

2018
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
THE DRAG AND SPRUCE LAKES PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION
July 8, 2018 at 9:30 AM, Haliburton Curling Club

1. Call to Order- Barb Bohlin

Welcome and Introductions: As President Karl Gonnson is working on a speedy recovery of his health and was unable to attend today, former President Barb Bohlin agreed to stand in to chair the 2018 Annual General Meeting.

Barb noted we had reached a quorum, and that the hall was full. Members are to use their blue voting cards, received on entry, for voting. Barb introduced the members of the Executive. Members who have paid were asked to pick up directories.

2 Secretary's Report – Larry Olivo

Approval of the Minutes of the 2017 Annual Meeting

MOVED, Larry Olivo, seconded Bert Bicknell, that the Minutes be accepted.

AMENDMENT moved by Barb Bohlin and seconded by Phyllis Laferle to strike out the paragraph in item 15, beginning with “and I am sorry...” and ending with “lunatic”.

MOTION, AS AMENDED, CARRIED. Accordingly the paragraph in item 15 beginning with “I am sorry...” and ending with “lunatic” is struck out, and the Minutes are accepted..

3. Treasurer’s Report- Erin Neimann

Erin reviewed and went over the Treasurer’s report as set out the 2018 Directory. The budget for the coming year is very similar to that of 2018. The year end balance is\$33,770.

MOVED Barb Bohlin, seconded, Peter Markle, that the Treasurer’s report be accepted.

MOTION CARRIED. Accordingly the Treasurer’s Report is accepted

4. Responsible Cottage Renting – Janice Bishop

Janice spoke to the membership about this issue. Janice has a background and experience in cottage rentals and tourism. She notes there are massive changes on the horizon in this area.

What appears to be happening is that internet sites are making rental information much more available to consumers. You can rent yourself, using various sites---but the sites are just advertising sites. If you are using *Airbnb* or something like it, there is no screening so you have to do that yourself. You also have to consider how many persons you can accommodate and how this may impact on your neighbours and your septic system. Once you have numbers down, you can advertise, but you have to screen attempted bookings. You need to know who is coming: names, ages, family status—Janice’s advice is: -don’t rent to groups of under 30’s. Once you have chosen a group you need to have a written contract with guidelines for use set out: who cleans the property before and after, restrictions on certain users and uses, how to deal with garbage etc. She also advised against renting out any motorized vehicles, as this increases your risk exposure. Rentals are trending so there are many renters who have no knowledge of cottage life. Talk to your neighbours so that they are aware of the rental. And consult your insurer and tell them you are renting, so that your policy is not null and void, and any insurance changes required are made prior to renting. Where an owner is constantly renting to noisy and disruptive tenants, by-law enforcement is a possible solution as are legal proceedings in civil court.

5. Presentation of Charitable Donation [Canoe Radio] -

This year’s presentation is to Canoe Radio, with its variety of programs and information for the Haliburton community. Roxanne Casey, the station manager graciously accepted the award. She noted that the station runs with volunteers with only a couple of paid staff, and provides community information and is a forum for community interaction and communication.

6. News and Updates from the County and Dysart: Mayor Murray Fearrey and Councillor Dennis Casey

Dennis Casey thanked the association for inviting him. Some good news: Frank Jones Rd and Indian Pt Rd are being brushed and repaired. Road repairs are done on the basis of road studies, and ranked based on the state of the road and its need for repair.

We also have increased costs on recycling as the market is slipping, but some of this market has been recovered. To help maintain the marketability of our dump recycling product, people are urged to be careful in sorting what they recycle, so that there is more marketable stuff coming out of the recycling deposit at our dumps.

Murray Fearrey noted that people are beginning to buy cottages as an investment for rental purposes. The town is planning to set up a registry for cottage renters, so that the town can keep track of by-law compliance.

He also noted that there are issues with internet and cell service on Drag Lake. This will probably result in a tower on the lake, and we will be working to find a suitable site.

Dysart is also starting a program of regular septic inspections, starting on Kennisis Lake. On Kennisis there was a 44% failure rate, and 26% of the failures had serious problems. Drag Lake can expect to be inspected in 2020 or 2021, but individuals can ask for an inspection before then. A full inspection with pump out is pricey but valuable and is valid for 5 years with a certificate. Murray stressed the need for shoreline by law compliance, to avoid unnecessary damage to lakes and the watershed from lawn and brush cutting. The treeline by law is being reviewed --- because inspection is difficult, there is dependence on voluntary reporting of violations, in which case the reporter's name is not revealed.

One other issue is on the horizon; there is some movement toward single tier government. However, Dysart has more restrictive environmental by laws than some areas, and amalgamation may make for a larger bureaucracy, and possibly, higher taxes.

7 Area Director's Coordinator's Reports- Barb Bohlin

Barb noted that we have an amazing group of area directors. They are listed in the directory and are first contacts with the lake association; they can transmit items of concern to the executive, accept membership fees, and provide information to members.

There are some vacancies.

Randy Giroux has volunteered to be Area Director for Quinte Tr., Tadmore Tr., Another Chance Ln., and part of Fred Jones

Dwayne & Kelly McCutcheon have volunteered to be Area Director for Outled Bay Rd., Oneida Dr., Colonization Tr., and Rodney Dr.

Many thanks!

8. Webmaster Report - Martin Rist

Website: *dragandsprucelake.ca* is used to send out and receive information. You can also pay your Association dues there on-line. There is also a Facebook site which members can ask to join to communicate with each other, and a water level site that will send you emails on water levels on the lakes. Information about the website, what it contains, and how to use it are posted on it.

Martin is also our member of the Coalition for Equitable Waterflow and noted that the dams on Drag Lake are being repaired, but the repairs are more extensive and expensive than originally planned, so that the work will take longer. However, it has no direct impact on

lowering or raising water levels from what they usually are or would be. Martin noted that graphs on the water level site show the average highs and lows, along with current and recent year actuals. It also advises of when drawdowns commence and when they will be completed. At the moment we are on the average for lake level at this time of year. There has been lobbying from the Coalition for Equitable Waterflow in recent years which has resulted in a change of policy resulting in a change to reduce drastic lowering in the Fall from 4 feet to 3 feet.

9. Summer Events- Barbara Bohlin

The list of events is set out in the 2018 Directory and on the DSLPOA website, *dragandspurcelake.ca*. Please check there for the re-scheduled Sailing Day. All of these events and activities are run by volunteers and those who would like to volunteer should contact Barb Bohlin.

10. Lake Stewards Report- Bert Bicknell

Local realtors have been asked to do a variety of environmental protective things when selling lakeshore property, including provision of an environmental DVD, encouraging a septic inspection, for example.

More attention is paid to control of septic systems to preserve lake water quality. Since the last environmental survey, there have been some noted improvements on shorelines. There were reports of what turned out to be Eurasian Milfoil near Harris beach. Members are urged not to cut or damage these beds as the weed proliferates if they are cut. If you see a cut, call Bert and leave him a message [705 457 2476]. The beds are natural, and they come and go, but the Ministry says they should be left alone.

Bert noted that the province's research and environmental services have been reduced; for the last several years information on fishery status is now word of mouth, although survey forms have been distributed. If you a fish weighing more than 2 lbs., call Bert and leave a message. There does seem to be an increase in the number of Large Mouth Bass. Bert also noted that members should consider scheduled inspections of the septic system.

A more detailed report is posted on the website link to the Annual General Meeting

11. Proposed New Constitution- Rick Wesselman

This was one of Karl Gonnsen's major projects. The current constitution dates to the mid 70's, and it was posted on the website on June 8th, as are the amendments, so members could see what it was, and what the changes are.

The new version includes Spruce Lake and Outlet Bay specifically. It expands and lists the executive positions and what the jobs entail. Quorum requirements have been updated for executive and regular meetings.

Under the amendments a quorum for a general meeting is proposed to be 4 executive and 30 members, [34] rather than a per-centage of the membership. Further changes or alternations can be made by the passage of by laws in the future, so that further changes are not ruled out by a decision made today. The by-laws, and constitution will be posted in the next directory as well as on the website as soon as possible after this meeting.

MOVED Barret Greenhow, seconded Gary Hunt, that the new constitution be accepted.

MOTION CARRIED. Accordingly the New Constitution is now in place and in force

12 Navigation Committee – Gunars Vestfals and Rick Wesselman

Rick noted that they have a worked out proposal for private buoys in accordance with federal regulations. Rick notes there are private markers already---but they are not necessarily in compliance with federal regulations. And those who place them, may be liable for damage or injury if the buoy is not in compliance with federal regulations. If we proceed, following the federal regulations, we would have an insurance rider costing \$75 per year. We would also need to have a program in place to put the buoys in in the Spring and take them out in the Fall. Rick explained there are red and green buoys to mark channels, and yellow ones to mark danger spots where you can pass on either side. Rick noted that adding buoys does not appear to result in an increase in the speed of boat traffic. Details regarding the federal regulations and the types of buoys involved can be found on the website under the link to the AGM and on the government website at:

<https://www.tc.gc.ca/Publications/en/TP14799/PDF/HR/TP14799E.pdf>

Gunars Vestfals presented the recommendations of the Committee. There were 8 members as listed in the 2017 annual meeting : Rick Wesselman, Gunars Vestfals, Frank Abbey, Stan Consky, Merla Russell, Barrett Greenhow, Darren Maloney and Les Gondor. The recommendations are for hazard buoys near the boat launch areas, but they do not intend to mark all hazards on all shorelines except where there is regular boat traffic. The locations, when determined, will be posted on our website. 14 hazard buoys would be purchased that meet the regulatory requirements. The GPS coordinates for each location would be noted. Gunars went on to describe in detail the process and materials used for installation and removal at the end of the

season. The cost of acquiring the buoys and installing them would be about \$2000.00 and the annual cost for maintaining the system would be minimal.

The 11 recommended hazard markers will be:

1. Seamount nearest shore, north of Red Rock.
- 2&3. 2 rocks, 1 east of Sand Point Public Beach and the other west of Blueberry Point.
- 4&5. At either end of weed covered sandbar, 600 feet south of Harris Beach.
6. Shoal at west end of Lazy Bay, off of point at end of Pelican Lane.
7. Rock 100 feet east of public dock and boat launch on Fred Jones Drive
8. Rocks at southwest corner of narrow passage between Outlet Bay and Spruce Lake.
9. Shoal off of southwest corner of island in Spruce Lake.
- 10 & 11. 2 stumps at public boat launch at end of Outlet Bay Road, southeast of dam.

The committee will investigate the approach to public dock and ramp for rocks, stump and logs.

There is no intent to mark the long channel along the exit from Outlet Bay. But the committee is open to considering appropriate locations other than those identified by the committee and set out here.

If this is approved, the markers should be in place for next spring, and the placement would be advertised locally, and posted on the FOCA site and our website. It will also be posted in our Directory.

A discussion ensued on placement locations, yearly maintenance, liability situations and related issues.

MOVED Rick Wesselman, seconded, Gunars Vestfels that the committee recommendations to proceed with the placement of buoys in identified areas of Drag and Spruce Lake be approved.

MOTION CARRIED Accordingly, the Committee will proceed to obtain and place the buoys in identified areas of Drag and Spruce Lake

13. Early Bird Draw- Karen Gingrich

3 prize draws: a year subscription to the *Haliburton Echo*, 2 tickets to the summer theater festival and a free DSLPOA membership.

The winners:

Larry Olivo and Joyce Moore: free 2019 membership

Tony and Susan Biglieri: subscription to the *Haliburton Echo*

Jack and Lynda Brohm- theater tickets to summer festival.

14. Other Business:

Elections- Barb Bohlin

2nd Vice President:

Nominees-none, position remains open

Member at Large:

Nominees- Rob Moore, withdrew in favour of Jim Miners

Jim Miners , acclaimed

Directory Editor Assistant: Merla Russell

Acclaimed
