**Brantingham Community Association Directors and Officers Meeting**

July 13, 2019

**Attendance:** Roger & Fran Abbey, Pam Brewer, Bruce and Candy Buckingham, John & Mary Dixon, Karin Hennigen, Anne House, Karl & Pat Keiffer, Carol Kunkel, Diane Lamb Miller, Karen Murphy, Donna, O’Conner, Polly Peterson, Gail Roes, Mary Lynn Schmandt, Phillip Stark, Gary White, Steven Widrick

Meeting called to order by President Phillip Stark at 10:10 am

**SECRETARY REPORT:** Minutes were distributed to the membership before the start of the meeting and members were asked to review. Candy Buckingham reported an error in the spelling of her name. **Gary White motioned that the minutes be accepted as presented with correction, Bruce Buckingham seconded the motion and the motion was so approved by a voice vote.**

**TREASURER’S REPORT:** Gail Roes reported that as of the meeting membership dues were down $2025.00 (approximately 50 memberships) from the previous year with dues still coming in. Please see separate Treasurer’s report.

**Polly Peterson motioned to accept the treasurer’s report a presented, Mary Lynn Schmandt seconded the motion and the motion was so approved by a voice vote.**

**BOAT LAUNCH STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM:** Phil Stark reports that the BCA will not be able to fund the full cost of the Adirondack Watershed Institute (AWI) Boat Launch Steward Program with our current income. By 2021, the organization will not have enough money for the program to be sustainable. The BCA is currently looking at grant monies. An application is in the works with an August deadline. It we can get aggressive with donation and combine with grant monies, the BCA boat launch steward program may be sustainable

The breakdown of the money for the boat launch steward is as follows. As a reminder, the BCA has a contract with the Paul Smith’s AWI program. Paul Smith is therefore the employer of the boat launch.

Steward Wages: $4386.00

Administration: $2244.00

Fringe Benefits: $1734.00

Supervision: $1632.00

Supplies: $204.00

Gail Roes reports that donation for the boat launch steward/boat washing station are up this year.

Carol Kunkle reports that the Brantingham Boat Launch Steward has worked for 20 days and has checked 168 boats for invasive species and educated 432 people. So far this year there have been no findings of invasive plant species.

Mr. Stark reports that the Boat Launch Steward did not start until the weekend after Memorial Day because of a miscommunication from Paul Smith’s AWI program. Mr. Stark has requested a reimbursement for the weekend from Paul Smiths.

Currently the boat launch steward is working 24 hours each weekend; 4 hours on Friday and 10 hours on both Saturday and Sunday. Total hours for the summer contract are 300 and extends until Labor Day

A member asked about protocol if a plant is removed from a boat. The member stated that her husband reported that the steward removed a plant from the boat but nothing further happened. The member asked if there is supervision for the steward?

Carol Kunkel responded that it may not have been necessary for the steward to do anything more. There is a supervisor that the steward can access.

Phil Stark responded that for the amount of money spent on this program we want to be sure the job is being performed correctly.

Diane Miller asks who established the hours for the boat launch steward?

Gary White responded that the BCA needs to re-evaluate the hours and ensure coverage for the 4th of July holiday. This year July 4th fell on a Thursday and therefore there was not coverage at the boat launch. Next year, 2020, the 4th of July holiday falls on a Saturday. Mr. White states that we should ensure the steward is at the boat launch for extended hours on Friday.

Mr. Stark responded that he does not see an issue with modifying the time or hours for the boat launch steward. Data from the steward will be used to determine high traffic times.

Carol Kunkle reports that boaters have been cooperative with the steward and interested in the program

Karen Murphy reports that the BCA will pursue the New York State DEC grants for 2020. Last year 2.5 million dollars in grants were made available. 50% of applicants were granted money. These grants require a 25% match from the organization. The minimum grant for 2019 was $10,000.

Karen Murphy also reported that after reading several research reports, the average loss of property value for a lake infected with an aquatic invasive species was 15%.

This does not include the cost that would be incurred by property owners in sharing the burden of managing the invasive species.

Mr. Stark states that is a critical time for the program because we know it is not sustainable at this time. The BCA needs to consider our options for raising funds or alternatives for the program such as cutting hours.

Carol Kunkle stated it would be difficult to get a steward willing to work less than 20 hours.

Mr. Starks states that raising dues is a consideration, but with an estimate of the numbers, raising dues to $50 would only bring in $3,000.00 to fund the station.

Polly Peterson asked, boat launch stewardship program aside, can we cover BCA expenses on annual dues of $40. Mr. Stark reports the BCA programs are sustainable outside of the boat launch steward program.

Mr. Widrick makes the point that according to the treasurer’s report, there are approximately 150 addresses that are not paying dues. If you get half of those property owners, you could increase membership income by $3,000.00 rather than increasing dues for those who pay them.

Polly Peterson encourages members present to encourage others to sign-up.

Gail reports that the year she was elected to the BCA Treasurer position (2009), the dues were $20 and the membership was 307. During the first meeting of her tenure, the membership voted to increase dues to $40.00.

Diane Lamb Miller states there is not incentive for property owners to join.

Mr. Stark states that the BCA has volunteers that are donating their time and if the community chooses not to participate, the BCA will no longer exist. Members and non-members need to be educated on what the BCA is accomplishing each year.

Fran Abbey suggested using the Facebook page more frequently and encouraging online registration for membership

Mr. Stark reports that Facebook has been a powerful tool.

Karen Murphy asks if we should try to collect dues during Arts Council events.

Gail Roes responded that this would be taking away from the Arts Council

Roger Abbey suggested using “Square” to allow the use of credit cards. Mr. Abbey stated that he is not opposed to have BCA available to collect dues at Arts Council events.

Fran Abbey asked if the BCA has a marketing committee.

Mr. Stark responded that the membership is welcome to form a marketing committee. If there are those of you willing, we would be more than happy to have a committee.

Anne House asks if we can we put a donation box at the boat washing station.

Gail Roes responded that $30 in donations were collected at the craft fair using a donation jar.

**BOAT WASH SIGNAGE**: Karen Murphy reports that Deputy Sheriff Mike Leviker had seen “Boat Wash” signs at the Lewis County Highway Department. Ms. Murphy reports that she spoke to Bob Cobb Highway Superintendent and who stated they have a sign and are awaiting instruction of where it should be installed.

Mr. White suggested the sign should be located at North Shore Road and Partridgeville Road.

Mr. Stark stated that now we know they are there, we need to determine a location and inform Mr. Cobb.

**AERIAL INSECT SPRAYING:** Mr. Stark reports there have been three sprays thus far. One prior to Memorial Day, one prior to July 4th and one in-between these 2 dates. We have the ability to have at least one more spray as needed. We have only had 3 sprays for the last 2 years. Mr. Stark states that aerial insect spraying is one of the core elements of the BCA and it is committed to continuing this program.

Mary Lynn Schmandt asks what the spray is killing.

Mr. Stark responded that the spray only kills adult insects (black flies and mosquitoes) that are flying. If you keep a steady schedule of spraying it will reduce the population. We will spray again if it is necessary. There has been no increase in cost with the company that performs the sprays; Duflo Chemical Spray

**BUOYS**: Mr. Stark reports there are no concerns at this point. A buoy had come loose earlier in the season and Deputy Sheriff Mike Leviker returned the buoy to its correct location. There will be no maintenance on the buoys this year.

**LIMITED RECREATIONAL PATROL:** Mr. Stark reported that the Lewis County Sheriff and potentially a Lewis County Legislator may be in attendance for the evening meeting. Members are aware through email that there is a budget dispute between the sheriff’s office and the county legislation regarding the recreational patrol budget. Mr. Stark stated that this is a political fight and the BCA does not want to pick sides. Mr. Stark and Ms. Murphy crafted a letter that was sent to both organization expressing our concerns over loss of services that our community and come to expect. Mr. Stark reports he spoke to the Lewis County Board President.

Mr. Stark reports that these organization met this week and did come to some middle ground and there will a return of boat patrol on special weekend.

Mr. Widrick reported that the Sheriff’s Office did patrol for several hours during the 4th of July. He commended the Sheriff’s Office for making the effort during the budgetdispute.

**ARTS COUNCIL:** Fran Abbey distributed the Arts Council 2019 budget. She reports a $600 profit from The Old Tyme Country Fare. Concert on Friday night had a larger than expected turnout of approximately 120 people. The BCA Arts Council is accepting donation and sponsorships to support the art council events.

**PROPOSAL BOAT PARADE:** Mary Dixon proposed a formal return to the July 4th holiday boat parade. Ms. Dixon distributed a formal proposal with recommendation for timing, theme, prizes, voting procedure, and how it would be advertised. Ms. Dixon stated that she is happy to help with the boat parade but did not want to take charge of the program. Ms. Dixon expressed the importance of the community pride the event brings to the lake. Ms. Dixon proposes the boat parade be held annually on the 4th of July holiday and that it begins earlier in the day such as 3:00 pm.

Mr. Dixon recommended the use of the program “Survey Monkey” to allow all observers to choose their winner in several categories including “Most Patriotic”

Mr. Stark responded that the proposal is good, but we will need a committee of members that has the ability to organize and run the event.

Mr. Abbey responded that should the BCA not find someone to take over the boat patrol it could be placed on the Arts Council agenda.

Mr. Dixon report that support from local businesses to donate prizes has been limited. Mr. Dixon formally requested that the BCA dedicate $100 toward prizes.

Mr. Dixon again stated he is willing to help with the boat parade.

**Polly Peterson motioned to approve that $100 be set aside toward prize(s) for the 2020 4th of July Boat Parade. Gail Roes seconded the motion and the motion was so approved by a voice vote.**

Karen Hennigan asks if we could find a business(es) to sponsor the event

Diane Lamb Miller asked if the boat parade is going to be an arts council event.

Mr. Stark responded that we should wait to see if volunteers will come forward at the BCA Dinner meeting this evening

**2020 BCA DINNER MEETING**: Mr. Stark proposes Saturday, July 11th, 2020 with the same time format as this year. Meeting will begin at 5:00 pm and dinner will begin at 7:00 pm.

**GOLF TOURNAMENT FUNDRAISER**: Gail Roes reported that the 2019 BCA Golf Tournament was a success for a first-time event. Ms. Roes reported that Mr. Bradish, the owner of the Brantingham Golf Course generously returned golf fees for participating members. The fundraiser generated almost $500 toward the boat launch steward program. Ms. Roes states that she cannot take on the responsibility for organizing a tournament for next year along with her responsibility as the BCA Treasurer. There was no response to a request for someone to chair the committee for a 2020 tournament.

**ELECTIONS**: Mr. Stark reports that BCA board elections will occur at the evening meeting including odd numbered area directors, and the president and treasurer position.

**QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS**: Ms. Schmandt asked if the town would build a small dock at the boat launch so that people can tie up their boat while they move their car.

Mr. Stark stated he would send a note to our township with the request.

Meeting adjourned at11:49 am by President Stark

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Murphy

BCA Secretary