

Bantam Lake Protective Association
Board of Directors Meeting
Morris Town Hall
Thursday, March 15, 2018 @ 7:00 PM
Meeting Minutes

Meeting Called To Order at 7:15p by Connie Trolle.

Roll Call:

Members Present: Connie Trolle, Jaime Fischer, Mike Lauretano, Kayla Pottbecker, Anne Murdica, Kathy Hill, Peter Longo, Susan Vontell

Members Absent: Peg French, Debbie Shurberg,

Ken Schailer and Kris Truta were also in attendance as well as Dr. Knoecklein and Hannah from Near for their presentation.

Approval of Last Meeting's Minutes of January 18' 2018. Approved as written.

Dr. Knoecklein with recap of 2017 treatment and research:

- The ecosystem of the watershed of Bantam Lake actually begins in Torrington, winding through Goshen and Litchfield until the lake. It is over 20,000 acres of land that include various agriculture, storm water drainage and sewer/septic systems that all negatively impact the health of the lake.
- Last year, there were 15 monitoring stations around the lake measuring clarity, oxygenation, phosphorous levels and cyanobacteria blooms along with water and air temperature. These were charted on various graphs. It seemed some of the greatest blooms came during higher temperatures and also may have correlated with lawn fertilizations in the spring.
- The lake was treated twice last year with cooper sulfate with fairly good results.
- Discussion ensued regarding various other methods that may be more permanent, including the use of ALUM, aeration and other ways to attack bacterial loading.
- A discussion about implementing sewers on North Shore Road took place.
- Lastly, how do we get off the DEEP's "Impaired Lake" list.

Dr. Knoecklin's work and presentation were received with gratitude from the Board. His presentation took us until shortly after 8:00 PM.

Treasurer's Report: Peter reported that we are running low on funds. Current checking account a little Over \$18,000. Waiting for funds from Town of Morris and White Memorial.

Old Business:

- Fundraising committee update: Connie spoke with Litchfield Distillery and secured Saturday, May 5th for our Kentucky Derby Party which will take place from 5:30-8:00 PM. Mike Lauretano has a Jumbotron television that he will hook up for the race. He will loan it to the organization at no cost. Last year, there was a rental fee involved with the television, so we will save money here. Discussion about food suppliers: perhaps getting donations for various items from several caterers in town may be feasible.
- Discussion of a 5K road race – Beach To Beach – to take place on Bantam Lake Day in the morning. It will begin at Morris Town Beach with the turnaround at Sandy Beach. It may also include a 50 yard dash for the children. Trophies for 1st place winners in each category. Sportsman's may be a T-shirt

sponsor and Mike Lauretano also pledge a sponsorship. Using North Shore will not be available due to bridge repairs.

- The Annual Meeting will also take place on Bantam Lake Day. The dates discussed included Saturday, August 19th, Saturday August 25th and Saturday, September 1st. The September date was eventually ruled out since the college students will have gone back to school. It was agreed that August 19th would be the day.
- Various prizes were discussed for the Kentucky Derby Party and Bantam Lake Day. Discussion about putting the canoe donated by French's at Bantam Market, Sportsman's, etc. Tickets for the raffle would be sold throughout the summer and the drawing would be held on Bantam Lake Day.

Nominating Committee

- Both Rob Sherry and Kris Truta were nominated and approved by the board. They will need to be Voted on at the annual meeting.

Membership Update

- Ken Schailer has agreed to continue keeping track of membership. Currently, there are 139 members compared to 211 last year at this time, for a total of \$14,000. There have been some generous donations with membership renewals. We will be sending out a reminder post card for those unpaid members.

Webcam Update

- Peter Longo is still looking for something not so expensive. Will try to get the old one from Scott Morris.

Plans for Treatment and Studies for 2018

- Proposals from Near & Solitude are essentially the same as last year - They are really the only game around in this business. Budget numbers are about \$100,000.
- Jamie is going to be working on a Section 319 grant. We were denied last year, and so the grant proposal this year will include our goals and plans to reach those goals. The amount of \$120,000 was mentioned. Jamie is waiting for the RFP to come out, which should be soon.
- Mention was made about using Fuss & O'Neil again for a long term management plan.
- Jaime also spoke about sewers on North Shore Road, especially in light of an uptick in development and renovations of homes on the road. White Memorial is very interested in having a sewer system put in. This, however, would generate an assessment for those homeowners. More information will be shared as it develops.
- Sample of storm drainage and sewer water costs upwards of \$40/sample, which makes it almost impossible to study all samples.

New Business

- Discussion regarding BLPA awareness in the community: handing out flyers at the DEEP boat ramp, Bantam Market and other institutions including Stop & Shop, Ocean State Job Lot, etc...
- Committee set-up continued with a sign-up sheet passed around. Mention was made that the last time committees were formed was in 2008. That template was used for the current sign-up.
- Newsletter and website committees need to be formed. Kathy Hill volunteered to assist with those tasks.

Open Discussion

- Connie Trolle informed the Board of her experience at the State Capital during her testimony for the Save The Lakes License Plates. She was given 5 minutes and was asked pointed questions by some representatives, including Craig Miner, who has been a great and helpful supporter of Bantam Lake.
- According to data shared at the meeting that day, there is \$34 billion of damage or loss due to invasive plants in the United States.

Respectfully submitted by: Susan Vontell March 16 2018