

To The Members of Paupackan Lake Association:

I am writing this letter to keep the association informed on a very important issue to our community. My goal is to be as informative as I can with as much transparency as possible.

Our deed covenant states that each property “is to be used as one single family dwelling for residential purposes only.” When short term rental outlets like VRBO and Airbnb began to take off nearly 10 years ago, communities like Paupackan Lake took some time responding to their impact. During the years of 2019 and 2020 there were complaints that short term renters, who did not have a stake in our community, were changing the neighborhood feel of PLA. The board decided to address the issue and require all residents to adhere to the PLA covenant. The problems occurring at the time were strangers (the short term renters) taking over the beach, loud music blaring, excessive drinking at public places, pollution, trespassing, and other disturbances. Finally, with the lake as our most prized asset, and considering how much we spend in both time and money to maintain its health, there was great concern. Overtaxing septic systems would endanger our lake.

With all of this in mind, the PLA Board has been keeping up with legal issues surrounding HOAs and their restrictions on STR. Noting a recent July 2024 case before the Superior Court of Pennsylvania (Liotta v. Hawkins) the court ruled on the side of the HOA to keep the community free of STR. PLA will continue to uphold our covenant should there ever be a challenge to our covenant policy on this issue.

Please feel free to attend a board meeting either in person or through zoom to stay informed.

Sincerely,

John Tyminski, PLA Board President