

Drag and Spruce Lakes Property Owners Association
AGM Minutes
Sunday, July 1, 2007
Haliburton Curling Club

Presidents Welcome

President Barb Bohlin welcomed all to the AGM and introduced the Executive with special mention of work to the association by Dave LaFerle who pretty well did anything and everything. Past Co-President Diana Ferguson presented Dave with a gift from the association for his hard work and dedication.

Minutes

Moved by Donna McCallum

Seconded by Diana Ferguson

That the minutes of the 2006 AGM be adopted as printed in the 2007 Directory

Carried

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Bobbie Bicknell updated members as to the current financial position of the Association.

Moved By Bobbie Bicknell

Seconded by Dave LaFerle

That the Treasurer's Report as printed in the 2007 Directory be adopted

Carried

Elections

1st Vice President Phil Lapp outlined the election procedure for members and announced that the position of Treasurer is open for nomination

Carmen Colangelo's name was put forward by the 1st Vice President
Nominations were called from the floor. None came.

Moved by Barb Bohlin

Seconded by Bobbie Bicknell

That nominations close and that Carmen Colangelo will be the Treasurer of the Association, term of which to be three years.

Carried

President Barb Bohlin thanked Bobbie Bicknell for her many years as Treasurer to the Association.

Lake Stewards Report

Lake Steward Bert Bicknell referred to a copy of the Kennisis Lake Boating Guide and the Cottagers Code of Conduct drafted by Len Pizzey (a copy of each was provided to all present) and suggested that these documents be reviewed by the executive and incorporated into the 2008 Directory.

He referenced members to review the Fisheries Report as printed in the Directory. The Lake Stewardship Committee will be meeting soon with the MNR to review the spring results. There is the possibility of a hydro-acoustics study that will parallel the MNR study on the number and size of fish and the condition of the herring.

Martin Risk, member of the Coalition for Equitable Water Flow, was introduced and has agreed to sit as a member on the Lake Stewardship Committee.

Martin Risk then gave a summary of the history of the Trent Severn Waterway and how the province has come to form the Trent Waterway Panel. The Trent Severn Waterway was established 100 years ago and this area was at that time considered to be barren land and the lakes were designated as reservoir lakes. There are now 35,000 lakeside properties.

Martin is a member of the Advisory Committee and will be representing Drag Lake at the discussions regarding equitable flow and will be working with Environment Haliburton on this issue. The committee will make a presentation to the panel, which will be in our area on July 28 in Haliburton and Aug. 14 in Minden. The presentation will address the concerns of waterfront owners, fish habitat and public safety.

The Committee will be making presentations to the local councils so that the local politicians are informed of the process.

Mr. Risk thanked the association for becoming involved in this important discussion and further more by allotting \$ 5 per member to alleviate costs for professional advice.

Parks Canada has prepared a Background Study available at www.tswpanel.ca

Donation

Donna McCallum, board member for the Rails End Gallery, was pleased to accept the \$500 donation from the Association in memory of Al Ferguson. Donna had the pleasure of working with Al and reiterated that he was indeed a passionate advocate for the Rails End Gallery and in fact was still giving as his wife Diana donated all the proceeds of her recent yard sale to the Rails End. Al would be very pleased, that this money will go to Arts programming for children, something he believed the Gallery should be involved in. Donna invited all to make the Gallery a regular stop on visits to Haliburton as shows are constantly changing.

Summer Events Update

Past Co-President Dave LaFerle thanked all coordinators for their hard work and confirmed that all events are planned as printed in the Directory. Dave pointed out that volunteers are always needed and that if you would like to help to please contact the coordinator.

Dock Talk presentation

Barbara King from FOCA made a very interesting presentation about, natural shorelines, septic system maintenance, pollution prevention, enhancing habitat and invasive species. FOCA is offering Barbara's expertise to come out to properties to discuss how to incorporate the above on individual lots.

The executive will discuss signage regarding zebra mussels at launches.

Guest Speakers

President Barb Bohlin introduced Guest Speakers Councilor Derek Knowles and Reeve Murray Fearrey.

Councilor Knowles reported that good progress is being made regarding recycling and that the cottagers as a whole do a good job. . Recycling in Dysart is now mandatory; clear garbage bags are encouraged. The Council is looking at compaction of recycle material to help reduce transportation costs.

To address sign proliferation and to standardize signs in the village, sign by-law will be introduced.

Canada Post will be updating rural mail boxes along highways 118 and 121.

Kennaway Road Construction has been completed.

The bad news is the sizable property tax increase, which however, only covers the cost of doing business. It does not provide any room for moving forward. The Councilor felt that we are being treated fairly.

In response to a question from the floor on road construction, the Councilor advised that construction projects are based on the Roads Need Study.

Reeve Murray Fearrey

Trent Severn will be putting forth a presentation on the water issue. The Reeve believes that diligently fine tuning the existing system will help most concerns. Windmills will be allowed on large properties in the County, not on small water front lots.

The Reeve was disappointed in the progress of broadband implementation, as the contractor miscalculated the costing of towers. All the wiring is in and he is hopeful that government funding will finish the project.

We should be hearing and seeing an ad campaign as put forth by Eastern Ontario Wardens on property taxation. The Province of Ontario pays only \$250 more per capita, not per household, for social services, such as housing, welfare, OPP, ambulance, etc.

The rest needs to come from property taxes. That means that cottagers pay twice.

Property taxes should be for services to the property only. Question to candidates for Provincial Election should be: "What are you going to do to take the services costs off my property taxes?"

New Business

Bill Beatty spoke about the newly formed Archery Club and invited anyone interested to contact himself or the Fish Hatchery

WRAFT -President Barb Bohlin noted to members that DSPOA are members of this panel and to please to participate

All Area Directors present were asked to stand and be introduced by President Barb Bohlin

In absence of the Membership Coordinator, Bill Wilson thanked all members who had promptly sent in their association membership fees.

Adjourned at 12:05