

CLEAR LAKE PROPERTY OWNERS' ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
June 30, 2018
at Torrance Community Centre

Estimated 55 Cottagers and Guests in attendance including Donelda Hayes, Ward A Councillor

OPEN: At 10:20 Dennis Cartwright (President) welcomed CLPOA members and guests.

A moment of silence honoured the passing of Ron Bartalos, Mary Ferris and Barry Goldblatt.

PRESENTATIONS:

1. CAMP PINE CREST – Coel Balmer, General Manager, YMCA Camp Pine Crest
 - Coel described the planned dock and expanded watercraft program. From the floor:
 - a. *Brian Ternoway – how many sailboats?* CB: Eight (four on water at once) mainly in the afternoon. Six single-sale 8-ft boats and two small 4-person boats.
 - b. *Michele Badali – promote use of buses, reduce number of passenger cars?* CB: Of 310 campers arriving July 1st, 160 arriving by bus. YMCA hopes to further reduce cars, this year more pick-up locations and offer of YMCA pass for using bus transportation.
 - “Little Critters” Day camp available again this year
 - Mike Silver thanked Coel for Camp’s offer to replace the Barrens’ broken boardwalks.

2. DONELDA HAYES, Township of Muskoka Lakes (TML) Ward A Councillor & Deputy Mayor
 - biggest current issue is condominium density (i.e. Red Leaves Resort)
 - Municipal Election: Phone/Internet voting only, starting end of October. Confirm we’re on the voter list (see yellow sheet with recent Tax Bill, check with TML). No candidates registered yet, deadline July 27, 2pm. Non-registered list on TML site. From the floor:
 - a. *Bob Cleverdon – what were survey results re use of Tax dollars?* **DH: General comments were not to reduce services but user-pay preferable. See Agenda for Town Meeting for changes in budget for services and comment.**
 - b. *Brian Ternoway – will Torrance Community Centre be closed?* **DH: No closures of community centres planned. Highly important to communities regardless of frequency of use. I don’t know plans for Fire Hall.**
 - c. *Suzanne McClennan – how can we get reliable Fire service with equipment in Torrance and volunteers in Walker’s Point/Bala? Regulations and costs reduced volunteers.* **DH: Agree, but Walker’s Point volunteers pick up Torrance equipment. SM – Train crossing a danger – no response if Walker’s Point is engaged and Bala is stopped at track.**
 - d. *Simone Skopek – what about fires at the Barrens?* Mike Silver – no regulation, many campers. OPP cannot charge for cutting trees down or camping; Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) can. District of Muskoka approves camping but MNR does not. **DH: I will ask bylaw officer and fire chief what is happening.** *Simone Skopek – Can boulders be placed?* Mike Silver – Boulders restrict gazers’ access who have large telescopes.
 - e. *Suzanne McClennan – can we attend TML meeting on issue?* **DH: citizens may ask for items on Agenda. Outline issues that arose at CLPOA AGM and contact Cheryl Mortimer, TML Clerk.**

- f. *Charles Wilkins – seems people would like to camp and enjoy the area that we as property owners often take for granted. Maybe a designated camping area there? DH: currently only private camping areas such as at Butterfly Lake Charles Wilkins – we need free places for people to go. DH: MNR would have to spearhead that.*
- g. *Jiri Skopek – how to control garbage along the roads? DH: a yearly community cleanup, but to control, the litterer has to be caught in the act.*
- h. *Coel Balmer – re fire. Difficult for volunteers to join. Local businesses should support employees on fire duty. DH: will check with Cory (TML Economic Development). Volunteers are paid part time wage and covered by insurance. Fire chief adopted stringent laws. Jiri Skopek – rising temps, global warming, risk of fire). What are resiliency plans? DH: TML has emergency response plans for fire, floods, culverts breaking, inclement weather, train derailments. Details at TML.*

Donelda thanked us for inviting her and asked us to contact her if necessary.

MINUTES OF AGM 2017: Marg Kenwright (Secretary) asked for approval of 2017 Minutes. Jiri Skopek moved to approve the AGM Minutes as posted on CLPOA website. Seconded by Gaylen Silva. All in favour, approved by show of hands.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

1. Ron Algate (Treasurer) moved to accept 2017 Statement of Income. Seconded by Brian Ternoway. Accepted by show of hands.
2. Ron asked for Motion to approve 2018 insurance and water testing expenditures. Moved by Bob Cleverdon, seconded by Paul Trayes. All in favor, approved.
3. Ron asked for Motion to approve 2018 discretionary Board expenditures of \$500 or less as per CLPOA By-Laws. So moved by Mike McClennan and seconded by Seth Silver. All in favor, approved.

MEMBERSHIP: Sharon Cleverdon reports 73 paid memberships (23 today). Last year-113; 2016-124. We need a reminder to go out. Ideas from floor:

Gaylen Silva – include these stats with reminder Mike McClennan – convey reasons to join Mike Silver – where are the young people? Seem not to participate in water, dark sky issues. Rod Davey – consider hand delivered reminder, maybe more impact Brian Ternoway – could we have a promo event like a band, but lack of volunteers even for Regatta Dennis Cartwright – maybe parents could encourage involvement, but varied reasons why families can't. We will do the reminder – hand delivered, also on website.

BOAT LAUNCH – Dennis Cartwright - Seems to be compliance since no complaints about use of the launch so far. Eurasian Water Milfoil is an aggressive, invasive species of plant. Eventually reduces oxygen in the water, affecting other plants and fish. See <http://www.invadingspecies.com/eurasian-water-milfoil/>. Another reason to wash down boats after boating elsewhere.

CLEAR LAKE WATER QUALITY – Bob Cleverdon

Bob said he and Sharon have been doing the water testing of our lake since 2005! They have learned protocols of the MLA integrated program. 100 volunteers test 16 small lakes and the

three big lakes on the same weekends. For Clear Lake, four locations on four weekends for phosphorus, ecoli, coliform. Also secchi disc (clarity) test and temperature. Lake consistently shows good quality. Clarity 6 meters. Bacteria ecoli no concern, well within guidelines. Of 70 sites, 54 are above threshold for Phosphorus. Lake Joe is lowest at 3.4; Brandy Lake is highest at 28.4. Very few have lower reading than our 6.7. We are in good shape. All of our results are on CLPOA website and overall Muskoka results on MLA site. Thanks to everyone's conserving shoreline vegetation, maintaining proper septic systems and using ecologically friendly products. From floor:

- Mike McClennan – *why is the system at Gull Wing trailer park being pumped out twice a day?* Coel Balmer – holding tank is being emptied twice daily because the Park's new septic processing system is not yet operational. After processing, effluent will return to Gull Wing Lake but will not be harmful.
- Hal Pegg – complained to Trailer Park about speeding cars, after complaint drivers did slow down. Suggestion from floor perhaps Manager of the park should be invited to our meeting so we can get best information. Ron Algate will approach them.

REGATTA - Lisa Pennycook

Lisa, organizing Regatta, has the sign-up sheet for people to help with shopping, preparation, activities on the day. Little work by many makes it easy. Last year's boat parade great. Get your families involved to compete for the coveted Broken Paddle Award! – see you at the Regatta.

DARK SKIES - Mike Silver

Mike thanked Charlie Wilkins for writing an excellent article published in The Star, regarding our dark skies. It is posted on CLPOA website. Mike mentioned Gravenhurst council (see Spring CLPOA newsletter). Mike says the issue is not lost. Councillors with no interest in preserving Dark Sky are not running. Paul Kelly might be supportive. Mike met with John Klinck, Muskoka District Chair. He suggested demonstrating at McDonalds in August. Mike will ask McDonald's to remove or change the obtrusive sign. If there is no response, demonstration will take place. Anyone interested in joining the Dark Sky Committee or participating in a demonstration at McDonalds, please contact Mike Silver.

There is an Anniversary event coming up for Barrens, operated by MNR. More information on issues and events will be provided to us by the Dark Sky Committee.

Mike thanked members for their help. Further discussions:

- a. Daniel Silver is conducting research for his McGill undergraduate dark sky project. He hopes to learn about light pollution, perceptions, effect and to find policies acceptable to public to reduce future light pollution. Daniel has created a survey regarding use of the Barrens, what types of lighting is needed, how can it be reduced. Daniel distributed his survey as hardcopy and online. Fill out the survey today or later and Daniel will collect data. daniel.silver2@mail.mcgill.ca or 514-880-7853
- b. Mike asks us to show support for preserving the dark sky and to urge Gravenhurst to lower the lights. Write letters to John Klinck, District Chair, 70 Pine Street, Bracebridge. If you care to let Mike know you have done so, only blind copy him or tell him separately so letters won't seem as if from Mike.

BROKEN PADDLE AWARD – Bob Cleverdon

Bob kindly offered to tackle the redesign of our huge “Broken Paddle Award”. He said it is a victim of its own success – Folk Art growing in length for 30 years. Gary Deathe, Past President, reminded us by email that the paddle was painted and donated by Gord Wallace, father of Penny Barker (Bill) of Ridge Road. Each engraved wooden slat will be returned to its owner. Bob had all that history typeset and photoprinted onto a new but antique-finish rectangular board which will hang from the paddle. An identical board will hang from the first, so that in future years each family winning the boat parade may add an engraved plate.

- Charles Wilkins – *can paddleboards be in the parade?* Great but consensus was paddleboarders can gather on water in judging area, rather than try to circle the lake along with boats.

COTTAGE WATCH - Ron Algate - Cottage watch has been cancelled by OPP, maybe now signs no deterrent but at least more people live here year round. As ever, be aware of unusual activity at neighbours’ properties.

FISHING – Mike McClennan notes there are fewer fishermen but Clear Lake fishing good. Lots of small-mouth and large-mouth bass – a small mouth over 6lb was caught last year. There are some pike over 10lbs. Mike has not noticed our launch being used by any day fishermen.

WILDLIFE – Dennis asked about loon sightings. Charlotte Ternoway says we have two pairs on the lake. All noted strange loon calls around 9:45pm. Suzanne McClennan pleased to hear whippoorwills again. Bob and Sharon Cleverdon saw a cougar 150ft behind their cottage in the Spring. Jiri and Simone Skopek had a bear very close to their cottage.

LOST ITEMS– Michelle Badali has a lost raft at her dock Mike McClennan – a boat has drifted to his dock, please pick up.

WEBSITE - Bob Cleverdon – *can fire ratings/link be on website?* Ian McClennan will see what he can do.

VOLUNTEER THANKS – Dennis thanked Bob and Sharon Cleverdon for MLA water sampling, Sharon for handling Membership, Paul Traves for installing marker buoys, Lisa Pennycook for running the Regatta and fellow Board members including Gary Deathe, past president.

ELECTION: – Dennis Cartwright - Six of Seven current Board members will remain if accepted. Dennis is retiring and asked for nominations for Board members – younger people? No nominations at this time. With 6 willing to stay, By-law requirements are met (minimum 5, maximum 12) so Dennis proposed a Motion to accept the slate, namely Ron Algate, Erin Beckett, Marg Kenwright, Ian McClennan, Michael Silver and Charles Wilkins. Mike McClennan moved that the Board members be accepted and Seth Silver seconded the Motion. All in favor, passed. Charles Wilkins thanked Dennis Cartwright for his two years of thoughtful CLPOA leadership, handling some difficult issues. Dennis’ dealings with several parties have resulted in amicable, satisfactory solutions.

ADJOURNMENT: At 11:45am Mike McClennan moved to close the meeting and Carolyn Schwartz seconded the motion. All in Favor, closed.