

Baldwin Lake Association

Monthly Meeting Minutes

September Meeting – 09/21/25

9:04 Start

Members Signed in and Present: Mary Kowalski, Chip Diehl, John Walsh, Susan Hughes, Dave Smith, Mike Schirott, Mike Caddigan, Mary Hansen, Nancy Smith

A. Water Updates

1. Testing – Mike concluded for the year with John Grill. Also trained Frank and Dan (next generation) on the tests that are being completed. Frozen testing is to be picked up and sent to Kalamazoo. There is no oxygen at the bottom of the lake due to algae bloom. Algae bloom is fed by fertilizing lawns all the way up to the lakeshore.
2. Landing updates – Mary reached out to Bob Kunse at Selge. We are on the list for company to give us a quote. The issue is the buildup of rocks cause by power loading. Landing either needs to be pulled out and re-built. There are possible band-aids. We need estimates of solutions. Much discussion about the spring. Need to inform pier installation companies not to power load. Chuck Larson – Niblock is another contact – Dave Smith will reach out to him.

B. Feedback from New Board Members – Discussion of items needed for successful transition of board position – receiving email copies from board email, access to database, communication and marketing tools

C. Community –

1. Fall Free Tree program – Van Buren Conversation District -12 BLA people have signed up - There is a meeting on September 23 in Cassopolis to review the program and discuss next steps.
2. Fall Road Clean-up - October 18th Road Clean-up Mary will get bags and vest . need volunteers for all On Sunset and Hilltop
3. Scott's Fundraiser – send out reminder

D. Treasurer Report- \$24,532.80 in checking account minus \$7,000 for bills paid today. \$25k in CD, \$11,336 in money market. Moving another \$10k from checking to CD in November

E. Sponsorship – Thank you notes and tax forms to be sent out. John will work with Jenna and Susan to send out.

F. Social –

1. Christmas party will be at the Hilltop Community Center (HCC) like last year. Will have more info after October social committee meeting. Committee is looking for \$ to spend on this event.
2. Turkey Trot -starts at HCC at 9am on Thanksgiving Day (Turkey costumes welcome)
3. Welcome Back Lakers – Saturday after Memorial Day May 30th at CCCC pavilion with Long/Coverdale/Indiana. Support our lake by wearing BLA swag.

G. Mute Swans – Mike has secured the form to file with the state to manage the male swans who are the aggressor. Kevin Vontrager and Ryan Sailor have volunteered to help with this project. Working with DNR and doing similar to Long/Coverdale

H. New Business - No Apparel store for Christmas. Perhaps spring and mid-summer?

I. Open Discussion -

1. Membership is 164 – highest ever.
2. Chip will take over as Zone 1 Advisor. Check the shared drive- yellow ones are not renewed for this year. Chip is working on new map for Zone Advisors will share with Mary Hansen. We need more welcome bags, Mary H will put some together. Many new homeowners names were brought up that need welcome packets.

J. Next Meeting Dates – October's meeting will be the fall road clean-up

November's meeting is the Turkey Trot

December meeting is Christmas party

Meeting adjourned – 10:17am