



Minutes

Amston Lake Association – Monthly Meeting

**Brunch – In Person at the Clubhouse
Saturday, August 20th, 2022 at 10:00am**

Attendees: John Matra, Nick Salerno, Lisa Salerno, Patty Matra, Susan Matyszyk, Karen Hinch, Mary Withey, Elaine Williams, Cliff Boyce, Ann Riley, Pam Hogan, and J.D. Wilcox

- **Call to order:** 10:15am by John Matra, 2nd motion by J.D. Wilcox
- **Last Letting Minutes:** motion to accept by Sue, 2nd by Elaine Williams
- **President’s Report:**
 - Membership update: not going great. 119 members to date vs. 197 last year. Goal: increase membership and bring additional value for members. Ideas: perhaps align with ALD more for greater visibility. Sue wants to help get involved more in driving initiative. Merchandise discounts, or give members a mug or cup with membership, Lake Day Family charges Member vs. Non-Member pricing. Need to have something that shows value of membership. Concern: Air B&B’s advertise great ALA activities for renters, and last 2 accidents on the lake (drowning and hyperthermia) were renters. Perhaps we need some restrictions for Air B&B (which is a business). Some people don’t use technology, perhaps a big card posted and who to call or ways to contact ALA. Perhaps 1 page fact sheet ALA vs. ALD. Perhaps edit Website to read “or call Nick Salerno” for more information for those who are concerned about providing info electronically.
- **Officer Nominations for 2022/2023 Season:** Mary Withey was Election Coordinator. All 4 existing member were nominated, and no competition. More details later in meeting
- **Events Recap:**
 - Lake Day: very successful event! Things for next year: ensure we ask ALD to have Port-A-Pot empty the day before event. Next year considering bringing in food truck(s).
 - Movie Night: Friday, July 29th we played Back to the Future
 - Chocolate Bingo: Charlene and Steve couldn’t make today, Bingo every other Tuesday and it’s been popular! Check www.amstonlakeassociation.com for details. NOTE: this is Steve and Charlene’s 4th year running Bingo!
- **Upcoming Events:**
 - Paella Tonight: we have 45 people signed up! Weather looks great!
 - 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 sometime in the Fall before the snowbirds leave for the winter

- **Items discussed:**

- **Treasurer's Report:** Checking balance is \$8,790.00 and Savings \$6,737 plus 12 cents/month in interest. This does not include any revenue/profit from Lake Day. Yard clean-up by Tim Sabo (\$1,500 for 3 days of leveling parking lot and major clean-up of year). Ann asking if we can have an Energy Audit performed on the building, as our Commercial utility bill is approx. \$250/month. Ann to check delivery vs. usage.
- **Committee Reports:**
 - House: Waiting on new windows and doors for the bathrooms, as we want to see where we are financially at year end. Want to create a reserve to plan for the furnace, which technician told us we have approx. 5 years of life left in it. Want to start budgeting over next 5 years. Looking to probably close Club House down over winter to save on propane/heating costs. Can also get seasonal shut-down discount on electrical and internet service.
 - Merchandise update: we ordered 72 mugs, all sold within 72 hours! This is Charlene's last year in doing Merch. Did well on merch sales at Lake Day (except we didn't sell any hooded sweatshirts lake day, as it was like 100 degrees out! Looking at doing Christmas Ornaments again this year with wildlife theme.
 - Public Relations/Communications: Lisa is rocking it!
 - Social: Paella Night at 5pm, Movie Night after on Main Beach. Oktoberfest on Oct. 1st, assuming we can find someone to cater it. We are not cooking so we are searching for caterers or what Ted's IGA may have to offer for Catering Menu. Or maybe Pot Luck? We have the Accordion Player booked! BYOB.
- **New Business:**
 - Election of Officers for 2022 – 2023 season: Officers nominations are John Matra/President, Nick Salerno/Vice President, Ann Riley/Treasurer, and J.D. Wilcox/Secretary. Nominations closed at meeting. Those in attendance took vote on nominees. Vote unanimous on all nominees.
 - Mary: Speaker/Educational Sessions: we are a social and cultural organization. Following up on last event with photos of Antarctic had 60 people in attendance. Kathy still working on Larry Zimmerman event. Pollinator/Monarchs/Honey Bee educational event being discussed.
 - Upcoming Proposal for Hebron: considering a DPW facility/ area off Kinney Rd. where town would wash trucks. Concern is salt shed, traffic, environmental impact and how would impact lake. Concern has been brought up to the ALD and to Selectman/Selectwomen. John is asking everyone to pay attention because it's not getting a lot of press but could have long-term impact on the lake.
 - Brewery/Bakery/Restaurant: \$250K from state to remediate the old factory at end of North Pond Rd. Not sure what's happening but another thing that could impact the lake (good or bad)
 - Mary: concern of poor quality of our shed. Opened discussion do we need to replace? We now have lawn service, so we don't need a lawn mower anymore. Maybe we do away with this old shed or consider a smaller/cleaner shed?

- Halloween Party? Lisa asked if we want to post something about asking the community if anyone wishes to coordinate a community Halloween Party for the kids? We posted last year and nobody stepped up.
- John Matra: suggested this may be his last year on board. J.D. Wilcox said also last year on board.

- **Adjourn:** motioned by J.D. Wilcox, 2nd by Ann Riley at 11:09am

- **Next meeting:** Tuesday, September 13th, 2022