

Bay Lake Improvement Association
Annual Meeting Minutes
June 22, 2024
Ruttger's Bay Lake Resort
Draft

Welcome - President Terry Coss called the Annual Meeting to order at 9:02 am. He welcomed attendees and thanked Ruttger's / Odyssey for hosting, and Josh and Mike for making crepes.

He pointed out documents on each table including the agenda and Draft 2023 Annual Meeting minutes.

The meeting began with the opening invocation given by Carol Malek, followed by a moment of silence for Bay Lakers who had passed since the 2023 Annual Meeting.

Secretary's Report – Chris Ruttger

The 2023 Annual Meeting minutes had been emailed to all members prior to the meeting.

Motion to approve the minutes was made, seconded, and approved on voice vote.

Treasurer's Report – Mark Feriancek

Mark shared preliminary numbers for 2023, noting that the audit was almost complete. Runtilla over \$90,000 for the fourth year in a row. Expenses are covered by the Bye family.

2024 Budget:

We are in excellent financial health.

Nominating Report – Terry C for Nominating Chair Phil Rollins

Current Officer Terms Ending July 2024.

New Officers elected by Board at May 2024 meeting to serve 2024-2027 term:

- President: Amy Grady
- Vice President: John Rusciano
- Treasurer: Mark Feriancek
- Secretary: Chris Ruttger

Nomination/Election of Directors

Terry Coss not seeking re-election. *Board recommends Andy Herring to fill this Director vacancy.* Incumbents standing for re-election as Directors:

- Phil Malkerson
- David Devins
- John Rusciano

All above would serve three-year terms ending summer 2027

Motion was made to Elect these Directors for 2024-2027 Terms, seconded, and approved by voice vote.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership Committee– Jennifer Qualen

Sixteen pets and 520 humans have joined as of last week. New payment page on the new website. You can now use an e-check if you prefer. Old system using Vanco will shut down at the

end of June, so anyone who has recurring payments set up will need to do that on the new system.

AIS Committee – John R for Phil Rollins /David Devins

ZM were first detected in 2018 and we now have a significant population. John showed a map giving population in various locations. Research shows that years 4 and 5 are when the population slows and we are in year 6. Raise watercraft out of the water when not in use.

MAISRC: We participate in a study to show how and where zm proliferate.

Inspections at public access: We continue to partner with the county. Inspectors are there 9-6 daily. The county covers about 1/3 of the cost.

Milfoil treatment: Spring survey showed better results, we will treat now, inspect and treat again in the fall. Cooler temps will reduce growth.

Lake Steward program fliers were on the tables and a blast will come out soon telling how you can become certified.

Swimmer's Itch Committee – Rick Giertsen

Members: David Devins, Rick Giertsen, Phil Malkerson, Phil Rollins, Allison Wolf, Henry Erdman (MN Lakes & Rivers), Jill Sims (Hospitality MN)

Rick reviewed the work of Swimmers Itch Solutions. They identified the species present in Bay Lake that are responsible. By relocating Mergansers over a couple years the cycle will be broken and swimmers itch will lessen.

Rick shared 2023 swimmer's itch survey results, and also the following State and Federal Permit Approval Timeline:

- September 2022 began permit process for Summer 2023
- August 2023 permit denied for Summer 2023
- Fall of 2023 Allison Wolf joined along with representatives from Minnesota Lakes & Rivers and Hospitality MN
- March 15th submitted 2024 Relocation Permit to MN DNR
- May 7th virtual meeting with MN DNR representatives
- June 14th awaiting word from MN DNR on 2024 permit

How you can help:

- Report Common Merganser sightings – rickjr@giertsenco.com
- Remove Wood Duck boxes or similar nesting locations from your shoreline
- Complete Swimmer's Itch Survey

Q: Could geese be part of it; they sampled and identified specifically common merganser and stagnicola snail. Not loons, Canada geese, etc.

Bay Lake 50 – Kristy Davis

Terry thanked and asked for a round of applause.

Upcoming Events

Fireworks July 5 (July 6 Rain Date) – Josh G

Music on the lake Saturday July 6 starting at noon. Titos matched \$5,000 annually.

Amazing Race (July 20) – Nancy L

Last year over 27 teams, Ruttger's hosted the awards ceremony for almost 200.

Runtilla (August 3) – Heidi and Jimmy Bye

Have raised \$782,000 for BLIA over 40 years. The first fifteen years it was a community event, not so much fundraiser. To recognize and thank the Byes we had members on stage modeling all 40 annual Runtilla shirts, from Dean Matthews wearing year 1 to Charlie wearing year 40. Josh Goolsbee presented a gift certificate from the Lonesome Pine and Jack Ruttger presented a gift certificate for Ruttger's. Amy presented a handmade wooden Bay Lake map showing the Runtilla route and signed on the back by BLIA board and officers. Bonnie Clementson created a quilt from Runtilla shirts that was on display.

Over the years Charlie has cooked 39 picnics. Josh and team provide beverages and snacks and Kevin Abfalter provides ice cream. All proceeds go to the Runtilla because the Byes cover all expenses.

Holiday Party (December 7) – Louise Sorenson

Loon Platform Update

Amy Grady

Allison Wolf is our new loon liaison to the DNR. She handles the loon survey, Amy oversees the platform project. Platforms are needed because eagles have been eating the loon eggs. A group of volunteers built six platforms in September at Dave and Lanie Perry's. Two are already occupied although experts said it would take some years.

Chris Anderson, Jay Clementson, Brent Souder have been key to the project. Recognized other builders and loon counters.

New BLIA Website

Amy recognized and thanked Paul Erickson, Ward Erickson and Scott Shekels for their work providing the community website baylake.org that we have been part of, and Paul for the Bay Lake Blast.

Amy Grady and Paul Trebe gave a tour of the new website baylake.com

Amy thanked Joanna McPeck, website editor and writer. Website committee is Amy Grady, Joanna McPeck, Paul Trebe, Kristy Davis, Lindsey More, Kristine Nolan and Austin Running. Website designer is Adam Bengston.

Member Q&A

Mina Gallagher: Thanks to those who brought someone under 15.

Suggestion to put picture of every year Runtilla shirt on website, all sides.

Jim Ysseldyke: thanks to Amy

Suggest progress report of mergansers and how many we have now.

Karen Schwartzbauer: amazed with progress. Been on lake 70 years.

America the Beautiful led by Bobbie Keller (voice) and Ann Ruttger (keyboard)

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 am.

Minutes by Chris Ruttger