

Game Over

This evening the Lake Committee chair (Chris Mace), co-chair (Josh Davis), and Board Director Todd Brown have finally found a way to solve the wake boat issue. Via a re-organization, most of the senior members of the Lake Committee have been dismissed from the committee, including Don Smith, Don Snell, Dick Williams. Charlie Flinchum and me.

The new committee will consist of a representative of the Lake Auman Sports Club (LASC), Lake Auman Water Sports Club (LAWSC), Sailing Club (SLSC) and Lake Auman Vitality Advocates (LAVA). The existing chair and co-chair and Board member will remain as will a few others chosen to continue. This effectively will remove the faction that has been making multiple motions over the past year for a WB moratorium, including the most recent to not only limit new wake boats registrations, but to also reduce HP, boat lengths and boat weights for **all power boats** and request a significant boat density study. All of these previous motions included a "grandfather" clause protecting all currently registered boats and boat owners.

This "restructure" was discussed and approved at a recent **BOD EXECUTIVE SESSION**, classified as a "personnel" issue to allow for this underhanded and closed discussion. While restructuring any committee to a new chair's or board director's desire is completely allowable, the timing and method of this is very suspect. We have survived an ineffective ad hoc committee study, as well as another recently proposed alternative committee.

On the new committee's agenda will also be the rewriting several Rules and Regulations (Chapter 7) regarding boating, including removing the necessity of a spotter during towing or surfing (7.3.5), possibly allowing renters to register a boat for use on our already crowded lake, and using only the NC State rules which are less restrictive than those of SLW. We are aware of these because they have been discussed in the past and voted down and the subject's been tabled from the last few meetings when the WB discussions ran long. There has been discussion about tinkering with the boat registration numbers and placement. Stay tuned.

Recently, a proposal to establish a specific wake surfing area of the lake designed to minimize the potential damage to the dam has surfaced as a compromise and "solution" which will do nothing to improve the lake enjoyment and safety of swimmers, SUP's, canoes, kayaks, fishing boats and small sailboats. It also will do little to address the yet to be determined damaging effects to the dam, our docks, bulkheads and the fish habitat and spawning grounds on our lake bottom. We were opposed this as unenforceable and believe this proposal will now be pushed through as a "mission accomplished".

Effectively these dismissals remove members with much history and dedication to the welfare of Lake Auman and the "greater good" for the community. This "Cancel Culture" tactic is designed to eliminate diverse or opposing opinions and creating "Group Think". Speaking for myself, this past year has been a struggle of frustration and stress which will not be missed, but remaining on the committee was important in an attempt to keep the committee on track. We were constantly swimming against the tide or, more accurately, the wake!

"Game over" refers only to the attempts by those of us who were inside the committee to retain the enjoyment of Lake Auman for all. **This very important issue should not be considered over.** Please join the efforts of the Lake Auman Vitality Advocates (LAVA) which is working outside of the confines of the Board and its Committees to protect and restore enjoyment of the lake we love to all.