# LAKE ST. PETER PROPERTY OWNERS’ ASSOCIATION (LSPPOA)

## 2020 Annual General Meeting (AGM) Minutes

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## General Update (Geoff Aldworth, President LSPPOA)

The 2020 AGM was held on Sunday September 6th, from 9:00 to 10:45 a.m. Geoff Aldworth welcomed everyone to the 8th Annual LSPPOA AGM, held outdoors in the parking lot of the Porterville Diner. 41 people were in attendance. He noted the special social distancing set-up required to meet Covid-19 protocols. He also thanked everyone in attendance for adhering to these requirements and for coming out on a busy Labour Day weekend. Geoff specifically thanked the Porterville Diner for letting us use their grounds to conduct this truncated but face to face AGM.

To assist with this truncated AGM, specific portfolio reports, except for the Interlake Report were sent out in advance of this meeting to all members. All Reports are included here:



Geoff introduced the LSPPOA executive and the key portfolio coordinators, recognized the tireless efforts of John Severinac, Tom and Bonny Scanlan, and John and Liz Doherty.

Geoff noted that due to Covid-19, many planned LSPPOA activities for 2020 including the Road Clean-up and Thank-you BBQ, the Annual Yard Sale, a summer social and a planned golf tournament had to be cancelled due to Covid-19.

Geoff thanked Bonny Scanlan and Ann Judson for their tireless efforts on behalf of the association, in addition to their work on their respective portfolios (Environment and Membership) and the Interlake Committee.

Geoff put out a motion to approve the 2019 AGM Minutes, which were circulated last August. Paul Craft, seconded by John Severinac.

Geoff thanked John Severinac for all his work on the LSPPOA website, as well as his efforts on the Annual Yard Sale. Geoff then thanked Lisa Kelleher for her efforts establishing an updated website ([https: //lakestpeterassoc.com](https://www.lakestpeterassoc.com/)).

Additional thanks extended to all the Road Captains, as well as Ted and Diane Windmoller for their efforts on the Welcome Wagon.

Geoff referenced the recent Summer President’s letter that was sent out to the LSPPOA membership making specific reference to feedback we have received from members. He highlighted concerns raised over antics on Personal Watercraft and the issue of Boat Wakes. Both of these have been addressed in previous AGM’s. He noted a comment received on the need to repair Potholes on Lake St. Peter Road. The LSPPOA executive reached out to HH and the Potholes were repaired shortly afterwards. Geoff encouraged members to pick up the phone and call the Township themselves over any concerns they may have, while also contacting the LSPPOA.

He then addressed concerns raised earlier in the summer over fireworks/fire-ban contraventions. Geoff noted that the appropriate response is to contact the HH By-Law Officer. The LSPPOA held discussions with the Lake St. Peter Provincial Park Superintendent in an effort to clarify why Provincial Parks are out of sync with Municipal/County Fire-bans. This issue is as yet unresolved.

Geoff, with support from Larry Cramer, urged members to donate to the local Foodbank, which is being supported by local businesses (Linkies, West Pines, Porterville Diner, and Lake St. Peter Building and Supply). Donations can also be dropped off at the Scanlan’s (202A Centre Road) during the Labour Day weekend.

Geoff noted the background that led to the formation of the current LSPPOA dates back to wanting to understand the implications of the Algonquin Land Claim. Geoff stated we are lucky to have an area resident (Bob Craftchick) as a member of the negotiating team to help keep the LSPPOA informed and are supportive of his efforts. As the Land Claim is a long, ongoing process, there is little news to pass along to membership at this time.

Geoff reviewed the LSPPOA Mission Statement which focuses on Environmental Stewardship / Water Quality:

### 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 the conservation of Lake St. Peter and Boulter Lake, their waterways and surrounding lands for present and future generations through responsible environmental stewardship.

## Tom Scanlan, Vice President

Tom gave thanks to:

* People in attendance, for showing up and participating in the LSPPOA
* Geoff – for his continued leadership, calm approach and common sense
* Porterville Diner – for the use of their grounds
* Local businesses – encouraged members to support these businesses wherever and whenever possible
* Aboriginal peoples, recognizing that we stand on their hereditary lands.
* All donors to the food bank drive for both their monetary and dry good gifts

## Ann Judson, Membership / Interlake Committee Chair

Please see the attached Membership and Interlake Reports.

### Membership

Ann noted efforts of all the Road Captains, especially in such challenging times. Ann mentioned the great response to using Interac to renew your membership. She also highlighted the updated website ([https: //lakestpeterassoc.com](https://www.lakestpeterassoc.com/)) and encouraged anyone who has not yet looked at it to do so and please provide feedback. Ann thanked Lisa Kelleher for her efforts making this website a reality and also thanked Bonny Scanlan for input and review during its development.

### Interlake

Ann noted that Covid-19 impacted the Interlake Committee like everyone else this year. The usual all-day face to face meeting held each summer had to be re-scheduled. This meeting will now be held virtually in October, 2020.

Update since AGM meeting held – the previously vacant HH Planner Position has recently been filled with the incumbent starting in early October.

## Bonny McCleery-Scanlan, Environment

Bonny Scanlan is the Environment Co-ordinator for the LSPPOA as well as for the HH Interlake Committee.

Please see the attached Environment Report, which highlights:

* Lake Partner Program
* Aquatic Invasive Species
* Fire-ban
* Fish Stocking
* Invasive Species – Gypsy Moth
* Noise and Fireworks By-Law
* Turtles
* Feeding Wild Animals
* Road Clean-Up
* Community Outreach – Food Bank

Fish Hatchery is a volunteer-run agency, not operated by MNRF. Due to Covid-19, it is hurting financially e.g. typically receives $17,000 in funding through fundraising efforts, which was not possible this year.

## Questions raised during Environment presentation:

1. How was/is the new noise/fireworks by-law communicated?

Answer – Via posters, HH website and LSPPOA facebook and website, advertised in some local businesses. Ensure other property owner users aware of By-Laws.

1. How do you raise a complaint re: HH by-Law violations and what were the Interlake objectives in supporting a by-law?

Answer – Contact HH By-Law Officer; online complaint forms are on the HH website. The objective was to reduce frequency of use of fireworks, in line with the adjacent municipalities.

1. How is the health of Lake St. Peter /Boulter Lake tested?

Answer – Through the Lake Partner Program (Ministry of Environment – Dorset) – Spring Water samples – Program paused this year due to Covid-19. Water clarity testing ongoing throughout the year, via Secchi Disk Testing which tests water turbidity. Lake St. Peter results remain consistent with previous years, indicating a healthy lake.

1. Is Lake St. Peter currently being stocked with fish?

Answer – The last stocking was done in 2014. Teddy Windmoller will investigate a perceived scarcity of fish.

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## Finance (Craig Judson, Treasurer)

Please see the attached Finance Report.

Craig noted during the AGM that there are currently 72 property owners that have renewed and/or paid their 2020 membership dues. Of these, 52 did so via Interac. For those who currently have not renewed their membership, please do so.

## Question and Answer / New Business

1. Larry Cramer - Crimebeat – How to inform property owners of potential issues related to break and enters and other property damage? Answer – Via website, Facebook (there are a number of local Facebook sites including LSPPOA, Linkies and Lake St. Peter Community, Via LSPPOA – will circulate information)
2. Ericka Gabel suggested property owners check their insurance policies to verify they have coverage, even in off-season, if road access is not maintained
3. Jane Bunnett wanted to gauge property owner’s feelings regarding properties being used as Air B&B’s. Answer - This issue is on the Interlake radar. If a property owner has a specific concern, they can contact Air B&B – especially useful if the rented property is run by a Superhost as complaints affect their ratings.
4. John Doherty expressed concern about the posted speed limit of 50 km on Lake St. Peter Road and suggested it be reduced to 40 km. It was noted that pedestrians near the Provincial Park, tight curves and reduced visibility are of grave concern. He further suggested the posted speed limit on Hwy 127 within the Lake St. Peter community be reduced from 80 km to 60 km (similar to other hamlets in HH). Subsequently it was noted highway speed limits within the municipality are set via by-law, often in response to local concerns.
5. John Doherty and Dennis Borin raised concerns regarding boat wakes and speed through the narrows. What can the Association do? This is a hot topic, but due to insurance liability and enforcement issues, the placement, maintenance and monitoring of buoys and “no-wake” signs is not viable. Enforcement falls to the OPP. The OPP has an irregular presence on our lakes; 3 times in 2019 and only twice in 2020 (to date) on Lake St. Peter. The LSPPOA cannot report infractions because it becomes hearsay, but individuals can do so on their own. Further, social media alerts property owners of the OPP presence. Paul Craft suggested there should be a balance between education and enforcement. The Association should focus on education regarding boating etiquette and best practices. It was suggested boating etiquette info be a feature of the May 2021 door-to-door membership canvass.

*Note: The Coast Guard website states that “in the event of an accident involving a private navigation aid, the person(s) owning that aid may be held liable for any damages resulting from the negligent operation and/or maintenance of the aid”.*

1. Jackie Shannik asked what is the status of the Lake St. Peter Firehall? Answer – LSPPOA received and circulated last year the first ever Annual Report on Firehalls within HH. Due to Covid-19, HH Council established an ad-hoc committee to review the Fire Chief’s report and make recommendations to Council. Based on discussions within council meetings, this is a complex issue impacting all of Hasting Highlands’ fire services. Geoff suggested individuals concerned about the status of the LSP Firehall should directly contact HH and voice their concerns. The Executive will continue to monitor this issue and keep members informed (see the LSPPOA website for the full report)

Geoff thanked everyone for attending and put out a motion to close the meeting. Tom Scanlan, seconded by Ted Windmoller.