

**Brantingham Community Association  
Directors and Officers Meeting – July 9, 2016**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Randy Anderson, Pam Brewer, Bob Hindman, Karl and Pat Keiffer, Carol Kunkel, Kent Martin, Chris Murphy, Karen Murphy, Polly Peterson, Gail Roes, Philip Stark, Collette Vanyo, Gary White

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Karin Hennigan, Kate Stark

**Meeting called to order at 10:09 am by President Philip Stark**

**SECRETARY’S REPORT:** Minutes for May BCA directors and officers meeting were available online and copies were placed at each table. **President Stark called for approval of minutes. Carol Kunkel motioned for approval, Bob Hindman seconded the motion and the motion was so approved by unanimous vote.**

**TREASURER’S REPORT:** Please see report on last page of this document. Treasurer **Gail Roes reports that income in from January 1, 2016 – June 8, 2016 has been \$10,357.18.** This includes membership dues and the Brantingham Golf Course insect spraying reimbursement. It also includes those who have paid for the BCA Annual dinner and donations to the fish fund.

**Gail Roes reports that BCA expenses in the same time frame as \$8030.00**

Expenses include cost of newsletter, directory and membership signs, cost of postage to mail out newsletter, Adirondack Lake Association Dues, cost of director and officer liability insurance, Water Quality testing supplies, NYSFOLA membership dues, Insect spraying costs (2 sprays). Gail reported that she has a bill to pay for the third spray that was conducted just prior to July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend.

Currently, 190 BCA memberships have been purchased. Last year, there were 283 BCA memberships. As there are approximately 450 properties on the lake, **last year’s membership represented around 60% of the property owned.**

Gail reported that she ran a report to see if there has been a trend since dues were increased to \$40. The final year that dues were \$20 there were 303 members. The next year after dues were increased, there were the same number of members. Gail reports that there has been a significant number of camps sold in the last few years. She reports that a local realtor pays the dues of new property buyers for the first year to encourage them to continue their membership.

**President Stark requested approval of treasurer's report. Polly Peterson motioned that the report be accepted as presented. Carol Kunkel seconded the motion and the motion was so approved by a unanimous vote.**

**BUOYS:** President Stark reminds us that there was a discussion about buoy repairs needed at the May 2016 meeting. There have been a number of issues with buoys floating out of position. Kent Martin reports that he has made new buoy anchors based on the design of anchors used at Lake Bonaparte made with cement and rebar. He plans to paint them yellow so that they can be easily visualized. In addition, he has purchased galvanized steel cable and screw-on carabiners. For now, 4 anchors have been created and will be used for the shallow water buoys which take a heavier beating

Pam Brewer reports that there is a buoy near the Beach Club sitting on a dock. Kent Martin reports that the buoy has taken on water and may need to be repaired or replaced. Kent reported that the buoy will be moved to another property for repair. Bob Hindman suggested that the water be drained before trying to move the buoy and use a fiberglass patch to repair.

Karen Murphy stated that she believes it is very important that Deputy Sheriff Mike Leviker be present when the buoys are placed in the Spring. The New York State Buoy Permit obtained has clear GPS coordinates for each shallow buoy. We must comply with the permit coordinates to avoid any liability.

There was concern about the location of some buoys. Philip Stark stated that we could amend the permit if needed.

Gail Roes states that the buoys were purchased in 2008.

Karen Murphy reports that Deputy Sheriff Mike Leviker suggests we contact NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (NYS DEC) to see if they would take charge of installing and removing the buoys. However, the town and the NYS Sheriff's Department have already stated they will not assist with the buoys.

Philip Stark states that we will continue to repair, clean and apply reflective tape as needed this year and will rehab as necessary before they are installed next season.

Randy Anderson asks if there is a liability related to the anchors for the buoys. Randy suggests that we recess the anchors a bit to prevent any boat damage.

**BOAT LAUNCH STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM:** Karen Murphy reminds us of the discussion at the May meeting in which it was decided to survey the boat launch to get a feel for the number

of boats going into the lake and where they are coming from. Karen reports that her son, Chris Murphy (Area Director and Water Quality) sat at the boat launch on Saturday, July 2<sup>nd</sup> and surveyed those launching boats or personal watercraft. The questions asked are attached at the end of this document.

Only 6 boats were launched during the survey time of 9:00 am until 2:00 pm. Most of the boats were only launched on Brantingham. 2 boats were renters on the lake. None of those surveyed felt there would be enough boat traffic to require a steward at the boat launch. All of those surveyed were aware of Aquatic Invasive Plant Species and had some knowledge of how to clean their boat between bodies of water. All of those surveyed stated that if Brantingham had a boat washing station they would use it prior to launching their boat. Persons being surveyed were given the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation document on how to properly clean watercraft to prevent the spread of AIS (Aquatic Invasive Species)

The survey is certainly not enough to draw any conclusions other than all persons were enthusiastic about the idea of a boat washing station.

Karen Murphy reported that at the prior meeting a member reported that a member of the Brantingham Snomads had stated they would allow the BCA to place a boat washing station on their property. Karen reports that she will investigate costs and approach Snomads about use of the property.

Polly Peterson reports that she received an email from Paul Smiths College regarding our interest and need for a boat launch steward. Polly reports that she has not responded to the email.

Gail Roes states that the BCA would have to pay Paul Smith's directly for the services of the boat launch stewards and it would be expensive.

Karen Murphy reports that last year the town of Greig had been approached about employing boat stewards if we reimbursed the cost. Gail Roes reported that they were not interested because of concerns about liability.

A member asked if a camera could be placed at the boat launch to determine a census. Gail reported that the BCA may own a game camera. Philip Stark stated that we would have to place a sign indicating that there was a camera at the launch.

President Stark asked the board if they are interested in pursuing the idea of placing a boat washing station at the Brantingham Snomads property (with their permission). All board members present were agreeable to the idea of gathering more information about the concept of a boat washing station.

**SPRAYING:** President Stark reports that there have been 3 sprays so far this season. We have a contract for 2 more sprays and an optional third. Mr. Stark reports he has heard positive feedback on the effectiveness of the sprays

President Stark informed the board that the Town of Greig minutes for their May and June meeting included discussions about insect spraying in the Town of Greig.

**From Town of Greig meeting minutes posted on website:**

May 11, 2016: *“Mr. Duflo from Duflo Spray Chemical was introduced by Supervisor Patterson. Mrs. Patterson discussed her concern about the Zika Virus and town health and safety, especially in the Town Park area and along the Otter Creek, Independence River, Black River and the “flats” areas of our town. Mr. Duflo described his service, which is to spray chemicals which kill adult mosquitoes and black flies. Mr. Duflo told the Board of his contract with the Brantingham Community Association and other municipalities and governments around the world. He has a safe plant based product used with a scientific application method. He described a computer system within the aircraft that generates a detailed record, at the time of the spray, showing where the spray was applied and in what volume. This record is passed on to the Town for historical storage. Mr. Duflo gave some pricing examples that will allow the Board to develop a budget based on the area to be covered. General discussion was held about methods to fairly charge persons living in the spray areas. One was to get the members of the area to donate towards the expense with a neighborhood organization, much like the Brantingham Community Association does. Another would be to create a “spray district” with the power to tax persons owning property within the spray area for this service. Mr. Duflo thanked the Board for the time allowed and expected they would include discussions in the next budget preparation period.”* (Gunn, Town of Greig Board Minutes)

JUNE 8, 2016: *“Mrs. Patterson indicated she has had telephone conversations with each of the board members about the Park being sprayed this summer. She said she has talked with the Mayor of Lyons Falls and found all the residents pay for the village spray through taxes. Mrs. Patterson also said she has spoken to Mr. Frank Pace, Lewis County Planner, about the County investigating a county contract for spraying. At this point Mrs. Patterson wishes to have the board make a motion allowing her to enter into an agreement with Duflo Spray Chemical for \$900 per spray for no more than two sprays. The money will come from the A7140.4 Playgrounds & Recreation Contractual Account. Mr. Mallette raised the question about the value of spraying just one side of the river. He thinks unsprayed areas would immediately return a population of bugs when the effect of the spray ends. Mr. Gunn did not think a focus on the Park would provide any lasting relief. Mr. Gunn and Mr. Watson felt that asking all tax payers to*

*pay for such a focused spray would not be fair. Mr. Mallette said he would go along with a onetime spray to see if there is a positive effect.*

*Motion 16-06-02: made by Councilman Arthur, Seconded by Billhardt*

*Allow Supervisor to enter into a contract with Duflo Chemical Spray for \$900 per application, with a maximum of two applications, of aerial bug spray. Money to come from account A7140.4.*

*Vote: Billhardt Aye Mallette Aye Knapp Absent Arthur Aye Patterson Aye”*

*Motion approved. (Gunn, Town of Greig Board Minutes, 2016)*

Philip Start summarized the board meeting notes for the board members present.

Gary White states the Lyons Falls town government had placed a legal notice in the newspaper that they have scheduled aerial insect spraying. Gary stated that the Brantingham Community Association (BCA) would NOT be wise to cede control of aerial spraying for the Brantingham area to the Town of Greig

Bob Hindman states that there may be some advantages to creating a tax district for the spraying of Brantingham/Greig. As of last year, only 283 members out of over 400 properties pays dues, this means a percentage of property owners are funding the aerial spraying that benefits all property owner. A tax district will mean that the cost would be spread evenly among all property owners.

Karen Murphy states her concern that the insect population may be higher in the Brantingham area. What if we require more sprays than the town? Bob Hindman responded that we could enter into a contract with Duflo Chemical Spray for additional sprays.

Gary White states that Brantingham pays a disproportionate amount of town taxes.

Collette Vanyo asks if the aerial spraying kill ticks. Karen Murphy reports that the spraying does not kill ticks.

A board member asks how the BCA will have any leverage in the Town of Greig conversation about spraying.

Karen Murphy reports that she is going to try and attend this Wednesday’s Town of Greig Board Meeting.

**WEBSITE:** Kent Martin reports that the Brantingham website has been converted to a free service website with a website builder that is more user-friendly and free. The previous server was \$7/month. The website platform is called “Wix”. Thus far, we are on the free version which allows “Wix” to place small advertisements. We are not on our own domain anymore. To have

our own domain name, we would need to pay \$9.00 a month. Kent reports that is a secured website and can only be accessed for changes by someone with a username and password.

President Stark asked if there were any BCA board members present that are opposed to keeping the Brantingham website on a free server. **No members opposed keeping the Brantingham Community Association website on the free Wix server.**

**3-G GOLF TOURNAMENT DONATION:** Gail Roes states that the BCA annually donates \$100 for the 3-G Fire Department Golf Tournament. Gail asks if there is any member opposed to the continuation of this donation for 2016. No members opposed the donation. The donation of \$100 to the 3-G Fire Department Golf Tournament was approved.

**INVASIVE PLANTS:** Polly Peterson reports that she will begin her annual survey of the lake for invasive plants at the end of July or beginning of August.

**SEPTIC SYSTEMS:** Bob Hindman stated that perhaps the BCA should begin to approach local, county and state government about the possibility of a sewer system because of concerns over aging septic systems and larger camps. Philip Stark commented on the magnitude of a such a project in terms of cost.

Gary White states that a sewer system is not realistic because it would need to include a treatment plant

Karl Keiffer stated that we need to encourage property owners to take responsibility for monitoring their own septic system.

Pam Brewer states that you cannot get approval for a mortgage on property until the septic has been evaluated and approved.

Bob Hindman stated that property owners should start by checking their water. He states there is a lab in Lowville that will test water. They will supply collection materials. Mr. Hindman noted that they require a fresh sample and any water collected must be taking to the lab short after collection.

Gary White reports that if you place a new point, you are now required to install an ionization system.

Bob Hindman reports that are still property owners that are pulling water from the lake.

**FLOATS:** Pam Brewer asks if there is a rule on how far out you can place a float from a dock. Gary White recommended she ask Dave Meade but believes it is either 50 feet or 75 feet.

**GEESE:** Karl Keiffer expressed his concern about the growing population of geese on the lake and reminds us that residential geese return to the same location each year. Karen Murphy states that she had spoken with the NYS DEC wildlife biologist for our region several years ago about the growing geese population. Methods to keep geese off your property including objects at the shoreline, spinners, and allowing grass to grow long or not having grass on the property. You can limit the herd by oiling the goose eggs (if you can find them) or by culling the herd during season.

Bob Hindman reminds us you cannot oil eggs without a NYS DEC permit.

**BCA MEMBERSHIP TABLE AT CRAFT FAIR:** Karen Murphy reports that there was an exceptional response to the BCA table. 58 membership dues were paid and a total 98 directories and membership cards were given out. Gail reports that she is going to wait to deliver membership materials to area directors until after the craft fair.

**BCA ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DINNER:** Gail Reports that she has only received a few reservations for the dinner. Karen Murphy suggests that we put information on the Brantingham Facebook page about the dinner on July 30, 2016.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:25am

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Murphy  
BCA Secretary

Gunn, T. (2016, June). *Town of Greig Board Minutes*. Retrieved from Town of Greig: <http://townofgreig.org/content/MinuteCategories/View/1:field=minutes;/content/Minutes/View/440>

Gunn, T. (2016, May). *Town of Greig Board Meeting Minutes*. Retrieved from Town of Greig: <http://townofgreig.org/content/MinuteCategories/View/1:field=minutes;/content/Minutes/View/439>

## **BOAT LAUNCH STEWARDSHIP – BRANTINGHAM LAKE SURVEY QUESTIONS - 2016 SEASION**

- A. How often do you launch your boat (PWC) on Brantingham Lake?
- B. What lake did you have your boat in before today?
- C. What lakes do you typically take your boat?
- D. Do you clean your boat after you remove it from the lake including the live well, bilge and small compartments?
- E. Are you familiar with Aquatic Invasive Plants and the threat they present to the Adirondack lakes?



F. Are you familiar with how to wash your boat effectively after use to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive plant species?

G. If Brantingham had a free boat washing station, would you be willing to use it to wash your boat before putting in the lake?

H. Do you think having a trained boat steward to check boats at the boat launch for aquatic invasive plants is a good idea?