



# Otty Lake Association

## Board Meeting Minutes

Saturday, January 31, 2015, 10 am

The Kilburn Home

**Present:** Phil Anderson, David Bell, Robert Cosh (President), Ginger Hay, Barb Hicks, Karen & Murray Hunt, Cathy Kari, Christine Kilburn (Secretary), Ian McDonald, Roger Nuttall, Gail Read, Anne Scotton, Peter Siemons(14)

**Regrets:** Derek Smith, Bill McLeish

**Welcome** - Robert called the meeting to order at 10:15 am

- Robert thanked everyone for coming, and Christine and Reid for hosting.
- Robert thanked everyone for following the document distribution process, and taking the time to read and comment on the items being broadcast prior to the meeting.
- **Agenda** - Add Murray's report, and discuss legacy trees.

**NOTE:** These minutes do not capture the details of all the excellent discussion which took place. They summarize the results of those discussions. Thanks to all who participated and created thought provoking conversation.

**AGM Planning - Robert** - The AGM will take place on Sat July 11 at the Legion.

- Dave has booked the Legion.
- Dave will check to ensure the huge screen is available for our use.
- Robert will contact Tiger Tanner for A/V.
- Gail, Robert, Dave Bell and Christine are the key organizers of the AGM.
- Invite our 2 townships, OPP, Fire Department, other Community Partners to have displays. OLA will direct membership to read these organizations' reports on websites, then post any questions on the OLA website. Our partners will be given the questions and can then be prepared to answer them at their display locations.
- The agenda will consist of what the OLA is doing. There should be reports about:
  - shoreline naturalization,
  - water quality,
  - fish enhancement,
  - shoreline planting,
  - paddle power.
- Saturdays are precious. Keep the meeting to the advertised time slot.
- Consider having a social aspect, e.g. a corn roast, a hot dog truck, after meeting.
- Make it clear that this year's AGM format is different to attract new people.

**Election - Robert - Motion 2015-01-01** (Anne/Cathy) That Karen chair the Nominating Committee, with Christine, possibly David Reesor, Phil Anderson, Dave Bell on the committee. **CARRIED**

- We have to attract new, young people.
- It might be worthwhile to send an e-mail to OLA members, promoting the idea of joining the Board, and asking for volunteers.
- Karen indicated that the second year is ending for 9 members of the Board.
- Dave and Phil indicated they will not be renewing their membership on the Board.
- An e-mail will be sent to all Board members, asking if they will stay on the Board for another year. Karen sent this note out the evening of this meeting.
- Karen will ask David Reesor if he'd be willing to join the Nominating Committee.
- Dave indicated he would consider maintaining the database. Cathy would be willing to help.
- Robert suggested a slogan of Building on our Strengths.
- Barb suggests new applicants should be on a committee first. She might mention that in her letter looking for candidates for the Board.

**Financial Report - Dave -**

- The Corporate tax filing has been sent to the CRA.
- The 2014 Financials indicate a bank balance of \$305.34. However, Newsletter bills applicable to 2014 of \$563.01 were received and paid in 2015. These will be reflected in the 2015 actuals and the budget must be increased from \$1,000 to \$2,000 to cover the 2014 costs, and similar costs in 2015.
- Dave will take \$1,700 out of the GIC and deposit it in the bank account.
- **Motion 2015-01-02** (Anne/Phil) Approve the 2014 financial report and the 2015 budget, with an increase of \$1,000 to the Newsletter item. **Friendly amendment** - per Murray, the Water Quality testing costs should be increased from \$1,500 to \$1,700, to cover additional nutrient testing. **CARRIED**

**LAP Update - Ian -** Ian reviewed the LAP chart he circulated prior to this meeting. In addition to that list, there will be a Perennial Plants sale at Maple Glen on Sep 5<sup>th</sup>. It is a fund raiser for the OLA, being organized by Evelyn Dore. Water testing will also be an activity going through LAP.

- Ian is the Chair of LAP, bringing projects to the Board.
- Any individuals with project ideas come to LAP with a project plan, including information on expected results, and a budget. The persons who have a project are part of Ian's team. Any OLA projects are under this one umbrella. It is a virtual group, which operates by e-mail. LAP facilitates combining projects if they benefit one another. LAP also ensures there is no duplication of effort.

**State of the Lake - Murray -** Murray reviewed the report on Water Quality Measurement which he had sent out prior to the meeting. He and Derek are doing

additional nutrient testing over and above what the RVCA does. Since 2012, the OLA is also testing where water flows in to our lake from streams, to obtain a greater understanding of the dynamics of nutrient loading at Otty.

Murray also reviewed his report related to RVCA testing, e.g. taking nutrient sampling at 1 m from bottom, and at 1 m intervals.

Results - Murray offered to send a large spreadsheet of water quality testing results going back to the beginning of testing to anyone who is interested.

Karen mentioned that invasive species existed back in the '70's. Tracking information is available. Anyone interested should google EDD MAP S then go to the website, click on Ontario, where the information on invasive species can be found.

Anne thanked Murray for all his work.

**Robert for Derek** - all had received Derek's list. Robert pointed out that Derek will fund his projects out of his own pocket. Robert mentioned that we had heard about algae and aquatic growth at Lake Links. Core samples show high algae content, even pre European settlement. Therefore it's not our fault, though we may be contributing with our septic systems, etc. We must continue to participate in testing to get a good understanding. Shoreline planting is definitely good. We now need to measure how many plants are surviving, etc.

**Community Partners - Anne** - By reviewing the Otty Lake Management Plan she found mention of 22 partners. Christine indicated that during her review of the 5 Year Plan Review, she had summarized 29 partners. Anne was wondering who is the focal point for these relationships? Karen has been diligent in her work with partners. Discussion took place re possible organizational structures to ensure these relationships are maintained and developed. **Notice of Motion (Anne/Karen)** Establish a Lake Liaison Group, discussing the format and nature of the organization at the next meeting. In preparation for that discussion, Christine will send out a summary of her Community Partners chart.

**Summer Information Package - Barb** - There was considerable conversation about including the State of the Lake brief pamphlet discussed at the last meeting. Robert and Murray will get in touch with Derek since his input is required. Anne offered to assist in producing this in a simple language everyone can understand. Murray will let Anne know once he's gotten in touch with Derek.

Barb pointed out that the reports in the Summer Information Package should keep in mind that for many, this is the only information owners read. It should be a popularized version. This is the package counsellors will deliver when visiting owners. It's a great time to advertise what the OLA has done, and attracts members.

**Otty Family Picnic - Gail** - the date of July 25<sup>th</sup> is dependant on the entertainer's availability. The Board agreed we would charge a minimal fee for picnic attendees, perhaps \$2 to \$3/person. Gail's goal is to get picnic costs down to \$300. Prizes can be freezies. Karen suggests we have educational displays at the picnic. We need more of the walks in

the woods with Roger, the BioBlitz, etc. For the picnic, Roger will do the parachute again. Ginger has offered to help with food. Gail thanked them both. If Ry Guy Magic falls through, Gail will get in touch with Rebecca of the RVCA, who manages Foley Mountain. Ray's Reptiles is another option. Lots of games develop kinship with the families. Voyageur Canoes would be great to get. But they may charge more than \$250. Gail and Barb think there is too much paperwork with liability concerns. Dave will check with Maple Glen for use of their waterfront for the picnic.

**Shoreline planting - Gail** - Wildflowers - until Philip Fry sees the impact of winter damage, he can't say how many plants will be available. Shrubs - willows are included, since trimming by deer is healthy and generates new growth. This year, the charge will be \$4/shrub, no longer 3 for \$10 option. Gail and Ev will be encouraging feedback on what is working, growing, flourishing. They are willing to go to homes and provide advice.

**Land Use Report - Peter** - The material Peter sent out dealt with 3 minor variances in D/NE, 1 rezoning in Tay Valley. He thinks D/NE approved all 3 but hasn't heard definitively. TVT approved the rezoning. The Lau's got most of what they wanted. All properties could benefit from shoreline planting. Karen suggests Peter should refer them all to the RVCA Shoreline Naturalization Program (Andrea Klymko). When the townships approve changes, often one of their conditions for acceptance is shoreline planting. The Conservation Authority also stipulates planting. They always do follow ups but it appears they do not insist on the completion of shoreline planting. Because of the excellent relationships which have been developed with the Townships and the RVCA, we can pick up the phone and talk to them about ensuring the shoreline plantings are being implemented. Peter makes recommendations related to properties on his own. He would feel much better if he could circulate his comments to the OLA Board for input prior to submitting to the Townships. In future, he will circulate to the Board.

**Shoreline Survey Update - Karen** - Prior to the meeting, Karen had sent out a summary of the background, the program delivery, follow up opportunities, current status and next steps. The day prior to this meeting, Karen received the 26 page **draft** report from Kelsey Jensen who is managing the Love your Lake program for Watersheds Canada (formerly Centre for Sustainable Watersheds). It is now a national organization. Karen brought copies of 2 draft handouts for each of us. The first was a SNAPSHOT of the results. There are Stewardship recommendations under each category. Three priorities were established.

The second handout was a comparison of the data gathered in the 1987, 2005 and 2013 shoreline surveys. There are numerous reasons why we are comparing apples and oranges, e.g. changes in technology, availability of information. From the information on the charts, it's clear that we are moving in the right direction, e.g. from 3% to 0% degraded properties, ornamental 46% to 36%. Based on this, Karen recommends that a map, which has been discussed in the past, is not required.

To share this information, in addition to posting the final report on the website (there is still much to be done before the final version is ready), a summary should be prepared for the Summer Information Package, to develop an interest in going to the website to see the entire report. Karen will e-mail the draft summary reports, as well as the entire draft report to Board members. (This was done on the evening of this meeting day.)

Robert suggested that the OLA include a one pager for the townships to give out to anyone who requests a building permit. It would educate them on the community they live in. Gail proposed the townships, as part of the process, should be provided with the State of the Lake report.

**Legacy Trees - Robert** - Robert explained that this is a TVT initiative, in preparation for the 2016 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Roger informed us that there is a maple tree at the Scout Camp which is about 7 feet in diameter. 20 feet up it is broken off with shoots going up. This tree is probably about 500 years old. Gail said we have old pines around the lake which are over 200 years old. TVT are looking for pictures, stories of these trees. They may issue certificates to the owners. Robert will circulate the TVT e-mail about Legacy Trees to Board members.

**Next meetings** - McMartin House on Sat May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Board will meet at 9 am. Board and Counsellors will meet from 10:30 to noon.

Board Meeting - June 13<sup>th</sup> 9:30 am to noon at the Hunt's.

**Adjournment** - The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 pm.