

DRAFT

Otty Lake Association Annual General Meeting Sunday July 9, 2023 2:00-4:00 pm

MINUTES

Past President Reid Kilburn chaired the meeting. Before moving into the agenda, Mr. Kilburn provided a land acknowledgment. Mr. Kilburn honoured and acknowledged that the meeting was taking place on the ancestral and traditional lands of the Algonquin Anishinaabe people, and spoke to the importance of truth and reconciliation with our indigenous communities.

Agenda

Reviewed by Mr. Kilburn. **Motion** (Anne Scotton/Barb Hicks) – that the Agenda be approved as distributed.
CARRIED

July 7, 2022 AGM Minutes

Presented by Mr. Kilburn. **Motion** (Jennifer O'Donoghue /Kevin Terrion) – that the July 7, 2022 AGM minutes be approved as distributed. **CARRIED**

Financial Report Presentation

Mr. Kilburn introduced the OLA Treasurer, Ms. Jen O'Donoghue, who then gave the financial report.

- **2022 Income Statement** – Ms. O'Donoghue presented the 2022 Income Statement. Financial expenditures last year were made on the Shoal Marker project, the Blanket Exercise and the Nature Flotilla.
- **Update Re 2023 Budget** – Ms. O'Donoghue then provided a year-to-date financial update against the 2023 Budget. She stated that the Board is looking at the advancement of new projects as there is a reasonable balance in the account. For example, digitizing all old records and documents may be done.

Introduction of Directors and Officers – Mr. Kilburn presented our current directors and officers:

President – Kirsten Brouse
Past President – Reid Kilburn
Vice President – Keith Desjardins
Treasurer – Jen O'Donoghue
Lake Steward – Kevin Terrion
Recording Secretary – Linda Cuthbertson
Director - Newsletter Coordinator & Webmaster – Barb Hicks

Director – Membership – Susan Murray
Director – Membership – David Murray

Director – Cathy Kari
Director – Robert Cosh
Director – Anne Scotton

Mr. Kilburn expressed his gratitude to the Board for their level of engagement, and their many efforts over the past year. Mr. Kilburn also acknowledged the tremendous contribution of OLA's many volunteers and broader community.

Election of Directors

Mr. Kilburn, as chair of the Nominating Committee, reported that Cathy Kari, Jennifer O'Donoghue and Barb Hicks have been nominated as co-Presidents.

Mr. Kilburn asked for nominations from the floor for the President. Hearing none, he declared the election process closed for this AGM and thanked everyone.

Motion (Reid Kilburn/Anne Scotton) that Cathy Kari, Jennifer O'Donoghue and Barb Hicks be named Co-Presidents. **CARRIED**

Mr. Kilburn asked for nominations from the floor with respect to other director positions. Hearing none, he declared the election process closed for this AGM and thanked everyone.

Mr. Kilburn announced that Robert Cosh was leaving the Board after serving for 14 years, including having served as President. He thanked him for his dedication and service.

Motion (Anne Scotton/Christine Kilburn) that a formal thank you be added to the Minutes. **CARRIED**

Reid Kilburn is now officially retired from the OLA Board. Reid was recognized with a beautiful framed photograph of a word cloud in the shape of a loon, created with an app by Jen Donoghue. The words describing Reid were contributed by Board members and others who have worked with him. The OLA has been truly fortunate to have him in the board mix as President (2015-2019) and Past President (2019-2023), and as a key player in additional committees. He will continue to help with the Land Use Committee and other projects.

Mr. Kilburn advised that this completed the core business of the AGM. Several reports, updates, and presentations would now follow.

Lake Steward's Report

Mr. Kilburn then presented the Lake Steward's Report and noted that 2023 marked the 50th Anniversary of the commencement of the Otty Lake water sampling program. He thanked Lake Steward Kevin Terrion for his slides that outlined the extent of this long standing program. He provided a brief overview of the 3 water sampling programs that OLA conducts each summer, and highlighted the key aspects of the programs, and key findings, including water sampling and water levels. He also described the bacteria and nutrient sampling program.

Mr. Kilburn then presented a number of lake observations, including water levels, ice-in, ice thickness, and ice-out observations.

The State of the Lake Report will be available on the OLA website in October. It includes information on physical limnology, water quality, fisheries, zebra mussel populations, algae, loons and other environmental activities. Previous reports are available on the website.

OLA Activities Report

Shoal Marker Project

13 markers were deployed at 11 “priority” sites, as identified by the Board and lake residents. Not all shoals are marked. Mr Kilburn expressed thanks to Keith Desjardins and Jenn O’Donoughue for their leadership on this project.

Shoreline planting program - very successful again. 3000 shrubs and plants have been planted over the past 20 years on Otty. Thanks to Rachel and Adam Roth for coordinating again this year.

Paddle Power – 2023 will be the 10th anniversary of this successful activity. It will be held on August 19.

Reconciliation Working Group – was formed to look at how Otty Lake can learn about Indigenous history around the lake and to take on and advance reconciliation efforts. Last year’s blanket exercise was an important activity. Thanks to Victoria Gibb-Carsley and Michael Desautel for their continued leadership.

Pitch In and Cleanup – another successful pitch in operation this year.

Boat Launch Improvements – Thanks to Tay Valley Township for the funding and coordination. A new dock and portapotty are now in place and a kiosk will be installed once the wording is approved by the Algonquins of Ontario.

Nature Floatilla – scheduled for Saturday, July 29, 10 am-12 pm. Self-guided. Experts will provide learning experiences regarding invertebrates, fish habitat, ticks, birds of prey, turtles, iNaturalist, and related topics.

Wally Robins - Otty Lake Fishery

Mr. Kilburn then invited Wally Robins to address the meeting in regards to Otty Lake’s Fishery. Mr. Robins discussed what is a healthy fishery, why it is important and What we can do to maintain a healthy fishery.

1. What is a healthy fishery? Lots of fish of different sizes are in the lake and it does not need human intervention to sustain itself.
2. Why is it important? A healthy fishery is a direct reflection of the health of the ecosystem. It is also a popular and inclusive activity (800000 active anglers in Ontario in 2020) and it generates revenue for communities and provinces (\$1.6 billion into Ontario economy in 2020).
3. What we can do? Fish require four things: clean water; food; protection during spawning; responsible harvesting (between 10-13” for Bass).

Drummond North Elmsley Update – Reeve Steve Fournier

Mr. Kilburn thanked Mr. Robins for his presentation, then invited Steve Fournier to address the meeting. Mr. Fournier thanked the residents of Otty Lake for maintaining the lake and surrounding areas clean and safe for

generations to come. He then gave a detailed update on various operational and other activities, both completed and underway, in the Township and County. These included an update of the Official Plan, road maintenance, invasive species, new salt shed, telecom improvements, bridge improvements, personnel updates, septic inspections, speeding measures, and a variety of other issues.

Tay Valley Update – Reeve Rob Rainer and Noelle Reeve

Mr. Kilburn thanked Reeve Fournier for his presentation and invited Rob Rainer and Noelle Reeve to address the meeting. Mr. Rainer thanked the OLA for the opportunity, and the OLA's good work in keeping the lake healthy, clean and safe. He then provided a report on various operational and other activities completed and underway within the Township and County.

Ms. Reeve then provided her usual Land Use, Planning, and Building Update. The Official Plan update is ongoing. She briefly reviewed the process and timing for such update, and invited input. She highlighted some of the changes to the language proposed by Council and mandated by the PPS.

Presentation and Interactive Discussion on Bill 23

Mr. Kilburn then invited Noelle Reeve (Planner, Tay Valley) and Sarah MacLeod-Neilson (Planner, RVCA) to address the meeting to discuss Bill 23 (More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022). They provided details about the Bill and voiced concerns about several aspects, including the definition of affordable housing vs attainable housing and the ability of CAs to protect people and property from natural hazards like flooding, erosion and slope failures - leading to greater risk of property damage and public safety.

Adjournment

Mr. Kilburn thanked Ms. Reeve and Ms. MacLeod-Neilson for their excellent presentations. He then thanked all of the presenters and participants and invited all of the participants to feel free to reach out to the OLA or any of the Board members with any questions, comments, or suggestions for lake activities. He then asked if there were any questions. Hearing none, he declared the meeting adjourned.