

Lake Auman Watch

We are an organized and rapidly growing group of residents whose purpose is to share information that is critical to the future of the Seven Lakes West community.

It is our opinion that the Board of Director's failure to approve the proposed Lake Auman Study at their April 27th Board Meeting may have been a planned strategy to promote the agenda of a small subset of Seven Lakes West residents. We have concerns regarding the Board's failure to act with due diligence to protect our most precious asset, the lake, and our "high hazard" dam that enables its existence. We cannot allow this Board's indifference to continue unabated; we must encourage broader community involvement.

Background:

- Since the Board will not accept recent national studies, this unique study specific to our lake was developed by NC State University.
- As of January 2021, the Ad Hoc Lake Auman Master Plan Committee, an out-sourced Dam Engineer, the Dam Committee, and the Lake Committee **all** had recommended this study.
- Lake Auman Sports Club supported this study and committed to a \$5,000 contribution.
- Zoom Board Meetings are **not** conducive to residents' participation. As of 3/26/21, Executive Order 204 allowed for inside meetings at 50% capacity. The Board chose to hold another Zoom-only meeting on 4/27/21 instead of promoting at least some in-person communication.
- At the 4/27/21 meeting, the Board rejected the Lake Study with a vote of 4-3 (oddly enough, "Yes" votes included Board President, Pat Zlotin, and Vice President, Todd Brown).
- The election put two new (biased?) directors on the board who voted against the Lake Study.
- Board members asked each other extremely basic questions in the discussion of the Lake Study that did not reflect a preparedness to make an informed decision on this proposal.

Point of View:

- Lake Auman anchors our home values whether you live on the lake or off the lake.
- The dam, which forms the lake, shows signs of erosion under the water line. We **need** an independent Lake Study to know the impacts of wave action on the entire dam.
- Questions/concerns presented to the Board regarding important issues (i.e., Lake Study, election process/integrity, residents' rights), are met with vague answers or no response, and individual members who are directly impacted by issues are ignored.
- The Message Board has limited readership and is censored by the Board. The E-Blast has been "weaponized" and is used inappropriately by the Board.

Objectives:

- Demand that all future Board Meetings include the maximum face-to-face participation allowed by Covid guidelines.
- Investigate election integrity which may have resulted in a pre-planned 4-3 "No" vote on the Lake Auman Study.
- Seek out and support future Board candidates that will be dedicated to the preservation of Lake Auman and the betterment of Seven Lakes West.
- Increase the number of Lake Auman Watch members to promote greater awareness.
- Develop a Lake Auman Watch website (in process) to facilitate dissemination of vital, uncensored information throughout the community.