



Otty Lake Association

Board Meeting Minutes

Saturday, May 24, 2014

8:30 - 10:15 a.m. (McMartin House)

Present: Phil Anderson, Dave Bell, Robert Cosh, Ginger Hay, Barb Hicks, Karen Hunt, Murray Hunt, Cathy Kari, Bill McLeish, Gail Read

Regrets: Chris Harrison, Roger Nuttall, Anne Scotton, Peter Siemons, Rick Stojak

Chair's Report and Associated Updates:

Robert Cosh

- Welcome was extended to the Board at 8:35 a.m.
- Lake clothing was mentioned as a responsibility requiring new leadership. This will now be handled by Ginger Hay. Thanks to Shari Beattie for her past assistance in this regard.

Approval of Minutes:

Gail Read

- Approved as updated by email (in the 30 days following the past meeting) with a special thanks to Barb Hicks for maintaining the last minutes for January 18, 2014

Treasurer's Report:

Dave Bell

- Budget Update
 - Updates were provided in hard copy by Dave Bell.
 - Comments include:
 - Money received regarding the fish habitat project has been paid directly to the covering of costs by our partner and not to OLA for forwarding.
- Budget Proposal for AGM sharing
 - We are pushing towards the \$6000 limit and Dave would like us to consider ending the discount as of 2015, as this was a short time incentive. Excess money has been spent and Revenue Canada has accepted our 2013 return. We want to maintain money that is spent in conjunction with our partners to support important Otty Lake initiatives.
 - Motion: "After this year we shall return the annual fees back to \$20." Proposed by Dave Bell and seconded by Phil Anderson. Carried.
- Fees
 - A good response has been received from residents to date.
 - Additional costs to be considered by the OLA Board

- Motion: "OLA will allocate \$300 as an honorarium to Ron Zinn to revamp our website." Proposed by Barb Hicks and seconded by Phil Anderson. Carried
- Budget input for the 2014 document will be added and circulated by Dave via email for online voting.

Environment Committee

Lake Steward Report

Murray Hunt

- Sampling began 3 days after the ice came out. The first Lake Partner sampling has been completed by Derek Smith and Murray Hunt. A grant has been awarded to RVCA in order to study the conditions in the lakes that lead to significant or profuse algae blooms and conditions that can be addressed to improve this situation.
- We have experienced the highest water levels in 30 years with the high point measured on April 16, 2014. These levels have receded by 25 cm as of May 23, 2014. There is no need to be alarmed. Many nutrients will have been added in a short time due to the heavy rainfalls but it has been noted that the nutrients flowing out of the lake are also high. The intensity of rainstorms is a major factor impacting the level of nutrients (eg. intense thunderstorms) as the vegetation is incapable of stopping the water and absorbing the nutrients into their roots.
- Ice out was recorded as April 25th 2014 which is one day earlier than the standing record as maintained by Susan Trower of Echo Bay.

Environmental Committee changes are being made as David Reesor the most recent chair, has resigned. Derek Smith who has been a hydrogeologist and has agreed to assume this role.

- This will become an informal group of people includes members from the OLA Board as well as other residents.
- A quote has been sought from Cachusum for water sampling for all interested residents of the lake. The discounted rate will be approximately \$100.01 per sample assessed. Murray Hunt concurs with Derek Smith's proposal that this is a very good idea that would provide a great deal of information to residents including nutrients, E-coli, chemical composition. This process should be done every two or more years. Please note that this testing of ground water doesn't replace regular testing of well water. Derek has the experience and background to provide some insight to the results for residents who are interested.

Land Use

Shared by Gail Read on behalf of Peter Siemons

- The ongoing property issue continues but additional landscaping has occurred in the form of substantial rock wall building. This will be reviewed by Peter upon his return.

- Karen Hunt reported that D/NE shared good news in regards to the septic tank re-inspections, noting that they will take action to inspect the remaining septic systems where owners have refused to participate in the inspection process.
 - The Township has stated that it is important for lake associations to attend their meetings and have representative opinions heard.

Communications Committee

Barb Hicks

- Report of Committee: newsletter, website, updates
- At this point, Rick will be departing from the website and Barb will be assuming the maintenance of this facet of communication.
 - Ron Zinn will revamp our website and will be paid an honorarium.
 - *My Highspeed Networks Incorporated* as the server will be reviewed
 - A home page and table of contents will be redeveloped. A push-out will be further developed.
 - Will keep current titles with new additions. Consultation is welcome by Barb who will share with Cathy.
 - The development of a Facebook page is recommended as a site has been started which we don't administer. This can be a closed group such as Bob's Lake where over 230 people participate. This will be set up as an OLA site. Cathy and Gail will monitor a Facebook Group where people who are OLA members can ask to join.
 - The newsletter is three days behind. Robert and Karen will edit this edition early next week before forwarding to print.

Social Committee

Reported by Gail Read on behalf of Chris Harrison

- The current committee initiative is in regards to the OLA BBQ
- Responsibilities were shared as follows and responses are needed directly to Chris should there be any concerns: Food planning/water/pop (Gail Read and Ginger Hay), BBQ (Dave Bell), tarp (Roger Nuttall), coffee/ Lake 88.1 ads (Robert Cosh), prizes (Chris Harrison), EMC (Barb Hicks), outdoor signage (Murray Hunt and Ian McDonald)
- Planning meeting will follow.

Membership Committee

Phil Anderson

- Comments were deferred until the Board and Counselors Meeting

Lake Plan Action Committee

Karen Hunt

- 5 Year Review status update and comments from partners
 - Karen clarified that this is a review report rather than a strategic plan which the OLA Board could take forward if so decided. An update has been shared with Board members and the Townships. The 5 Year Review has been shared with our partners and feedback received. The Watershed comments

were not included as OLA didn't agree with these statements. RVCA has questioned the shoreline planning and additional information will be provided to these folks by Karen and added as an Appendix for OLA future planning. A similar process will be followed by Karen for other partner requests for information and inclusion in the document. Wally's observations were questioned so Karen has responded by altering the document to include "personal observations".

- Motion: "This document will be posted as a draft on the OLA Website and taken to the AGM for approval by the membership." Proposed by Karen Hunt and seconded by Gail Read. Carried.
- The LPAC Report to the Board has been distributed. No questions were directed to Chair Karen.

Other Business

- Board Succession/Slate of Officers Karen Hunt, Robert Cosh
 - Rick Stojak and David Reesor are stepping down from the OLA Board
 - Motion: "The names of Christine Kempster and Derek Smith will stand for election at this year's AGM." Proposed by Robert Cosh and seconded by Dave Bell.
 - After the AGM, Karen stated that she plans to step down from day-to-day basis projects with the OLA Board, including the Lake Plan Action Committee. She will continue as Past President and other specific roles as requested.
- FOCA and RVCA updates shall be sent to all Board Members: Gail will assume this responsibility and forward such emails as are directed to the OLA email address to all members of the OLA Board as they are published in the future.
- Questions that could be distributed to the candidates in the area for preparation as well as questions to be directed during the meetings are welcomed by members. Frank Mills from the Mississippi Lake Association wonders if some lakes would be interested in hosting an *all-candidates* meeting.
 - Questions and answers could be posted on our lake websites as a part of the communication.

Adjournment at 10:20 a.m.

Next Meeting: July 12, 2014 AGM