solution to this issue the following comments/views and questions were voiced:

- limitations on the use of the lake would open up a can of worms
- existence of the course monopolizes a significant part of the lake – relocation is not a sound solution
- is Bad Medicine lake a good fit for a slalom ski course?
- the lake is for everyone

- if the ski course is to be moved how can it best be accomplished?
- we all love the lake – we all pay taxes
- fishing issues should be considered
- restrictive behavior impacts everyone – the process has to be the same for all activities
- use this situation as a learning process – listen well – come to an agreement
- we need to make a decision that is good for the lake

Scott Bentson stated that the BMLAA wants to listen to members of the association. He suggested a special meeting dealing only with the ski course issue be held in July.

As suggested by Howard Bonem the board of directors will develop ideas and proposals to be discussed at this special meeting.

Kurt Withnell said he wanted to work towards a solution that is less intrusive.

Justin Johnson thought the skiers could develop A, B and C options soon and give proper notice to lake residents and get input from the public.

The Board will develop and propose changes to the Association bylaws to permit virtual meetings and voting, election of Directors if in-person voting is not possible and, in exceptional circumstances extending expiring terms of Directors until an election can be held.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for Friday, July 10 at 2:00pm via Zoom.

Minutes submitted by: Dede Krieg and Jane Gudmundson