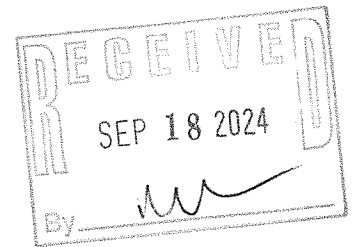


**BANTAM LAKE PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION
MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 15, 2024**



1. Open Meeting

Call to order at 6:34 PM. Attendees: Connie Trolle, Kris Truta, Emily Lupinacci, Peter Longo. Rocco Botto, Sara Santora, Devon O'Neill & Mark Sniffen joining via Zoom.

2. Approval of last meeting's minutes.

Approved without correction.

3. Treasurer's Report:

One note - 50,000 went out to SOLitude Lake Management today (8/15) so the 230,000 should really be 80,000. Otherwise approved.

4. Standing Committee Reports

- a. **5K** - Update from Rocco Botto: So far registration is up, flyers are up and the town beach is rented. We're on track for this month. We've already had 33 sign ups with 45 days to go which is a good place to be. We've also revamped the RunSignUp page. Last year we had 146 sign ups which is great for a first year race and we're hoping to surpass that year. Now it's time to turn the focus to sponsorship, which can really help with revenue. Starting in September we'll start getting in "promotion mode" with printed material, signs and other marketing outreach efforts.

We'll change sponsorship offerings to include promotion via social media and email.

- b. **Lake surveys & updates from consultant** - The last survey done we saw some minor fanwort on the river. Larry will be out tomorrow to do another study to see if more treatment is needed. We only treated 33 acres of large leaf pond weed. So far, the numbers from the hydrogen peroxide treatment have been positive but it's too early for good data.

Connie met with Larry last week about the installation of the probe. It was installed in two separate places as a test for comparison. Peter will speak with Larry about the results. Hopefully, this gear will give us a better picture of lake levels.

- c. **Membership Update** - The mailings did seem to help. We're still down ~60 members from last year, which is not great. Dues and donations are less than last year. The majority of people pay more than the \$25. Connie suggests going back to the "end-of-the-year" membership model because Give Local and membership dues are a little close together.

One possible solution could be automatic renewals so that we're not chasing memberships, but that would include transaction fees which could be more trouble than they're worth.

- d. **Fundraising** - already discussed with 5K plans & membership.
- e. **100 anniversary** - Can we start promoting this? Maybe at the 5K. Kathy has reserved the Morris Town Beach. Peter suggests adding a banner to the logo for 100 years. "Protecting for 100 years" etc.

5. Update on treatment plans -

Already discussed (4b).

6. Input from association members

N/A

7. Open discussion.

Peter would like to get together with Mark & Connie to go over the reports from Woodridge Lake and understand the comparison between the original 200-page report and Woodridge's counter.

Anne and Connie went to the White Memorial Board of Directors to make a presentation. They're having an engineer study the golf course because they feel it's impacting the lake.

Emily & Connie are working with Sustainable Litchfield to work on a project centering public education about the watershed.

Anne sent an update from the lawyers on DEEP lawsuit. They do not have an update at this time. We need to figure out the data from Woodridge reports before we go back to the state.

Update on overlay & regulations: these items went to the selectmen's office and then the ordinance committee and we're approved.

Connie made a presentation to the inland wetlands committee proposing a new regulation for wake surfing and wakeboarding. The ordinance committee (Connie went to 2 meetings so far)

did not approve the way it was written and responded with their own recommendation, however it was too vague so Connie has withdrawn the ordinance at this point.

Adjourned at 7:25