

Drag and Spruce Lakes Property Owners Association
AGM Sunday July 5, 2009
Haliburton Curling Club 10 a.m.

Presidents Welcome

In the absence of President Barb Bohlin, Phil Lapp 1st Vice President presided over the meeting. Barb sends regrets for not being in attendance but is recuperating well
1st Vice President Phil welcomed everyone and thanked them for their attendance on one of the first nice days of summer. He promised to stick to the time schedule and have the meeting adjourn at Noon

2008 Minutes

Moved by Donna McCallum

Seconded by Patricia Shuttle

That the minutes of the 2008 AGM be adopted as printed in the 2009 Newsletter and Directory.

Motion Carried

Treasurers Report

Treasurer Carmen Colangelo was unable to attend, treasures report was competently given by Nancy Stinson

Key points presented to the members were:

The membership fee of \$20 is allocated \$15 to General Operating Fund and \$5 to the Lake Steward Fund. The total membership revenue was \$ 5460

2008 General Fund operating deficit was \$ 2,627 due to one time expenditures being Website development and new signage costs.

Lake Stewardship Fund surplus balance at end of year is \$10,435. The lake stewardship Fund is a contingency Reserve to use for future unanticipated developments to preserve and protect Drag and Spruce Lakes.

2008 year end cash in bank /GIC investment balance of 13,790 The GIC investment is a redeemable one year GIC earning 2.15 %

Directory revenue was \$ 3,975 Please support all the businesses that advertise in the Directory

The lake association is in a strong financial position, thanks to your continued support

Moved by Bobbie Bicknell

Seconded by Phyllis La Ferle

That the 2008 Financial Statement be adopted as printed in the 2009 Newsletter and Directory

Motion Carried

Charitable Donation

Moved by Phil Lapp

Seconded by Bert Bicknell

That the 2009 charitable donation be forwarded to WRAFT (Waterfront Residents After Fair Taxation) in amount of \$ 300 and as put forward by the Lake Association Executive.
Motion Carried

Elections

Elections were conducted by 1st Vice President Phil Lapp

The slate put forward by the Executive was as follows

President Barb Bohlin

1st Vice President Phil Lapp

2nd Vice President Aimee Fink

Secretary Donna McCallum

Lake Steward Bert Bicknell

Officer at Large Len Pizzey

1st Vice President Phil called for nominations from the floor

Moved by Bob Young

Seconded by Jill Kowaluk

That the slate of Executive as put forward is accepted and those persons declared elected
Motion Carried

1st Vice President Phil encouraged younger people to get involved with the association
The Committee for the Lake Plan is a good opportunity to become involved and any members interested are encouraged to let any member of the Executive know if they would be interested in serving on this ad hoc committee.

Lake Stewards Report

Presented by Lake Steward Bert Bicknell

It is noted in the Newsletter that the Lake Trout fishing continues to show incremental improvement as to the number of fish in the small (13" to 16") range increasing by 10% in the past year. There have been similar increases in the other size ranges

Most of our information over the past years has been provided by the MNR contact in Bancroft who unfortunately retired in Dec. He has not been replaced .It therefore appears we may not receive the same netting and interpretation of results that we have enjoyed in the past

On the plus side we are advised that the MNR will do a hydro acoustic study of Drag Lake this summer and compare the results to the tests of several years ago. We hope this will better evaluate the increase in the number and size of Lake Trout and possibly even assess the herring population which is an important element on the food chain for both Lake Trout and Bass. Incidentally Art Ouelette and others reported resurgence in the herring population noting a dimpling of the surface on calm evenings

Another area of good news is the invasive water species. We have tested the lake for Zebra Mussel and Spiny Water flea since 2000. This program developed in 1996 in partnership with the Ont Federation of Anglers and Hunters and the MNR. It is free and provides us with a test kit consisting of a seine net and sampling jars. Each summer we send water samples collected from deep areas in several parts of the lake to the Federation Lab in Peterborough. Until this spring we show the presence of spiny water fleas but never Zebra mussels. This past summer showed neither Spiny Water Fleas nor Zebra Mussels. Possibly they died off due to the lower pH of our lake or possibly they were eaten by the herring which are again proliferating. Since spiny Water Flea eats zoo plankton important to the growth of juvenile game fish, we are glad to see them gone. Hopefully this condition will continue.

Martin Rist, fellow Lake Steward gave an update on the activities within The Coalition for Equitable Water Flow.

Martin pointed out that the Bookmarks received by all contained the mission Statement of the Coalition. Information and reports are available on the website www.cewf.ca. The Trent Severn system consists of 50 lakes and accommodates 40,000 residents. We are the head waters of the Burnt River System and we have a role to play in updating the management of The Trent Severn System. We are the reservoir Lakes used to maintain the Trent Severn system at a 6' draft. We store about 20 billion litres of water of which about one half is actually released. Simply the water in the canals needs to be better managed.

An excellent Report titled "It's all about the water" has come out but the Federal Government has not taken action.

Draw down on our lakes is about 1 m however with current legislation it could be 2 m. This would create a problem for our enjoyment of our properties and the value of our properties. The Trent Severn website does give information on current and historical water levels. The Trent Severn system is under funded and needs repair. Funding has been put in place to allow for automated water level readings rather than the old manually remove a log system.

Talk to your politicians, push them to have one organization to manage the system, currently navigation of water craft in the canal is the only mandate. Those on the Trent System want no change.

In the absence of President Barb Bohlin, fondly known as the Loon Lady, Gunars Vestfals reported that we have 4 nesting loon pairs and one single on the lake. Any sightings of chicks please report to Barb.

Membership Chair Report

Nancy Stinson recognized all Area Directors present and thanked them for the work they do for the Lake Association.

To date we have 200 paid memberships out of approximately 510 possible members.

Nancy will enforce a January 30, 2010 cut off for names to be in Directory.

Directors will be visiting cottages in their areas. Please be assured that home addresses are not given out and will not be published in the Directory.

The Membership Chair is open to any suggestions that anyone may have about improving our Newsletter or about encouraging new members.

Early Bird Draw

Haliburton Book Ric and Janice Robertshaw

Beer Store Gift certificate Michael Gottscalk

1yr subscription Greg and Rozalynd Platt

Thankyou to all members who renewed their membership early

Website Update (www.dragandsprucelakes.ca)

Webmaster Joe Sebesta reported that the usage of the website is quite busy during June July and August. He encourages people to use it as a backup to the Newsletter and Directory as an other tool to know what is happening on our lakes. All events are posted on the site .Questions to the webmaster or any executive can be sent to the association email address:

www.dragandsprucelakes.ca

Summer Events

Update on Summer Events was given by Patricia Shuttle. She thanked Karl and Catharine Gonnson for their generosity in letting the association use their property for Fun Day Patricia also made special note of and Thanks to Bob Park of Foodland for his generous discount of food costs for Fun Day.

She ended her report with a plea to please, take part in the events and volunteer. Any new ideas are welcome.

Guest Speakers

Denis Orendt Ontario Onsite Wastewater Association

Mr Orendt gave an interesting Report on Wastewater and presented a useful list of do's and don'ts relating to use of our Septic Systems. Discussion included the various options available, the costs involved, of replacement and general management of your septic system. All were encouraged to check the website for more detailed information. The Dos and Don'ts list will be posted on the association web site.

Jamie Parks Bell Canada

Mr Parks is the Broad band coordinator with the County and reviewed the areas that will receive high speed internet in 2010 in the Drag and Spruce Lake area.

Elected Officials

Derek Knowles Councillor Ward 2

Councillor Knowles reminded all that Dysart is under going a 5 year Official Plan Review and that Public Meetings will be held shortly.

Roads tour has shown that the majority of roads in the Drag Lake are in good repair the exception being Tattersall Road which needs some work, but no commitments made for 2009 or 2010.

Dysart is constructing a new 5000 sq. ft. Library of which Councillor Knowles is pleased to be on the building Committee The Library will house up to 10,000 volumes and will have a designated Children's Areas. The building is being built from provincial funding and so will not impact local taxes but the furniture and inside fixtures will be the

responsibility of the Municipality. The Committee is undertaking a fund raising campaign for these items and donations are appreciated.

Hazardous Waste Day is August 8. There is no charge to get rid of your hazardous waste that day.

Good progress is being made with recycling. More people are recycling for example cardboard recycling is up 14 %.

We now have a small composting area.

Murray Fearey Reeve

High Speed for the County is still a high priority .All areas may not be served by cable so towers will have to be considered.

Reeve Fearrey noted that the association is considering a Lake Plan, the municplaity is familiar with the FOCA (Federation of Ontario Cottage Associations) template for Lake Plans and encourages the association to consider this being used in their plan development. The Municipality will require 75% pf property owners to be in agreement with any lake plan before it would be implemented into Municipal documents.

Reeve Fearrey noted that the Waste water speaker was timely as many cottage owners are renting their cottage. While this issue is not generally a problem, please think about the number of people that are using your cottage at one time and the overall impact on your septic system. Complaints about noise, parking large number of people renting small cottages, are starting to come forward. Please be responsible.

In an effort to adjourn at Noon all speakers agreed to stay and answer questions after adjournment

AGM adjourned at 12:05

2010 AGM Sunday July 4th at 10 a.m.

Directors meeting 9 a.m.