

OTTY LAKE ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES
7p.m. Thursday April 18, 2024
Zoom Meeting

Attendance

Present: Barb Hicks (Zoom, Chair), Susan Murray, David Murray, Kirsten Brouse, Cathy Kari, Jen O'Donoghue, Anne Scotton, Linda Cuthbertson (Secretary)

Regrets: Kevin Terrion, Keith Desjardin

Guests: Melissa Dakers, Reid Kilburn, Christine Kilburn

Special Guests Report on the Love Your Lake Program

Melissa Dakers from Watersheds Canada spoke about Watersheds Canada and the Love Your Lake Program. They work with the Canadian Wildlife Federation(CWF) to administer the program. It is a shoreline assessment and educational stewardship program. Every property on the lake will be assessed by boat using a standardized observational only assessment protocol. The roles and responsibilities of all parties(Watersheds Canada, CWF and OLA) are outlined in a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) which Jen will sign on behalf of OLA. The data collected is entered in a secure database and property owners get a personalized survey code to use to access their report. OLA gets a Value Survey Report and a Lake Summary Report as well as customized educational and stewardship communication materials.

Reid has contacted both townships to get tax role assessment numbers as well as mailing addresses for all shoreline properties on the lake. He and Christine will be ensuring there are enough volunteer boat drivers, boats and motor fuel for the estimated 10 days required to complete the data collection.They plan on doing 50 assessments a day. Both parties are considering the days starting on July 22nd and ending on August 2nd.

This spring OLA will share communication materials provided to promote and inform shoreline property owners about the program.

Barb inquired about the Microgrant available to Lake Associations who participate in the program. Grant monies are available for naturalizing shorelines.

Chair expressed thanks to our guests and they left the meeting.

Approval of the Agenda

Motion (2024-02-01)

Moved by Susan and seconded by Anne “ that the agenda as amended by changing the order of items and adding donation information to be presented by David be approved”.

Carried

Approval of the Board Minutes from February 15, 2024

Motion (2024-02-02)

Moved by Susan and seconded by Kirsten “that the minutes of the OLA Board Meeting February 15, 2024 be approved as distributed”.

Carried

Love Your Lake Program

Motion (2024-02-03)

Moved by Anne and seconded by Jen “ that \$500 be forwarded to Watersheds Canada/Canadian Wildlife Federation for participation in the Love Your Lake Program”.

Carried

Jen plans on having Keith look at the MOU before signing it on behalf of our association.

Board agreed we should consider applying for the Microgrant. Making monies available could act as an incentive for property owners to naturalize their shorelines. Barb indicated you may have to apply this June to get money for next spring. She will check on the grant terms and application process.

Susan has already included information about the program in the working draft letters to be included in the Spring Information Package for the Lake Ambassadors. Executive and Love Your Lake Committee members are asked to read the draft letters and provide comments, additions or edits before April 22nd. Barb will forward an email with the draft letters for consideration on April 19th. The Board agreed that there should be consistent wording and messaging about the program.

Two more members, Nancy Lynn and Cathy, have volunteered to be part of the OLA Love Your Lake Committee of Barb, Reid and Christine.

Next spring we will invite Watersheds Canada to a board meeting to go over the results.

Reports

The following reports and items were distributed prior to the meeting and some required further discussion and motions.

Membership and Lake Ambassadors (Susan and David)
Shoreline Stewardship Agreement with RVCA (Susan and Rachel)
RVCA Invoice for Spring Plant Sale (Susan and Rachel)
Lake Stewards Report (Kevin)
Volunteer Recruitment (Kirsten)
Communications (Barb)
Draft Letter for Lake Ambassadors to Use (Susan)
Draft Letter to Members who Renew or Purchase a Membership (Susan)
Draft List of Dates to Remember 2024 (Susan)
Nancy Lynn Biography

Spring Plant Sale

Susan and Rachel would appreciate having board members present, if available, for sometime on June 1st to assist with the plant pick up and greet participants.

Lake Stewards

David Murray and Stephanie Gautier have volunteered to be part of the Lake Stewards Team. Neither of them own a boat but are willing to assist. Kevin would like to spend time this summer to train volunteers.

Volunteer Recruitment

Motion (2024-02-04)

Moved by Jen and seconded by Kirsten “that a motion to have Nancy Lynn appointed to the OLA Board be made at the AGM.”

Carried

Nancy Lynn provided Kirsten with a biography which was shared with the Board. Nancy expressed an interest in playing a role in the Love Your Lake Program and her name has been added to that committee. The motion for her appointment will be made at our AGM July 14, 2024. Kirsten will inform Nancy of our motion and invite her to attend the next Board meeting.

Treasurer's Verbal Report

Jen reported that 30 e-transfer memberships have been made to date. FOCA membership has been paid as well as OLA insurance.

Annual General Meeting

Melissa Dakers will be the guest speaker.

DNE and TV representatives will be present and part of the program.

Jen and Kirsten will MC the meeting.

Barb will put the slide deck together.

Susan and David are responsible for refreshments.

Susan will prepare a membership list and greet attendees.

Board members are asked to be at the Legion by 12:30.

If there are motions put forward that require changes to the constitution you need to give notice two weeks ahead of the AGM.

It was brought to our attention that AGM's should be held within 6 months of the end of the fiscal year. Our fiscal year ends in December.

Board members are asked to consider and be prepared to discuss proposed changes to the constitution at our next board meeting in June.

Donation

David reported that DNE made a donation of \$1000 this year. Their continued support is appreciated and Barb will send a letter of appreciation on behalf of OLA.

The chair declared the meeting adjourned at 9:25.

The next meeting will be by zoom at 7p.m. on Thursday June 13, 2024.