



Minutes

Amston Lake Association – Monthly Meeting

**Brunch – In Person at the Clubhouse
Saturday, July 9th, 2022 at 10:00am**

Attendees: John Matra, Nick Salerno, Lisa Salerno, Patty Matra, Louise Fontaine, Thomas Yost, Susan Matyszyk, Tiffany Thibideau, Jim Caines, Amy Lauren, Nicole Graczewski, Ann Harford, Karen Hinch, Dan Hogan, Pam Hogan, Kenneth LaVoie, Tom Yost, Charlene Reagan, Steve Reagan, Mary Withey, and J.D. Wilcox

- **Call to order:** 10:21am by John Matra, 2nd motion by J.D. Wilcox
- **President's Report:**
 - Membership update: currently 115 families enrolled with ALA memberships. Last year at this time we had 179. We picked up 26 new memberships at last day for pick-up of Lake Passes and an additional 10 at the 4th of July cookout after the Parade. We have membership details on the website www.amstonlakeassociation.com and signs posted around the lake on community boards
 - ALD Partnership: Jim Caines is the new Treasurer for ALD and is also a volunteer/member for the ALA. Thanks Jim! ALA and ALD are working closely together to benefit our community.
- **Officer Nominations for 2022/2023 Season:** today's meeting is the last meeting before the August elections for Board Members. The August meeting (TBD) will include a year-end review, as well as a vote for nominees for the Board. Nominations should be submitted to our election coordinator Mary Withey.
- **Events Recap:**
 - 4th of July: successful parade followed by a well-attended cookout at clubhouse
 - Realized we need a Parking Lot Coordinator to help organize the launch of the parade. Seemed there was a lot of confusion getting everyone lined up. This was an oversight. Carl took the lead by getting people gathered properly and launching the parade
 - Nick Salerno did all of the food prep and said we almost sold out of food. John Gibb came out of retirement and was cooking on the grill (Thanks John!)
 - Movie Night: successful event on Friday June 24th, which was the original "Ghostbusters" movie. We chose Friday night vs. Saturday night because Hebron had a Fireworks show Saturday night and we didn't want to conflict. Lisa Salerno posted a 'poll' on the ALA Facebook page and 85% of the votes received requested the movie be shown Friday night. Only issue was (and continues to be a challenge) is getting volunteers to help set-up and

take down. J.D. was the only one at the posted set-up time of 6pm at the clubhouse, so J.D. went with the inflatable screen vs. the larger screen because lack of manpower to set up. Once all of the equipment was at the beach, others stepped forward to help set-up. We had a few volunteers stick around after the movie to help pack-up (thank you!) but just packed into J.D.'s car. Nick and J.D. cleaned off the wet screen and returned everything to the clubhouse Saturday morning. Next Movie Night: Friday, July 29th showing "Back to the Future". Seeking volunteers at Clubhouse at 6pm for set-up. 3rd and final Movie Night of the season scheduled for Saturday, August 20th where we will be showing "Mama Mia" (the sing-along version) to coincide with our Mediterranean theme with Paella Night (see below). Set-up for the August 20th will be at 3pm at the Clubhouse, so we can get things set up prior to the Paella Event starting at 4:30pm

- Beach Yoga: Saturday mornings with Maureen continue to be a big hit. We typically have 6-12 people in attendance. No reservation required – just show up!
 - Chocolate Bingo: Per Charlene, we had more than 45 people in attendance, including many new faces. Next Bingo: moved to July 26th, with August 2nd, August 16th, and August 30th to follow. Events are on Main Beach (weather permitting – otherwise at Clubhouse). Check www.amstonlakeassociation.com for details. NOTE: this is Steve and Charlene's 4th year running Bingo!
 - Artic/Antarctic Presentation: at Clubhouse this past week was a widely attended (approx. 60 people!) and well received. Our host Laurel Henneberry did a great job and has some beautiful photos, some of which she will be donating to the Raffle for Lake Day
- **Upcoming Events:**
- Larry Zimmerman: it was discussed at the meeting if perhaps it would be of interest to have Larry Zimmerman (a local author who lives on the lake) come and discuss his books, including 'The History of Amston Lake'. Everyone thought this was a great idea. Kathy Rockoff is going to take the lead on contacting Larry to see if this is something he would be interested in hosting. Perhaps he can also bring some books for purchase and signing?
 - Tikki Night: set for Saturday, July 23rd. There will be a BBQ Food Truck where people can buy food, a mobile Beer Truck from Tapville where people (age 21 and over) can purchase a wide selection of tapped beer and wine, and a DJ on the back playing music. Residents are welcome to come down with their Tikki's) to celebrate and dance on the beach.
 - Movie Night: Friday, July 29th at Main Beach
 - Lake Day!: Saturday, August 6th (rain date Sunday, August 7th). A LOT OF VOLUNTEERS are needed to pull this even off. Sign-up sheets for various activities were around the tables on today's meeting, and we did get a good number of volunteers involved to fill a good number of slots required for the various stations and activities, including Food Services, Raffle Table, Kids Activities, Treats (candy and popcorn), 50/50 Donations, Judges for contests, as well as Set-up and Clean-Up/Break Down. Karen has volunteered to be John Matra's 'runner' again this year (thanks Karen!) We will have the band "Cover to Cover" playing, as they do a great job of also being the MC for the event.
 - Paella Dinner: Saturday, August 20th at the Clubhouse starting around 4:30pm with dinner starting at 5pm. A chef will be preparing a delicious meal cooked right on site. Portions will be controlled by the chef (or their server) to ensure there is enough food for all in attendance. Cost is \$25/person. We will be outside in the yard or parking area (weather permitting) with Movie Night to follow at dusk on Main Beach.

- ALA's 80th Anniversary! September 10th we will celebrate ALA's 80th Anniversary (we were founded in 1942!). There will be an event with a catered Italian meal for those who wish to purchase tickets in advance (details still being planned). We will have special celebratory tee-shirts made in advance (where people purchasing tickets will request their shirt size) which will be distributed at the event. Price TBD
 - Oktoberfest: October 1st at Clubhouse. We will have an accordion player playing music to an Oktoberfest-themed celebration. Details to follow
 - Potluck Dinner: being planned for some time in the Fall before the snowbirds leave for the winter
 - Fishing Derby: Catfish Fishing Derby Saturday night, July 9th at 7:45pm. Launch at 8pm, fish weigh-in begins at 11pm. Next weekend July 16th: Kid's Fishing Derby. Chris Hogan is now running the Kids Fishing Derby contest. Thank you to both Jim and Chris for running this popular event!

- **Ideas discussed:** how to advertise or market all of these events? We have the website www.amstonlakeassociation.com along with 5 sandwich boards around the lake noting activities. New ideas presented: perhaps a big posterboard at Lake Day showing dates of upcoming events? Jim Caines to get John Matra the name of whoever at ALD manages the (2) glassed-in Community Message boards at Main and Lollypop Beaches, so ALA can perhaps put notices in there? Other ideas raised was perhaps printing out several hundred copies of an ALA Events flyer to be hand-delivered (perhaps hung from a plastic bag at mailboxes or doorknobs) but this would be costly and require volunteers to bring these door to door to the several-hundred houses throughout the district.

- **Treasurer's Report:** Ann Riley had a last-minute conflict and was not able to attend today's meeting. We did not have an advance copy of Ann's Treasurer Report we will recap at next month's meeting as part of the year-end review.

- **Committee Reports:**
 - House: a few clubhouse rentals and a few being lined up. New windows and doors will be installed in the (2) restrooms at the clubhouse in the near future (by yearend).
 - Merchandise update: sold \$350 worth of merchandise at the 4th of July Parade/Cookout event. This was all profit because the merchandise had been paid for from prior event sales. We will have some new merchandise for sale on Lake Day, including sweatshirts, tee-shirts, bucket hats, and youth sweatshirts
 - Public Relations/Communications: Lisa is doing it!

- **New Business:** nothing new

- **Adjourn:** motioned by J.D. Wilcox, 2nd by Nick Salerno. at 11:13am

- **Next meeting:** August 2022 (TBD)