

**Big Basswood Lake Association Board Meeting**  
**September 9, 2019**  
**Sowerby Hall, 7 PM**

Members present: Larry Allcorn, Nancy Bakemeier, Phil Conley, Joanne Falk, Marilyn Kellum, Dixie Olmstead, Cynthia Wood

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by the Chair. The agenda was reviewed. The Secretary read the 7-21-19 AGM minutes and from the minutes from the following Board Meeting. Both sets of minutes were approved after minor corrections.

The Treasurer presented the Big Basswood Lake Financial Statement from 6-24-19 through 9-4-19. The opening balance was \$7,366.54. The closing balance is \$9,447.84. FOCA dues still need to be paid.

The Trillium Account Financial Statement from 12-8-18 through 8-31-19 is as follows; opening balance \$51,400.00, closing balance \$34,971.70. There will be additional expenses from the Municipality and Tulloch Engineering.

Committee Reports:

Joanne reported that to date membership stood at 103. There was discussion about the benefits that members vs. nonmembers receive, e.g. newsletters, FOCA information, notifications, etc. and what, if any, distinctions should be made. Collecting and organizing the information has also been challenging. She recommended that minimally each of us get the member's name, phone number and e-mail address. Ideas presented included a welcome e-mail, a welcome package as ways to reach out. Long time member Paul Robuck has written a letter encouraging membership that was distributed to the Board. Larry will follow-up with these ideas to develop communication methods for the community with the goal of increasing memberships. Joanne will create a list of members that paid in 2018 but have not yet paid in 2019. Each Board member will edit the list and make contact with people they know to follow up. The list will be further edited and divided so Board members can make phone calls. Membership goal for this year is 130 members. A BBLA table for memberships will be set up at the next two history events.

The Loon Survey is wrapping up. Dixie reported that the two chicks are doing well. She also reiterated that Carter Dorsht, of the Kensington Conservancy, would be a good resource to develop citizen science initiatives. It was suggested that perhaps BBLA could organize nature walks on various topics (e.g. birds, wildflowers). The idea of inviting organizations to set up displays at next summer's AGM came up. Marilyn and Dixie will pursue these ideas.

Marilyn reported a 12.5 meter Secchi disk reading on 9-9. Bobby Swain has volunteered to do the Ice Tracking and has received the paper work. A photo of Marilyn's twin grandsons assisting with a Secchi disk was the winner of FOCA's water safety photo contest. Finally, it was suggested that BBLA look into producing branded shopping bags to sell and to reduce plastic usage. Marilyn and Joanne will look into this.

Two history events are coming up: Life on the Farm on 9-10 and Tom Thompson on 9-18. The Trillium Recognition Event will be held at the 9-10 program. Larry reviewed the line-up and the press release for that. Both of these programs are sponsored by BBLA, The North Shore Sentinel and the Sowerby Hall and Heritage Committee. Nancy is continuing to collect stories and photographs with people on the lake.

The web-site redesign project was reviewed. Andrew VanderPloeg from Radiant Web Tools is volunteering his time to do this. The normal fee of \$4,500 for this is being waived. Costs estimated to move the design site will be \$250 to \$450. Larry encouraged Board members to make recommendations for the new web-site.

#### Old Business:

So far 113 inspections have been booked. Since time is running out the discussion centered upon reaching out to property owners that have not scheduled an inspection. Larry will attempt to get a list of those owners. Joanne will draft a letter.

Larry reported that there is no news on the Boundary Land Claim.

It has been noted that lake levels are very low. Larry reiterated that no additional water has been let out from the dam and that the repairs will be done soon.

A photo contest was announced at the AGM. Maeve has been in charge of these in the past. Joanne will check with Maeve to see if she will do this again.

#### New Business:

The Northshore Forest Management Plan for 2020-2030 is available for review. Marilyn noted there is a section on the northwest side of the lake that is included. The plan will be available for review and comment by the community in Blind River, on 10-2 from 3-7PM at the Royal Canadian Legion. Marilyn encouraged someone from BBLA to attend and will send out the link to this information.

Dates for BBLA 2020 meetings were set as follows: 6-22-20 Board Meeting, 7-19-20 AGM and 9-14-20 Board Meeting.

Larry will send out information and assignments for the fall newsletter.

Matters Arising/Announcements:

Marilyn reported that she has heard some concerns about the Dayton Dump and wondered if this should be an issue BBLA might be interested in. Larry recalled that the Municipality did water testing at that site and will check that out.

It was agreed upon that the stewardship award honoring Mike Hunting needs to be discussed further to envision what it might look like.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Marilyn Kellum  
Secretary