

Butternut/Schnur Lake Association

Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting held on March 20, 2025 at Lena's Northern Pines. Called to order at 6:35 p.m.

Roll Call: Vic Peth, Skip Sommerfeldt, Scott Stenger, Eric Scharp, Kenn Beauchaine. Absent/Excused: Matt Nichols, Rocky Soper, John Artin, Dylan Borne. Also in attendance were Ed Domask and Lena Motola (owner of Lena's Northern Pines).

Minutes: Reviewed minutes from February 27, 2025 meeting – need to be corrected to say “Next meeting set for March 20, 2025”. Also, minutes should not be posted to the website until approved by the Board. Motion to approve, 2nd, and passed.

Treasurers Report: For details, see Vic's printout. In summary, per 3/20/25 the BSLA savings balance was \$2,186.01 and the checking balance was \$18,109.77, for a combined total of \$20,295.78 - a net increase of \$12,190.76 from January 1, 2025 (primarily due to income from the 2025 Fisheree and raffle). Motion to approve, 2nd, and passed.

Membership Report

Had 5 memberships come in for a current total of 178 paid members, and 895 Facebook followers (which has shown to be a good way to get information out). Membership was down a bit from 2024 when we had 207 (34 Associate members) and 806 Facebook followers. Also a reminder that Board members need to be paid up by April 1 or could face ouster from the Board (per the by-laws).

Old Business:

>>>> WFT (Walleyes For Tomorrow) banquet – April 26. Is going to be in Phillips and looks like Scott and Eric will attend. The BSLA has donated a St. Croix rod and reel combination to the banquet's raffle. Also a bit of discussion on WFT policies (walleye wagon, deep water tree installations, habitat improvements), but no decisions were made.

>>>> BSLA Merchandise status/order – discussion on getting shirts and/or hats with the BSLA logo/info on them. Scott will get an estimate from Glen W. at Signature Signs and present at a future meeting.

>>>> New Buoy Placement Process – The new buoys have been delivered and will work with Dylan Borne to get them installed. We will also need anchors and chains for installation.

>>>> BSLA Radio Ad – Have radio time left over from our Ice Fisheree ads and Scott will work with the radio station for an ad during the week of May 19. Likely pertain to safe boating practices and BSLA membership.

>>>> Fish Sticks Project status – Eric followed up and DNR biologist Jeff Scheirer called Scott to discuss. Basically sounded like the deep water tree installations would not be approved, or would be too cumbersome/expensive project to pursue. The BSLA Board will look to develop some sort of a habitat plan for this year and the future.

>>>> BSLA Newsletter - April distribution – Scott is working on and will keep the Board posted.

New Business:

>>>> AIS Sign at Hoffman's Rocks Landing: Signature Signs will be installing and should be in place by May 1.

>>>> BSLA Spring Clean-Up Date: Kenn has taken over the Adopt-A-Highway program that was formerly headed by Dan Patenude. The tentative date was set as April 12 – weather permitting. There are 2 sections (~ 6 miles) that will need clean-up and quite a bit of help will be needed. Kenn mentioned he would like 4 or more people per mile to complete the clean-up in a timely manner.

>>> Annual Meeting/Sparrnferkle: No date set yet, possibly in August (August 9th?). Will try to survey/poll members for a good date?

>>> Water Testing: Eric and Kenn will be taking over Schnurs Lake testing. Weren't sure if Dan Patenude will still be doing Butternut Lake? If not, someone on the BSLA Board will do it.

>>> Informational Sign at Hoffman's Rocks Discussion: Whether we want boating safety signs (regarding boating regs, wakes, waves, etc.) at Hoffman Rocks boat landing, as well as signs at Northern Pines and Bobber's? Motion made to have boating safety signs made and installed at 3 locations, 2nd and passed.

Good and Welfare: Lena (owner of Northern Pines) brought up several topics. First, she wants to purchase and have installed the sign that Joe Wolfe had worked on and developed. She wanted to have the BSLA logo included on the sign and consensus was that would be OK. Second, she wants to sponsor a northern pike tourney on the 3rd Saturday in May, and possibly have a fish fry after? And also have 2 more northern pike tournaments – in September and then an ice fishing one in February. Third, she would also like to start/host a summer fishing league (Skip mentioned that Eric Sitte wanted to get a Sunday afternoon bass league going and should be contacted for that). Fourth, she said that Northern Pines would like to host a possible pig roast that has been periodically discussed by the Board. Lastly, she also mentioned that she would like to have horseshoe league(s) at Northern Pines.

Next Meeting Date: Tentatively set for Thursday, May 15th at Empty Pockets at 6:30 pm.

Motion to adjourn, seconded and passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Skip Sommerfeldt, Fill-in Secretary