

## BCA Directors & Officers Meeting – June 13, 2020

This meeting was conducted using ZOOM Video Communications

**ATTENDANCE:** Roger & Fran Abbey, Pam Brewer, Tim Dagget, Karin Hennigan, Doug Hunt, Sue Lorenzini, Kent Martin, Karen Murphy, Bob McQueen, Phillip Stark, Polly Peterson, Gail Roes, Stephen Widrick

Meeting was called to order at 10:05 am

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** Members had access to the May 16, 2020 meeting minutes. **Polly Peterson motioned to approved the minutes. The motion was seconded by Sue Lorenzini and the motion was so approved by voice vote.**

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** An updated Treasurer's Report had been emailed the day prior to the meeting. Please see attached.

Total income as of June 12, 2020: \$10006.63

Total expenses as of June 12, 2020: \$9253.05

Net Income: \$753.58

**Phil Stark motioned to approve Treasurer's Report. Stephen Widrick seconded the motion and the motion was so approved by voice vote.**

**MEMBER-ITEM REQUEST:** BCA sent a request last month to New York Assemblyman Blackenbush's office for funds to replace the buoys and the boat launch sign. Thanks to Mike Leviker, Kent Martin, Gail Roes, Phil Stark for assisting with the request. The amount for the request is capped at \$5,000.00.

Mr. Widrick states that the N. Shore Road is scheduled to install new blacktop this week and suggests that project might include the boat launch.

**BOAT WASHING STATION:** President Stark asks if any negative issues or feedback have occurred regarding the Brantingham Lake Boat Launch Steward who is now only operating on Saturdays and Sundays.

Karin Hennigan reports that she had visitors who desired to wash their boat. The boat was in an infected lake prior to bringing it to Brantingham. Ms. Hennigan raises the question of how to contact someone in order to access the boat washing station outside of the Boat Launch stewards hours.

Polly Peterson asks if they were seeking an inspection of the boat. Karin H. responds they were looking for a boat wash.

Mr. Stark states that the goal of the boat launch steward is to identify unknown issues on a boat, but if there are known contaminants, steward will facilitate washing the boat according to protocol.

Karen Hennigan states the BCA should be willing to accommodate someone who is taking responsibility for their watercraft.

Mr. Widrick states he would be willing to volunteer to wash boats, but would need additional training to use the boat washing station

Mr. Stark asks if Gary White is trained to use the boat washing station.

Karen Murphy reports that she attended the training along with Polly Peterson, Chris Murphy and Gary White. Karen will email instructions created after attending training for the use of the equipment.

Stephen Widrick reports that the boat washing station is located at The Trailside Restaurant Parking Lot. The water tank has been filled by a town of Greig resident who owns the water station.

The question was asked about a location for the boat washing station in the event The Trailside Restaurant is sold. Mr. Stark responded that we will have to wait and see what happens

Karen Murphy asks if the propane and diesel tanks are full as well.

Mr. Stark states we can have someone from the AWI program perform refresher training.

Stephen Widrick makes the point that the boat washing probably has not be operated and needs to be run.

Mr. Stark suggested the boat launch steward participate in any training.

Mr. Stark states that anyone who is need of having their boat washed they should contact him and he will coordinate to have someone meet them at the boat wash. Hopefully the request is made with time to coordinate effort. Gary White is the "best bet" to reach and make arrangements.

Karin Hennigan asks if she can then request a time for a boat to be washed. Mr. Stark responded that she should email Gary White and him to request the boat be washed.

We will determine at that point if additional training is needed to ensure boats can be washed outside of the hours of the boat launch steward.

Polly Peterson suggest the protocol for requesting a boat launch should be posted on the website.

Stephen Widrick suggested 48-hour notice for boat washing when steward not scheduled.

Karen Murphy asks if the boat washing station is secured. Stephen Widrick reports it is padlocked.

**BOAT LAUNCH SIGN:** President Stark states that Town of Greig Supervisor Marilyn Patterson has indicated that the Town of Greig may be willing to fund the creation and installation of a new sign for the boat launch. At this point, we need to determine what information would need to go on the sign. Kent Martin took a picture of the current sign and shared with some board members. Goal is to keep the information on the sign but to make sure relevant information is accurate. This information will be passed along to Marilyn Patterson.

**AERIAL INSECT SPRAYING:** President Stark reports that the second spray of the season is due any day now weather permitting. He reported that Roger Abbey met with Jeff Duflo of Duflo Chemical Spray and asked Mr. Abbey to share some of the points that were discussed during the meeting.

Roger Abbey reports that Mr. Duflo wanted to determine if all areas of the membership were being sprayed appropriately and that some areas were not being over sprayed or under sprayed. Mr. Abbey stated that the first spray this year did not seem to include Pleasant Lake and residents did not experience a reduction in mosquitoes. Mr. Duflo reported that he has over sprayed Hill Road and North-South Road. He identified that Pleasant Lake is on the fringes. He is going to re-evaluate his passages to ensure better coverage. Mr. Duflo did suggest that the BCA may want to consider another district. He noticed there is a lot of new construction along Partridgeville Road and Middle Road. Mr. Duflo suggested that the BCA may want to consider expanding the region of spraying if it is legal to do so. Mr. Abbey states Information is needed to determine if an additional district is plausible. 1. Is it legal? 2. What area would be best for us to include in a new district? 3. What would be the additional cost? Mr. Duflo suggested an additional meeting down the road to discuss the idea to which Mr. Abbey welcomed. Mr. Abbey noted that the BCA could only afford to have a new district sprayed after there were enough members to pay for the spraying. The board would need to approve the new district to get the ball rolling, but only after the expanded

spraying was found to be legal and Mr. Duflo could come up with suitable boundaries for the expanded spray.

A member asks what areas are sprayed now. Mr. Abbey responded, Brantingham Lake, Pleasant Lake, Lake of the Pines, Lily Pond and the Golf Course.

Mr. Abbey reports that he and Mr. Duflo reviewed what areas he is expected to spray. Mr. Duflo will work to ensure he is spraying exactly what we have contracted him to spray.

Gail Roes reports that the BCA has a colored map that shows exactly where paying members are located that could be shared with Jeff Duflo.

Phil Stark will forward the map to Jeff Duflo..

**MEMBERSHIP DUES:** Mr. Stark reports that the BCA board has discussed the idea of raising dues to cover costs for the Boat Launch Steward Program. The membership would have to approve an increase in dues at the 2020 BCA Annual Membership meeting. In order to get a sense of how the membership would feel about raising dues, Mr. Stark suggests an email survey be sent to the membership prior to the meeting. Mr. Stark states that raising dues by \$10 or \$20 would not cover all expenses, but it would bring in an extra \$2,000.00 - \$3,000.00.

Stephen Widrick suggests that the survey should also ask, if the member is not interested in an increase in dues, what BCA program would they sacrifice?

Mr. Abbey suggests that the BCA create an annual event to raise funds toward cost of the programs.

Mr. Stark puts the issue into perspective stating that the BCA was financially sustainable at \$40 membership prior to initiating the Boat Launch Stewardship program and purchasing the boat washing station equipment for \$10,000.00. Mr. Stark states that if the BCA cannot cover the cost of the program then the boat washing station would need to be sold.

Karin Hennigan states she would prefer to cut back on spraying and prioritize the boat washing station as water quality is more important.

Karin Hennigan asks does the BCA and the Golf Course, which are not governing bodies, have the right to spray chemicals all over the area. Does the BCA have the right to make that decision?

Mr. Stark responds that this program was started many, many years ago and the BCA had to obtain permission from New York State to contract for aerial insect spraying. Mr. Duflo of Duflo Chemical Spray has to obtain permits with New York State each year and meet the equipment requirements and approval for chemical products.

Stephen Widrick states he agrees with Karin Hennigan that there was no reduction of mosquitoes after the first application this year.

Gail Roes reminds members present that information about Duflo Chemical Spray and the product he uses are available on the website

Karen Murphy states that the aerial insect spraying always generates questions and is a conversation worth having. She reminds the membership that are continued concerns this year about vector-borne illnesses that are spread by mosquitoes including Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE). Ms. Murphy also stated her son was at Raquette Lake and reported the mosquitoes were so bad he was leaving to head back to Brantingham.

Stephen Widrick states that if the membership feels that aerial insect spraying should be a priority they need to pay their dues so we can cover the cost of the program.

Pam Brewer reminds the board that Jeff Duflo delivered an educational presentation years ago during the BCA Annual Dinner Meeting to address concerns and explain the delivery process and how the Kontrol 30-30 insecticide works. In addition, Mr. Duflo hosted a meeting in his home with board members to answer questions about the program.

Mr. Abbey adds Mr. Duflo also discussed the weather conditions including wind direction necessary for an effective spray.

Karin Hennigan states that the membership will not be happy about an increase in dues and many are not interested in the aerial spraying.

Area directors present indicated they had not heard this from their members.

Karen Murphy suggests that this topic should be added to the survey.

President Stark responds that the organization must always prioritize what the membership is interested in. Mr. Stark will create a survey that allows the membership to provide feedback on multiple topics and prioritize what is most important to them including spraying for insects and an increase in dues to assist in covering the cost of programs.

Kent Martin suggests we incentivize members to consider paying more and donating towards programs.

Mr. Widrick suggest we increase dues even higher to cover the cost of the programs

Karin Hennigan states that she hears from property owners who don't care about the aerial insect spraying program.

Mr. Stark responds that the survey is great opportunity to understand what the membership thinks and proposes that the survey be emailed to paying members

Gail Roes suggested a flyer could be delivered with the directories with information about the survey. They are scheduled to begin delivery the first week of July

**Membership discussion:**

- Membership form not on the last page of the newsletter
- Mail out membership form separately
- Ask landlords to share BCA information with renters and invite them to pay associate membership
- Steven W. mentions that renters contribute

Pam Brewers asks when directories are going to be distributed to area directors and will the directors be given a list of who has paid dues.

Gail Roes reports that the area directors will be given a list of who has paid. As always, property owners are encouraged to pay for their dues online or by mail to save the area directors from having to walk door-to-door to collect dues. Directories and membership cards are left at the doors in bags for paid members Area directors will pick up their packets from the box at Sue Lorenzini's house

**Discussion about increasing membership:**

- 30% of property owners are not paid members
- Property owners who enjoy off-lake activities do not benefit from membership
- It is a lake association – mission is to protect the lake
- We are now the BCA – Brantingham COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
- Fran Abbey states that the Arts Council was created to benefit the community
- Karen H. states we must find ways to include members off the lake
- Mr. Abbey suggests that a new district be created to include new property owners, the BCA would approve a new district, we could find an area director and begin recruiting members, but the district must be created first.
- Arts Council provides events for all property owners and is central to the BCA and benefits all members on the lake or off the lake.

- Gail Roes states that off lake property owners are welcome to join as “Associate Members” for \$20. Businesses are offered an Associate Membership as well. Gail states she has added any new construction to the list for newsletters
- Roger Abbey states that “Associate Membership” implies they are not full members”
- Gail states that they are people who are off the lake that request the associate membership such as Deputy Sheriff Mike Leviker
- Mr. Abbey agrees that category is important, but we have a different subset of property owners that may want full membership and inclusion into the BCA
- Gail Roes reports that Linda’s Place is paying for their own aerial insect spraying
- Gail Roes reports roughly 440 properties on the lake, but there are members with multiple properties. They are invited to pay associate dues to additional properties
- **If all property owners paid their dues, we would be financially sustainable (\$16,000 annually)**
- Phil Stark states he will look into the logistics of adding a new district on Partridgeville Road

Mr. Starks states that a full 1/3 of property owners do not pay membership dues. In the past years, we have added programs such as the boat launch stewardship program, purchasing the boat washing station and the Arts Council and there HAS BEEN NO INCREASE IN PAID MEMBERSHIPS. Our primary goal is to increase membership within the existing districts. Unsure how many potential memberships could be added with a new district. Hopefully survey will provide feedback on membership interests.

Fran Abbey makes the points that dues may have been paid prior to the Arts Council Season and perhaps there will be an increase this year

Polly Peterson states that the “personal touch” is important in recruiting members.

Fran Abbey states people may not understand that the Arts Council is part of the BCA.

**BCA SURVEY:** Mr. Stark states that the survey is a priority. Board should meet prior to the annual membership meeting to discuss results of the survey and determine a direction for the meeting. The BCA Annual Dinner meeting is currently scheduled for July 11, 2020 and will be held virtually on ZOOM.

Fran Abbey suggest the survey will ask where they are located. If they live on Brantingham Lake versus off the lake, it may impact how they respond to questions.

Mr. Stark states the survey will ask the property owner how much they would consider paying as an increase in dues and offer options that increase by \$5.

Mr. Widrick asks what amount would we have to increase dues to cover the cost of all of the programs?

Mr. Stark states that it would be more money than people are willing to pay Boat Launch Steward with reduced- hours costs the BCA \$4200.

Pam Brewer reminds members that Lake of the Pines pay \$250.00 and pay additional \$40 for BCA. Mr. Stark states that the \$250 are dues for the Homeowner's Association

Mr. Abbey suggests that multiple property owners should not be given the option of an associated membership

**Mr. Stark states that the membership is voluntary. If property owners value the programs of the BCA, they will be willing to pay their dues. If they don't value the programs, they won't pay their dues and it will affect what can be offered and ultimately what happens to the BCA.**

Mr. Stark reports that aerial insect spraying has been important program with the BCA. In the past years, only 3 sprays were necessary even though we were contracted for up to 5 sprays. Mr. Stark states he receives phone call from members/property owners who are passionate about the spraying and phone calls from members that are equally passionate that the BCA not spray.

Mr. Stark reports that the BCA had approximately 280 members for the 2019 season. An increase in dues by \$10 would generate \$2800.00. This amount would cover 2 sprays or 50% of the cost of this year's reduced-hours boat wash stewardship cost.

Steve Widrick states that an increase to \$60 X 280 members would generate \$16,500.00. Last years income was approximately \$18,000.00 including donations to the Fish Fund, the Boat Launch Stewardship and the Memorial Fund.

Gail Roes states that the only money that can be used for operations are the BCA dues.

Gail Roes reports that when the BCA dues were \$20, the membership was over 300 and at one point, 340 members. After dues were increased to \$40, the membership dropped below 300, however, the number of memberships had been decreasing prior to the increase in dues.

Mr. Stark responds that this occurs when the membership dues are voluntary. The dues have to be calculated at a cost because some people may decide they don't like the increase and not pay their dues. We will use the survey to determine the level of support for an increase in dues. If the survey indicates support for an increase that we know we can approach the membership at the annual BCA membership meeting in July.



**BCA ADDRESS SIGNS:** Gail reports signs are being made as the orders come in. Dan Brewer installs the signs when they are completed. Price of signs was increased by \$2.00 to cover the cost of New York State tax

**OTHER BUSINESS:** Fran Abbey states Arts Council is trying to organize a concert on the lake for boaters to attend.

July 4<sup>th</sup> boat parade will take place this year!

Doug Hunt reports that he is still considering a History Social at the end of August, but is holding back because of COVID-19.

Mr. Stark states there will be another BCA board meeting perhaps a week prior to the BCA Annual Membership meeting to discuss the results of the survey.

Meeting adjourned @ 11:45 am

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Murphy

**ARTS COUNCIL AMMEDMENT:** Two Concert locations have been found for August 15 with rain date of August 16th on Brantingham Lake. One concert location was found for August 14th on Pleasant Lake. The musical groups are being considered for each.