

MINUTES

2012 Annual General Meeting Bay Lake Property Owners Association August 12, 2012

Attendance –36

Opening Remarks

Glen Vey

Glen welcomed everyone to the 31st Annual General Meeting of the Bay Lake Property Owners' Association (BLPOA). He advised that only paid membership for the previous year would be eligible to vote in today's AGM (maximum of two votes per household). As well, Glen noted that questions from the floor would only be recognized from paid members. He requested that members show their voting card and give their name for purpose of the minutes. Questions from non members would not be recognized during the formal part of the meeting; however, any member of the Executive would be pleased to field questions following the meeting.

The agenda for the meeting was reviewed.

Guest Speaker

Constable Claude St. Denis, OPP.

Constable St. Denis introduced himself and his student, Mike. He has been a police officer for 34 years, 10 years with the OPP. His job is to patrol the waterways in Almaguin

While certain lakes are known for various issues, he has found no problems on Bay Lake. He tries to show his presence on the lake three to four times a year.

Main concerns are:

- Boaters should always carry a competency card, which must be in the boat and shown upon request. If not, there is a \$305 fine. Photocopy will do, plus another piece of identification.
- No warnings with alcohol infractions – zero tolerance
- Also no leniency with safety equipment

Constable St. Denis feels this is the best public relations program the OPP operates, and he very much enjoys his job.

Questions from the floor

Q - What is rule on spotters?

A – Must have a spotter and it must be a competent person, i.e. Should be someone age of 12 and up.

Q – Safety rules for a canoe

A – Same rules apply as a boat, except a competency card is not required

Q – Safety rules for a child on seadoo in front between drivers hands. A – The PWC must have 2 seats and the child must be wearing a life jacket.

Q – Is there a noise curfew/bylaw?

A - Twp of Perry has bylaws in relation to noise and a Bylaw. Enforcement Officer who may be difficult to reach outside of regular business hours. The OPP will respond to a complaint however, they will not enforce the bylaw

Q – Is there any equivalent substitute for a competency card? I.e. Power squadron?

A - No.

Q - Ownership of fire arm – how does one dispose?

A – Bring firearm (unloaded) nearest police station. Constable St. Denis takes care of this in Burkes Fall OPP and you can make an appointment to see him.

Q - What is the process if there is a complaint?

A – The Police require a witness to come to court and give evidence if the accused pleads not guilty to the charge. Hearsay evidence is not permitted so you must identify yourself when making the complaint.

Q – Boating guide says we need Side lights on bow and stern.

A – Not familiar with this requirement. Only navigational lights are required after darkness.

Q - Floating dock with outboard motor? What are the rules?

A – This becomes a vessel! and needs all safety equipment of a boat.

Q – Is there a speed limit?

A - No speed limit, but when it endangers others it becomes an issue.

General

Common sense should dictate –

Each wake erodes 1/1000th of an inch off the shore line!

Constable St. Denis asked that we read the “Safe Boating Guidebook” and copies were left for those in attendance.

Approval of Previous Minutes

Glen Vey

Motion: To accept minutes - Sherry Vey

Seconded – Paul Turner

Carried

Treasurer's Report

Curtis MacDonald

Curtis reviewed all items of the Treasurer's Report item by item for the membership. The Association is in excellent financial shape. No money into fish fund.

MOTION – Curtiss made a motion to accept the financial reports

Seconded – Randy Webber

Carried

Cheryl Stamper queried the amount in the Environment Fund. Sarah explained how membership affected this amount, i.e. Membership appears to be down 10 % from last year. Membership is down but not by much 96 2-3 years ago, 84 today. Depends on when the money comes in.

Environment Report

Paul Turner (on behalf of Bill Paterson)

- Nesting boxes around the lake for Mergansers and Wood ducks. Some activity seen, but not utilized as much as hoped
- Pitch in Day was a success, collected 2 garbage bags and a trailer load of recycling thanks to volunteers
- Loon nest at the end of lake has not been used. Hopeful, result of early spring – 3 loons seen on lake Thanks to Wayne Cook for his assistance
- The Environmental Committee – primary task is water testing – identified on website. Variety of testing being done. I.e. Ecoli - quarterly and a reported number of 100 and above is unacceptable for recreational use of lake. 10 sites reporting 10 and 30. Numbers fluctuate given rainfall and other reasons, but suggests a healthy lake. Ecoli testing done by collecting water samples and sent to a lab. Thanks to Bill Paterson and the Dunn's who conduct this important function.
- Adopt a sight – still looking for 4 cottagers to pick up sites
- Significant amount of money is being spent on having these tests done
- Additionally, Benthic testing – Lake Partners program. 3 tests that are done over a period of time. District of Muskoka lends us a technician and volunteers gather at a number of sights to examine "muck" for critters. Organisms are identified and relative health of the lake is identified.

- Thanks to Judy and John Dunn with the lake partners program.
- Future concerns of the Environmental Committee – nesting sights, planting for biodiversity, dangers of cross contamination from landing boats/gear from one lake to another (transfer of spiny water flea and zebra mussels)
- Fire hazard ratings – find better ways to notify residents
- Future goals – launching cedar logs for painted turtles

Paul directed questions to Judy Dunn.

Motion

“That the current funds held in the fish reserve fund be transferred to the environment reserve fund as of August 12th 2012”

Curtiss spoke to this:

For past few years, as treasurer, when money designated to specific reason tried to keep running total of what was donated or given by efforts by someone on the lake. Therefore, any money spent for fish fund showed same. Anyone who donated to fish fund, it was retained for that purpose.

Executive proposed a resolution (see above). We are designated as Trout Lake by MNR. We have been advised by Ministry that they control the fish that goes into this lake. Stocking has gone down. The pro of doing transfer of funds, if you don't have a good quality lake then doesn't matter how many fish you put into it. However, Curtiss spoke as an accountant, explaining that if there is a decline in funds made available from various levels of government and by transferring money to environment fund, if the ministry stops stocking then we don't have money of our own to stock lake.

Read motion again.

Seconded – Lee

Glen – We haven't stocked fish for 10 years so money sitting there. This is a housekeeping issue MNR have jurisdiction to stock fish and we cannot stock fish without their permission and a permit to do so. The Ministry is putting 500 (down from 1000) fish in our lake every 2nd year. Our lake has a very limited ability to sustain trout and the MNR feel that only 70/80 fish will survive out of the total 500 and they will not allow us to stock more trout or other species.

Randy Weber– grant used to be given by MNR to clean spawning bed. Perhaps the Fish Fund can fund this again, so give trout a chance to survive. Glen thought this was a good suggestion, and asked for volunteers.

Action:

Randy Webber offered to organise the work. Need 4-5 people in the water and 1 in the boat. Randy, Judy, Glen, Paul, Steve, Ted Dawson, Ron Masonville, Jack Podwinsky volunteered

Doug Banwell – getting back to money. Why? Money not going anywhere and we might need it in the Fish Fund. Waiting for a compelling argument to move it to Environment Fund.

Judy Dunn– can't separate fish and environment.

Sherry Vey – new exec would have a cleaner slate in the accounting issue. Bill thought it would simplify life for new executive.

Curtiss MacDonald – in answer to Doug, no reason.

Judy Dunn– if money is in fish fund money, specifically what was it donated for. I.e. spawning beds?

Paul Turner, to have \$2300 earmarked for fish that we aren't allowed to stock doesn't make sense. Wouldn't it make more sense to consolidate the Fish Fund with the Environment Fund to free it up to allow us to deal with the environment of the lake?

Judy Dunn – There was no Environment Fund when the Fish Fund was started

Cheryl Stamper – emotional issue. Argued that doesn't see any need to do this right now. Disrespectful to people who have given money specifically for stocking Bay Lake with fish.

John – yes emotional, but also a business issue. What this motion is attempting is to try to give the next executive the ability to take care of the lake for the residents.

Voting results For – 14
Against 17
Abstain – 3

Motion defeated

Motion by Lee

Second Paul

New motion with an amendment to keep fish fund in place, but with proviso that the Environment Fund draw money from Fish Fund when needed, at the discretion of the current executive.

Voting resulted in 28 votes for the motion and it was carried.

Membership Report

Lee Davidson

There are currently 84 members. With 202 cottage properties, surprising there are not more members. Lee asked that everyone take note of how much work the Exec and Association does and requested they go to neighbours and explain how important it is to support the Association.

There was a suggestion to put a paper into each door regarding membership, etc. – comes down to volunteers and concerns with leaving mail etc. at vacant residences.

Action:

The following have volunteered to hand deliver notices – Meyers, Judy Dunn, and Mrs. Masonville.

Glen made various acknowledgements, especially to our volunteers, whose time and commitment were invaluable and contributed to a successful year.

Accomplishments for the year were reviewed however Glen cautioned that if we do not have new members replacing outgoing Executive we may not be able to maintain our current service levels and events.

Glen acknowledged Janice Paterson efforts to produce a high quality and informative newsletter.

Reviewed the Executives efforts to maintain the Outlet and to eventually turn over these responsibilities to the Town. A major accomplishment.

Glen referred to our professional and informative website. .

Glen acknowledged Judy and John Dunn, and Bill Patterson for managing our comprehensive water testing program.

Glen acknowledged the success of our functions including the Pancake Breakfast/silent auctions our main fund raiser and the considerable work and planning required. Thank you to Sherry Vey Event Planner. Also thank you to Adam & Kim Grin, Owners of Winning Techniques, for letting us use the camp property rock climbing wall etc. for Fun Day and for providing their councillors to supervise the 40 – 50 children that attended.

All these programs and events enhance life on the lake. We have an urgent need to replace those who are stepping down from the Executive. Glen made a plea for more permanent, year round residents to consider joining the Executive. There are more and more year round homes being built on the lake and these residents should be taking a heightened interest in their community.

Executive Nominations

Constitution requires a minimum of 11 members – The following 7 members have agreed to stay on the Executive next year and 4 more are needed.

Glen Vey
David Adams
Lee Davidson
Gaynor Moore
Steve Morris
Curtiss MacDonald
Paul Turner

Glen advised that he would stay on a President for one more year however other important positions were open and needed to be filled (i.e. Lake Steward and Treasurer)

Accepting nominations from the floor

Bob Nimigeon was nominated by David Adams and Bob accepted by letter.
Welcome Bob!

There were no further nominations.

Motion from the floor to run with 8 members

Motion from the floor – Doug
Seconded – Judy
Carried

Glen advised that the Executive had our hands full running with 11 and that some programs/events may not happen without additional help.

Cheryl Stamper suggested everyone make every effort to bring executive back up to 11 members.

Lee Davidson on behalf of the members thanked Glen Vey for his efforts over the past year to maintain the outlet and to eventually have the Town take over this responsibility. Lee also acknowledged Cheryl Stamper's earlier efforts during negotiations with the property owner and the Town.

New Business

Adam of Winning Techniques was present to answer questions. There were no questions. Glen thanked him for letting us use the hall and their camp.

Door prizes

Bay Lake hand towels – David Adams
T-shirt - Ted Dawson
T-shirt – Ed Czaplá

Adjournment

Motion for adjournment was made by Randy Webber

Seconded by Sherry Vey

Carried

Meeting adjourned at 11:09 a.m.

Township Information Session

Mayor John Dunn

Mayor John Dunn shared an update with the group. There was time for a question and answer period following the update.