

**Beaver Lake Yacht Club Board Meeting Minutes**  
**October 27, 2025 @ 7:00pm at the Boelter's**

**Present:** Rick Boelter, Rick Stalle, Suzannah Bong, Lara Ehksam, Mike Hipp, Carolyn Duris (TEAMS), Cam Knuth (TEAMS)

**Absent:** Karen Trimble

Meeting was called to order at 7:05pm

**Welcome and Board Roles for 2026**

Rick Boelter welcomed our new BLYC Board members Mike Hipp and Cam Knuth. He gave a brief overview of what the Board has been working on the past year. Roles for 2026 were assigned.

- **Commodore:** Rick Boelter was named Commodore of the BLYC, motion made by Lara Ehksam, seconded by Suzannah Bong. All in favor.
- **Treasurer:** Suzannah Bong – Keeps Quick Books up to date. Works alongside our bookkeeper, Gloria who does all the invoicing for the Club. Collects physical mail from the BLYC PO Box and emails, distributing to the proper contact if necessary. Pays (writes the checks) for our bills such as insurance and taxes.
- **Secretary:** Lara Ehksam – Take minutes at each Board Meeting. Post approved Board Meeting minutes (via Jim Grinney) on the BLYC website. Give notice of BLYC Board Meetings and Posting Agenda in a blast and taking RSVPs if there will be guests.
- **Social:** Carolyn Duris – Organize the Social Events for the year by finding hosts and ideas, create flyers for events if hosts do not, fireworks contracting and flare sales.
- **Communications:** Karen Trimble & Lara Ehksam – Keep the Constant Contact database and send all Blasts to the membership. Welcome new members with New Member Packet and set up in person meeting with a Board Member.
- **Rear Commodore: (this is an evolving position)**
  - **Vendor Relations:** Mike Hipp & Rick Boelter – Main contact point for vendors and maintaining a current database of those users and updating Master Lock system with their information. Create Vendor Guidelines with updated fee structure and flow of traffic.
  - **Facilities:** Cam Knuth & Rick Boelter – Master Lock Gate management & troubleshooting. Keeping signage up to date. Create an instruction sheet/video on how to use the Master Lock Gate for members, post on website. Keep tabs on launch improvement needs and services.

**Annual Meeting Takeaways**

The Board led by Rick Boelter went over the takeaways from the BLYC Annual Meeting on October 9, 2025.

- The Board should be more transparent and have better communication. It is noted that many do not read the emails sent and this causes communication issues.

- More discussion and input by membership on major changes with launch rules.
- Construction Use of launch: About half of the membership would like there to be no construction use at the launch. About half of the membership “live on a cliff” and have no other means to do work at their shore.
- There were many who think the \$5,000 Special Use Fee is too much.
- There was a lot of confusion about the Private Road.
- We need to come up a system for construction traffic at the launch to keep trucks from clogging up traffic. *Mike will work on that with his role.*
- Should there be a weight limit on the private road. *No, Town of Merton never had one.*

*The Board discussed ways to improve our communication which includes having a set Board Meeting Date and Time. Approving minutes soon after the meeting and having those posted on the BLYC website ASAP. Sending out Agendas and Notice of meeting in Blasts a week prior to Board Meetings. Allowing “guests” at meetings with an RSVP if they wish to discuss agenda items in person. It was decided to send out a Launch Site Survey to the membership before we set rules and fees for 2026. Communicating the launch closure/opening dates better via Blast to both membership and vendors (December 1-March 31). We discussed some topics we’d like to address. Rick Boelter will take that information and formulate questions for a survey. Lara Ehrsam said she has worked with Google Forms survey and would put that together, send to board for any modifications and then send out to the membership.*

### **Launch Site Work for 2025**

Rick Stalle gave a detailed account of what work we’d like to begin at the launch site based on last year’s board discussion. This work encompasses resurfacing the current road with modifications to make the turn radius more accommodating to the current traffic patterns and trying to keep within the impervious surface limits, creating a drop site for unloading of materials that would keep weight loads off the ramp and removal of three spruces on the Jacques property line that impede traffic and the subsequent replacement of landscaping for that sight line. He has worked diligently on obtaining an accurate survey, working with county, getting multiple bids for work on road and trees, and worked with a CDL driver to obtain a better idea of how to better accommodate the larger equipment vendors that utilize the launch.

Mike Hipp made a motion to move forward on resurfacing the launch and Caroly Duris seconded. All in favor.

*Rick Stalle and Rick Boelter will talk to Shirley Jacques and her son Jay Jacques on their thoughts about trees. We will pick the best of the two \$30k bids for the work and get bids on the tree removal decided on.*

**Setting of Dates for 2026 BLYC Board Meetings**

7:00 pm on 1/12, 2/9, 3/9, 4/13, 5/11, 6/8, 7/13, 8/10, 9/14, 10/12

Held generally at the Boelter's Home. KW Hartland also an option or other homes of Board Members.

BLYC Annual Meeting to be set at a later date.

*New Format for Annual Meeting was discussed. Instead of a "Year in Review" the meeting would be structured on voting on a proposed budget mapped out based on planned future expenditures for the following year. Hence, the Board would then have guidance for planning and executing improvements for the following year that was presented and voted upon by the membership. This piggybacks on our goal to be more transparent and provide better communication to our membership.*

**New Business**

It was noted that Mike Maas was mistakenly billed for construction usage (he has pontoon barges less than 30' and is a pier in/out vendor). Suzannah will correct in with Gloria and Rick Stalle will let him know it was a billing error.

**By Law Revisions (No Discussion due to time constraints)**

**Meeting Ended 8:37pm**

**Submitted by Lara Ehrsam**