

LAKE ST. PETER PROPERTY OWNERS' ASSOCIATION

2017 Annual General Meeting (AGM) Minutes

The 2017 AGM was held on Sunday August 6th, 2017 from 9:30 to 12:15 a.m. at the Lake St. Peter Community Centre, 5 Boulter Lake Road, preceded by a Meet and Greet at 9 a.m.

Paul Craft welcomed everyone to the AGM; close to 40 people were in attendance. Paul provided a general update on the role of the LSPPOA and stated that the association is built upon the membership and encouraged continued active participation and noted the need for feedback from members and continued support from volunteers within the association.

Paul reviewed the LSPPOA Mission Statement with those in attendance.

Mission Statement

The Lake St. Peter Property Owners' Association (LSPPOA) is a non-profit, community-based and volunteer-driven organization dedicated to the support of, and advocacy for, conservation of Lake St. Peter and Boulter Lake, their waterways and surrounding lands for present and future generations through responsible environmental stewardship.

Members are encouraged to provide feedback, if they feel revisions are required.

Paul thanked all those involved in key efforts from the executive and volunteers and noted the efforts to set-up the displays at the back of the room and make available communication materials of interest to the members.

Special thanks were extended to John Severnac for again running a very successful Annual Road Clean- Up campaign. Additionally, advance thanks to the Scanlan's and Severnac's for hosting the Annual Charity Yard Sale, where proceeds go to the Maynooth Food Bank. Meeting participants were encouraged to drop off items prior to the sale and/or participate by purchasing items. The sale is scheduled for Sat. Aug 12th and Sun. Aug 13th.

Paul also welcomed and thanked Mayor Bloom and Councillor Tracy Hagar for attending. A special thanks to Bonnie Scanlan for her dedicated efforts to get a By-Law passed on May 3rd to ban Flying Lanterns.

Paul also offered our condolences to Mayor Bloom and Tracy Hagar in the loss of their colleagues Bert Cannon and Mike Leveque over this past year.

The 2016 AGM minutes were approved.

Mayor Bloom was asked in advance to speak about how Hastings Highlands is working with the Interlake Association and to outline some hot topics that may be of interest to LSPPOA members.

Mayor Bloom praised the efforts of the Interlake Association, stating that it is a positive step forward for Hastings Highlands. She specifically mentioned the importance of FOCA and gave strong support for the Love Your Lake Program.

Mayor Bloom & Tracy Hagar's Hot Topics:

- Fireworks – At the top of many property owners associations agendas within H.H.
- Existing By-Laws are posted on the HH website <http://www.hastingshighlands.ca/index.php>
- Looking to expand beyond Flying Lanterns
- Actively consulting other lake Property Owner Associations within HH
- Spoke specifically about Baptiste Lake and firework competitions being held on multiple successive weekends
- Concern over noise and pollution these 'commercial style' displays cause
- Stated Municipality has to do something to improve the situation

- Household Hazardous Waste Days
- Very successful Hazardous Waste Day held this past Sat July 22nd
- Another one scheduled for Sat Oct 14th
- Aerosol Cans, Paint, Used Boat Oil, Old Batteries received from HH residents and cottagers
- Positive feedback from the day, well run, no lineups and HH made money on the day while providing a very valuable environmental service

- Love Your Lake Program and Watersheds Canada Demo to HH
- Encouraged residents to participate in the Love Your Lake Program
- Individuals participating in program receive free confidential report on their shoreline
- For more details, refer to www.loveyourlake.ca
- Barb King from Watersheds Canada made a presentation July 19th to HH council and members of public in attendance that was very well received

- Shoreline Buffers
- Efforts to ensure shoreline buffers are enforced are ongoing including remediation of sites that contravene existing by-law are undertaken
- Mayor encourages residents to be watchful, we are the eyes and ears of our lakes
- Limited support from MNR due to manpower issues at MNR

- Taxes

- Tracy stated that monthly tax payment options well received in HH
- Illegal Garbage Disposal
 - Tracy noted a huge problem for HH is illegal roadside or outside Waste Disposal Sites (Dumps) disposal of garbage after hours
 - Up to 150 bags a month are collected at a huge cost to HH
 - Trying to get OPP to enforce Littering By-Law - \$2000 fine
 - Reviewed existing dump hours and stated that with 9 sites in HH, the municipality has sites open every day of the week in the summer and only one day (Tuesday) where not open outside of the summer

Q & A and/or Comments from meeting attendees

- Fireworks
- Concern over impacts to creature habitat
- Many dogs are adversely impacted by fireworks
- Loons are noted to be very disturbed by fireworks
- There is a recognized movement to ban fireworks on lakes in Ontario
- Interlake Association to discuss options – mutual concern noise and pollution

- Clearcutting/Erosion
- 3 active construction sites noted on Lake St. Peter
- Are they following existing by-laws?
- Concern over boat activity
- Wake action on undercutting shorelines
- Questions raised regarding implementing no wake areas on LSP, especially small bays
- LSPPOA executive response – limited enforcement possible and will result in increased insurance costs, plus reducing boat speeds actually increases wave action
- Purchasing Shoreline Allowance
- Attendee questioned mayor why need to have both adjacent landowners sign?
- Why are neighbour's signature needed?
- Suggestion to add education materials to Tax bills
- Fireworks, Dump Hours

Membership Update - Ann Judson

Together we are stronger

Thank you to all members for your continued support as without you there would be no association! As always, a special thank you to our road captains who make multiple efforts to visit all property owners, distribute educational literature, listen to your concerns and communicate back to the executive. I encourage you to speak to your neighbours and ask that they consider joining our association. As a reminder, membership in LSPPOA brings with it automatic membership in the Federation of

Ontario Cottager's Association (FOCA).

Membership Report

We ended the year with 47 members, up from 41 the past year. In spite of the commitment of dedicated road captains and frequent call backs, many people are still missed due to varied vacation schedules. Remember that the option to pay for membership through e-transfer makes joining that much easier.

Indeed, this year's FOCA seminar once again stressed the personal approach to enlisting members to be far and away the most successful. Road captains canvass 10-12 neighbours, and additional volunteers are still needed.

The "welcome wagon" kit introduced last year was well received. Please notify me or your road captain if you become aware of a new property owner.

The educational handouts given to each property owner this year include a "Boat Clean" card, the "Help Stop the Spread of Aquatic Invasive Species" pamphlet and an updated "Help Maintain the Health of Lake St. Peter - Be a Lake Steward" letter.

HH Interlake Update – Ann Judson

The HH Interlake association comprising representatives of 7 area lakes continues to work cooperatively with HH Council to bring forward concerns with a shared voice, and seek resolution of issues. For the second straight year LSPPOA hosted and chaired the Interlake gathering, with Mayor Bloom joining us to bring updates from Council. Success was achieved in the banning of both the sale and use of flying lanterns, led by our very own Bonny Scanlan. Another mutual concern was the overuse of fireworks leading to water contamination, potential fire hazard, and noise pollution. A joint educational outreach has been started by the interlake group and HH Council.

Environmental Report – Ann Judson

Thank you Tom Scanlan, Bonny McCleery Scanlan, Larry Jones, and all of you as committed lake stewards. Our emphasis on water quality continues, with testing being conducted again this year. Through our contacts with the North Kawartha Lakes Association (NORKLA) and the Coalition of Haliburton Lakes we are gaining the benefits of their experience as we continue to move forward with our objectives. For the past 2 years Craig and I have attended NORKLA seminars on lake health, including special presentations on healthy septic systems. This year, all members were notified and invited to attend the NORKLA lake health seminar and it was gratifying to see representation from LSP

Many thanks to Tom and Bonnie Scanlan for attending the FOCA seminar last

November on behalf of our association, and to Tom for his continued water-testing under the Lake Partner program.

Concerns were raised by a number of members this year about beavers, the felling of trees on their properties, and the potential for contracting giardia (beaver fever). We have contacted MNRF for assistance. For those interested, there is a display board at the back of the room. MNRF will provide information on planning and installing beaver buffers, local naturalist and hunter organizations, and licensed trappers.

A news release as of July 28th announced Ducks Unlimited will partner with MNRF as part of Ontario's Wetland Conservation Strategy. Our lake is part of this program. <https://news.ontario.ca/mnr/en/2017/07/conserving-wetlands-to-help-fight-climate-change.html>

The continuing concern for all is ensuring we have healthy lakes and waterways. Looking ahead, we are investigating and considering the implementation of more extensive water testing procedures.

I am delighted to report that Bonny Scanlan has agreed to assume leadership of our association's environmental endeavours, and I and others look forward to working with her as a team.

Special Report – Single Use Plastics – Bonny Scanlan

Bonnie set-up a plastics bulletin board at the back of the room and referenced this in her presentation to attendees of the AGM regarding presentation on “ Plastics in the Ocean”. She encouraged residents/cottagers to consider eliminating the use of the following 5 single use plastics:

- Water Bottles – much better alternatives available, re-cycling of these single use plastic water bottles is not as high as it should be, many still make it to our landfills and sadly waterways
- Coffee Cups – use refillables
- Plastic grocery bags – many better alternatives
- Plastic straws
- K-Cups – most suppliers developing or implemented 100 % compostable cups

Since Bonnie made the presentation she noted that the Canadian Wildlife Federation (CWF) is now stepping up on the issue of single use plastics. There's is a CWF petition that can be signed.

The Canadian Wildlife Federation is committed to understanding the extent to which plastics are infiltrating our waterways and affecting the wildlife that live there. Your donation will directly support CWF's work and programs that strive so effectively to conserve Canadian aquatic species and habitats. Work such as:

- Coordinating with regional networks and specialists who respond to marine animals when they are in distress or even dead.
- Partnering with McGill University on research to understand the extent of the impacts of microplastics on wildlife in the St. Lawrence River.
- Studying the patterns of entangled Steller Sea Lions off Vancouver Island in order to identify and eliminate the cause of these terrible situations.

Each donation, no matter how small, will make a difference. Donate today.

Summary of Lake Water Testing Since 2016 AGM

The goal of the Lake Partner Program is to better understand and protect the quality of Ontario's inland lakes involving volunteer citizens in a water-based water quality program.

Tom Scanlan provided a report re:

- MNRF - Dissolved Oxygen and Temperature
- Lake Partner Program

Tom is 1 of 800 volunteers across province. Takes lake water quality sample once a month. Tom noted the visibility of the lake has not changed in 4 years. Larry Jones confirmed that the water quality has remained consistent since he was performing these tests 20 years ago. Quality of lake water still considered very good. Visibility is measured for marker of Chlorophyll and Growth, called Turbidity, which essentially is the reverse of Clarity. LSP is visible to 3 metres in depth. Based on other measures, the lake water has a natural tea stain colour.

Tom noted 550 to 600 lakes across province are monitored.

LSP stocking of a hybrid trout species stopped in 2013, yet is being monitored actively. The temperature of the water remains good quality for Trout.

The pH of LSP is 4 out of 5 which is considered healthy.

Watersheds Canada (WC) - Your Lakes, Your Rivers, Your Future

WC is a registered Canadian charity committed to protecting and enhancing lakes and

rivers across the country. For more than 15 years WC has been working with land owners, communities and organizations to keep our fresh waters healthy, beautiful, and available for generations to come. That's why WC created both the Love Your Lake and The Natural Edge programs to provide the tools and guidance we need to make a difference. The first program was developed by WC and the Canadian Wildlife Federation, and provides lake association owners with a customized, personalized and confidential non-regulatory report of their shoreline and recommendations for good stewardship compliance. The second program delivers a personalized planting plan to best meet the needs of each property owner and provides hands-on help with a 75% financial subsidy. Our association is looking ahead to investigating both of these programs.

www.watersheds.ca

Invasive Species

We all agree that we love our lakes and waterways, and are growing to understand invasive species are a threat to our waters. Are we waiting for a crisis? It is already here. We have a choice to sit by passively waiting for government to act, or we use the tools we have and take action to save our lakes. The government has already given us the tools through the Invasive Species Program by providing special educational programs and pamphlets, and by monitoring and mapping of invasive species. Educating ourselves and businesses is a vital step in developing an action plan. This year each owner has received a pamphlet outlining the spread of invasive species, as well as a "Boat Clean" card. Larry Jones attended a research conference in Ottawa with the resonating message "Breaking the Chain of Movement". Each of us can participate by ensuring our boats, motors, canoes, etc. are washed down and bilges emptied before transferring to another water body.

This past year the Ontario Invading Species Awareness Program worked with the OPP to educate and promote best boat-cleaning practices. In June 2017 the Bancroft Times reported zebra mussels on Clark Lake, which supplies water to the town, This occurrence further illustrates the need for a pro-active educational approach to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species.

Our association, with the help of additional volunteers, hopes to expand the invasive species messaging to lake businesses and the provincial park encouraging the installation of a wash station for boaters while at the same time providing educational material.

Bare-root Tree Stock

The Bancroft Area Stewardship Council (BASC), a non-profit organization, has provided a pamphlet for all AGM attendees titled "Nature Discovery". BASC offers a tree and shrub program each spring that provides low cost native seedlings to local land owners for a variety of purposes including reforestation, shoreline naturalization, and wildlife

habitat creation. This is an excellent value for those wishing to order native trees, shrubs, shoreline bundles and upland bundles. For more information, call 613-332-1513 or www.bancroftstewardship.ca

Notices, via email are sent out by the LSPPOA. Orders are typically due in November, for pick-up the following April.

Finance Report – Craig Judson

As Ann has already pointed out, 2017 membership increased over the prior year to 47 from 41. In dollar terms, revenues increased \$150 to \$1,175 from \$1,025 in 2016. Our general liability insurance coverage consumed \$594 or slightly over 50% of membership fees, while F.O.C.A. membership absorbed another \$260 or 22%. In addition to a new charge by Hastings Highlands of \$50 for the use of this facility for our AGM, other expenses included hosting the HH Interlake meeting, environmental support, website maintenance and bank fees. We also actively and financially supported the local community's road clean-up campaign in May 2016 whereby volunteers walk assigned sections of Highway 127 from the LSP Community Centre to Maynooth and back, picking up trash along the way, and hosted a "thank you" BBQ party for the volunteers in June. We have already repeated this support in the current fiscal year. In summary, total expenditures of \$1,215 equaled our opening bank balance while exceeding our revenues by \$40, resulting in a closing balance at April 30, 2017 of approximately \$1,175, an amount equal to our 2016/2017 membership revenue.

In addition to paying your annual membership dues by mail, at meetings, or at the time of a door-to-door visit by your road captain, please consider using your bank's online Interac e-Transfer facility. Instructions for the use of online payment of dues were included in an email to members earlier this spring and also appear on the annual dues invoice. Use of e-Transfer is free, whereas the bank charges for making over-the-counter deposits of cash and cheques. I would encourage everyone to use this method when paying your annual membership dues

Copies of the Treasurer's Report (i.e. financial statement) are available on request.

Status of Algonquin Land Claim

Last year (October 18th, 2016) a non-binding Agreement in Principle (AIP) was signed by the Government of Canada, the Government of Ontario, and the Algonquin's of Ontario, paving the way for continued negotiations towards a final agreement. It will likely be many years before such an agreement is reached and in place.

In addition to the transfer of some 117,500 acres of provincial crown land in eastern Ontario (including a parcel of land abutting the east side of Lake St. Peter), the Algonquin's are to receive \$300 million in funding from the 2 governments. The AIP was shaped by consultation with 10 Algonquin's of Ontario communities, other indigenous groups, along with public and stakeholder consultations.

Other Business - Questions /Comments Raised by Attendees

- How many homes/cottages on LSP/ Boulter
 - About 225 to 250
 - Details need for more volunteers
- How to increase membership in LSPPOA
 - Membership drive focused on 1 month blitz
 - Provide quick synopsis of meeting minutes to perspective members in kits
 - Concern over leaving materials when no one present when canvasser visits
 - Posting literature at area businesses – need to be diligent as these materials regularly disappear
 - Suggestion to include Liquor store in Maynooth
 - Acquire Sandwich Board for LSPPOA activities
 - Tracy mentioned could apply for TD Grant to pay for this and possibly other signage
 - Add AGM meeting date to Tax Bills for Property Owner's Associations
- Provide Contact Info of LSPPOA members?
 - To comply with privacy laws, not able to provide Members email, but executive will consider providing list of names to members
- Meeting participants were asked whether the AGM could be scheduled on a non-holiday or non-long weekend
 - An ad-hoc poll of raising hands indicated about 50 % people in attendance preferred this option
 - This is a difficult decision as it will not meet everyone's wishes
 - Caution was noted that other nearby HH Lake Property Owner Associations moved their AGM to similar dates and had a fall-off in meeting participation
 - The LSPPOA executive will follow up with a poll to gauge interest and seek alternative dates
- Attendee asked whether LSPPOA executive would consider adopting a Fireworks position
 - Suggestion is to let the Interlake Association discuss this issue further

Election of 2018-2020 LSPPOA Executive

Paul reviewed the LSPPOA Constitution with those in attendance. No issues with it were raised by attendees.

Nominations:

Current president Paul Craft nominated Geoff Aldworth for President for the 2018-2020 term.

Don Richardson – Seconded, Vote confirmed by meeting participants

Geoff thanked Paul for his dedication and commitment to LSPPOA and noted Paul has been a member of the Executive since its inception 5+ years ago. Geoff re-iterated what Paul had said earlier that the LSPPOA has evolved from its early days, which had a primary focus on the Algonquin Land Claim. Geoff noted that the LSPPOA will continue to evolve. Geoff also urged others you know to become Ambassadors of the Association and actively consider Volunteering.

Paul then noted that the Positions of Vice-President and Secretary are also open.

Geoff listed qualities looking for in a Vice- President – concerned lake resident/property owner willing to put forth ideas that will better existing circumstances as well as outlining time commitments. The executive typically conducts 3 to 4 conference calls per year, 1 face to face meeting and is actively participates and/or supports worthy causes including the Annual Road Clean-Up and BBQ, and a Charity Yard Sale, where all proceeds go to the Maynooth Food Bank, put on through tireless efforts by the Scanlan's and Severnac's.

No name was put forth for Vice-President

Additionally, no one offered to assume the role of the Secretary. Shawn stated that the Executive needs new individuals to help the LSPPOA evolve. In the absence of no nominations, the role of VP remains vacant. All interested candidates are encouraged to contact someone on the current Executive to discuss this position further.

As for the Secretary position, Shawn Kelleher was nominated and seconded and voted carried to continue on in this role.

Additional Notes:

The 2017 Interlake Meeting Minutes will be forwarded to LSPPOA members shortly.

Adjournment

At about 12:15 a.m. the meeting was adjourned.
