

BSLA BOD Meeting  
September 26, 2024  
Lena's Northern Pines

Call to Order by President Stenger 6:30 pm

Roll Call: Matt Nichols, Scott Stenger, Ken Beauchaine, Rocky Soper, Vic Peth, John Artin  
Absent: Dylan Borne, Skip Sommerfeldt, Eric Scharp

Welcome to John and Ken!

Motion to approve the 7-18-2024 minutes as amended by Vic with one change regarding the next meeting date. The minutes stipulated the next meeting was scheduled for July 18<sup>th</sup>, however the next meeting was the Annual meeting in August. Motion was second by John motion carried. Voice vote, motion carries.

### **Treasurer Report**

Approve 9/26/2024 treasurer report presented, motion to approve by John second by Rocky motion carried. Voice vote, motion carries.

YTD Numbers:

- Income = \$8,731.35
- Expenses = \$2,613.70
- Net Cash Change = \$6,117.65
- Balances
  - NCCU Savings = \$11,272.18
  - NCCU Checking = \$1,606.16

Short update given on forecasted expenses for the rest of the calendar (and fiscal) year. All told, we are estimating \$9,700 in expenses by the end of the year. Significant expenses include the stocking fee (~\$3,500), 5 new buoys (~\$1,500 unless the towns help offset the cost), and 2025 Fisheree preparation (~\$2,500). Note that we may receive another ~\$4,200 in income from expected membership dues by year end.

Brief discussion as well on placing the Aquatic Invasive Species sign as there is money allocated to place the sign (\$400). We are clear to place the sign from the DNR. However, we need to have someone with the right equipment dig the hole, hence the \$400 allocated for a contractor.

### **Membership Report**

- 168 regular members
  - 5 new members joined at the Annual Meeting
- 34 associate members

### **Old Business**

**Review of 2024 Annual Meeting** – we moved the Annual meeting from Labor Day weekend to mid-August this year. Consensus: the August date was better. Discussion around having the Annual Meeting be a 'bigger' event like having a pig roast, cooking brats and burgers, corn hole games, outdoor activities, etc. We would like to continue this discussion further.

**2024 BSLA Stocking Update** – We are waiting for the water temperature to drop. Likely mid-October for the fish stocking.

**Butternut Schnur Lake Water Testing** – 4 samples taken each summer. Reports are back from the most recent samples, with the water chemistry showing nothing out of the ordinary. There was some

discussion on the blue green algae bloom warnings for both lakes. Scott noted that the algal blooms are not unusual this time of year.

**Town of Chippewa (1)/Town of Lake (4) New Buoys on Butternut Lake** – The Town of Lake has expressed interest in helping pay for replacing/adding buoys (6 in the Town of Lake, 1 in the Town of Chippewa). Note that there are 5 marker buoys now and we are recommending 2 more marker buoys getting the total to 7. Scott will approach the Town of Lake to gauge their interest in paying for the buoys.

**Walleyes for Tomorrow 2025 BSLA Plan** – Walleyes for Tomorrow recommended mid-lake tree drops, we would like to have further discussion on this topic, particularly when Skip is available.

**Schnur Creek Clean-Up** – thank you to all for the cleanup!

**Butternut Lake Boat Landing Remodel Status** – as mentioned in the Annual Meeting, this is now delayed out of next calendar year by the DNR due to budget constraints. We are not sure when it will be completed and will continue to monitor.

## New Business

**Adopt a Highway New Board Member Coordinator** – Dan Patenaude was instrumental in driving our highway/road cleanup initiative (thank you Dan!). While we believe Dan will stay active in supporting the cleanup, we need to backfill his role on the Association. Ken Beauchaine has expressed an interest in taking on this role moving forward. Note that Dan submitted receipts for \$180.47 for the Bag Along purchase. Motion to pay the receipts by Rocky, seconded by Vic. Voice Vote. Motion carried.

**BSLA Website Discussion** – John Artin had done some research on what it would take to elevate our website to the next level. He shared an executive summary on the need for a website. He also shared that we have two basic options for website maintenance: have a business that takes care of all website maintenance and upkeep, or we take care of the maintenance. For the turnkey option where we do minimal/no maintenance ourselves, the cost ranges from \$1,000 to \$8,000 annually. Where we take care of the website, we would need to pay for the basics (website domain and other basic elements) which would likely be less than \$150 per year.

Example items on a website:

1. Mission Statement
2. Online membership application/renewal
3. Donation portal
4. Recent & Upcoming activities
5. Volunteer Signup
6. Agenda/Meeting Minutes postings
7. Newsletters
8. Event Calendar
9. Membership surveys
10. Merchandise sales
11. Social media links
12. About Us contact form

The key question: do we find value in having a viable website? If so, how much are we willing to invest to get there? Note that John Artin indicated he can manage the website if we are willing to invest in the basic costs. Action: John will research further on the expected costs for the next meeting.

**Removal of Buoys on Butternut Lake** – we will reach out to see if Dylan Bourne is able to pull buoys again this year, likely in November.

**Annual Membership Mailing** – expected to be the end of October

**Fall BSLA Newsletter** – anticipating mailing this in October

### **2025 BSLA Fisheree**

The Fisheree is coming! (January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025) Planning will start in earnest as we only have a few months before the event. Topics include:

1. Board Member and Volunteer responsibilities
2. Agenda for day – Food ideas (example Snowmobile Uber), evening entertainment, etc.
3. Establish Kids Fishing Category
4. Raffle ticket distribution
5. Raffle Prizes discussion
6. Goal for BSLA to net from event
7. Other Issues

The plan is to hold the event at Bobbers.

**2025 BSLA Fundraisers** – should we add more fundraisers? The bigger challenge around more fundraisers is volunteers helping coordinate and/or supporting the fundraisers. If members have ideas and willingness to support more fundraisers, we welcome your feedback.

### **BSLA Board Organization**

- Secretary – nomination for Matt Nichols to remain as secretary by Rocky, second by Ken. No further nominations. Voice Vote, Motion Carries.
- Treasurer – nomination for Vic Peth to remain as Treasurer by John, second by Ken. No further nominations. Voice Vote, Motion Carries.
- President - nomination for Scott Stenger to remain as President by Vic, second by Ken. No further nominations. Voice Vote, Motion Carries.

**YMCA Presentation** – Skip Soper provided an update and requested a donation for the YMCA. The new YMCA is planned to open April 2025 and has operational funds for three years! However, fundraising continues as the plan is to continue to expand the facilities. A plaque will be posted in the entry area recognizing donors. Scott recommended news about the YMCA opening and request for donations to be included in the upcoming Newsletter.

### **Good and Welfare**

- Joe Wolf provided a summarized history of the BSLA sign which was ultimately voted down in the last meeting. He was displeased with comments made by Scott in the Annual Meeting and wanted to share his concern.

Next meeting set for WEDNESDAY October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 6:30PM at Lena's Northern Pines.

Motion to adjourn by Vic second by Matt carried. Voice Vote. Carried. 7:59 pm

Respectfully Submitted by Matt Nichols