

BASS LAKE PROPERTY OWNER'S ASSOCIATION

MEETING MINUTES 7/10/21

I. Attendees

- A. *Officers:* Mary Topelian, AJ Gappa, Kathy Laiter
- B. *Directors:* Terry Chmiel, Mary Jesso, Rich Linkus, Rik Ritzler, Gayle Smith, Ron Vendl
- C. *Absent:* Rick Anderson
- D. *# of Property Owners/Guests Attending:* 53

Meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mary Topelian asked if anyone would like to speak to please raise their hand, be acknowledged, state their name and then make their contribution(s).

II. Minutes

Minutes for the June 2021 Property Owners' meeting were reviewed. Motion made by Gayle Smith with a second by Rich Linkus to approve the minutes. The minutes were "approved" and will be posted on the BLPOA website <https://www.inbasslake.com/>

III. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer, AJ Gappa, reviewed the May report. Motion made to "Approve for Audit" by Kathy Laiter, seconded by Rik Ritzler and will be posted on the BLPOA website.

OPERATING FUND/MONEY MARKET:	May
Beginning Balance	76,757.89
Deposits / Trans.	---
Interest	.65
Withdrawals / Trans.	---
Ending Balance	76,758.54
Misc:	
CD – beginning balance	102,792.29
Interest	12.67
CD – ending balance	102,804.96
GRANT CHECKING ACCOUNT:	
Beginning Balance	25.00
Deposits	---
Disbursements	---
Ending Balance	25.00
GENERAL CHECKING ACCOUNT :	
Beginning Balance	46,585.48
Deposits: Memberships / Rentals / Deposits / Social Committee / Transfers / Directories / Recycling	39,051.00
Disbursements	10,080.12
Ending Balance	75,556.36
TOTAL ALL ACCOUNTS	255,144.86

IV. Beautification / Welcome

Mary Topelian presented Gayle Smith a thank you gift for her years of service to the BLPOA.

Gayle/Mary reported flowers have been changed in the flower boxes around the lake and there have been two new property owners that received an informational welcome packet.

V. Social Committee

Mary Topelian stated that the date for the annual Soup Social has changed to October 16. The cost is \$5 pp and there are usually 20+ soups.

Bass Lake Festival theme is “roaring back” and most events are being held weather permitting. Arts and crafts will be in the Blue Room this year, car show and beer tent at the beach, 5k race, and water volleyball. Please check festival website for more details. One change this year is that the fireworks will be done at the storage units across from marina due to water level.

VI. Building Rentals

Rich Linkus advised that we started renting our rooms in April and to date we have approximately \$1,000 in rentals.

VII. Park Board

Rik Ritzler stated the County has resumed control from the lessee. The campground and beach will continue to run for the remainder of 2021 as is. The Park Board is developing a five-year plan.

The next Park Board meeting will be on July 13 at 6:00 pm at the Annex building.

VIII. Building Maintenance

Ron Vendl stated that he checked all the emergency lights and will contact our electrician to check two potential issues.

Mary Topelian noted that the parking lot has a weed problem and if we can contact our maintenance lawn care person to spray. The parking lot in the back has damage from the snowplow that needs to be repaired.

IX. Neighborhood Watch

Ron Vendl stated there were 43 incidents on Crime Mapper Alert. The next meeting is scheduled for August 2 at 6:30 pm at the BLPOA building.

Ron also noted that the County Sheriff is short officers and while we have attempted to get extra patrols, we have not been successful.

X. Bass Lake Conservancy District

Larry Collura stated rainfall for June was 8.31 inches and YTD we are slightly under average but not greatly under. In June, the pump added 39 million gallons of water into the lake. The daily output can vary and you can check the BLCD website for up to date information.

On June 7, a survey of the weeds was done and sent to the DNR who will then send to the BLCD the amount to be sprayed.

A reminder was given to not flush anything but toilet paper or human waste. The average pump is cost is approximately \$10,000 to replace and we have 16 lift stations with two pumps each. The next meeting is August 9 at 6:00 pm at the BLPOA building. To stay current on lake activities/updates please visit: <https://www.blcd-ind.org/>

XI. Old Business

Welcome Sign Committee:

Mary Topelian stated she is working with Dan Kajer, the County and commissioners for what will be allowed in the area. Mary will welcome anyone with design experience to assist.

Starke County Historical Society:

A member noted that everyone should visit the Historical Society as a diver has been bringing up old items from the bottom of the lake and there is a large amount of items on display.

Healthy Shoreline Grant:

Kathy Carrier noted the 2021 Healthy Shoreline Review is on the table for property owners to pick up. We are in our third and final year of the \$35,000 Lake and River Enhancement (LARE) grant that we received from the Indiana DNR. Twenty-five property owners have participated in the program. Their shorelines with concrete sea walls have been transformed with glacial stone in front of them.

Kathy noted that two Purdue scientists are working on two ponds at the Palmer Center for Aquatic Research; one for Purdue aquatic research and the other for education. This Center is located at the former Hatchery behind Sportyz. Their plan is to conduct educational classes for property owners on topic that we will learn from.

We are in our fourth year with the Indiana University of Clean Lakes Program. On a monthly basis, a lake volunteer collects samples of our lake water with Phil Woolery from Purdue. We submit our data which is then combined with data from hundreds of other Indiana lakes. This provides data on how the health of our lake water as compared to other lakes.

In 2022 we will be applying for other Healthy Shoreline grants, so we welcome suggestions on which type of grants property owners are interested in: fish habitats; native plants; shoreline work; communication or educational activities. We are now aware of five or six granting authorities that we will be evaluating for additional grants.

Kathy gave a shout out to Lilly Center for Lakes & Streams for providing educational articles for our monthly newsletters. They also conduct valuable lake webinars on geese management and other topics that some of our Bass Lake property owners have attended virtually. They are well funded, large and make a great partner. The Director, Nate Bosch has been a valuable resource for us. We will be using some of their content in the educational booth that we are hosting at the Bass Lake Festival.

XII. New Business

Boating Class:

Terry Chmiel stated the class was held on June 26. There were 14 participants ranging from 14 to 68 and everyone passed. Next year the class will be held at Koontz Lake.

BLPOA Annual Election:

At the beginning of the meeting the candidates introduced themselves. Some members were upset because they had voted before the meeting started. After some discussion on the issue it was noted that the Board would need to call a special meeting to review the election.

A motion was made, seconded and approved to adjourn the meeting at 10:48 am. The next meeting will be October 16, 2021 at 9:00 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Laiter
BLPOA Secretary