

Big Basswood Lake Association Board Meeting-September 20, 2012

Members Present: Mike Hunting, Larry Allcorn, Maeve Coccimiglio, Phyllis Coosaia, John Hodgson, Lolly Hunting, Marilyn Kellum, Andrew MacKay, Ron Trivers

Members Absent: Len Iverson

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by the Chair. The minutes were read by the Secretary and approved for both the 2012 AGM and the July 22, 2012 Board Meeting.

The Treasurer's report was submitted by the Treasurer, Phyllis Coosaia. The balance on 7-22-12 was \$3,625.87. It was noted that FOCA dues have been paid. There were 37 paid members as of the 2012 AGM. To date, there are an additional 5 members. The signers on the BBLA bank account will need to be updated. Jane Mason and Kaisay Shaw's names will be taken off. Maeve Coccimiglio and Ron Triver will be added as signers. Phyllis Coosaia and Mike Huntin are signers on the account.

It was suggested that next year we consider an application form with membership. Marilyn gave Larry a copy of a form used in the past. Providing an on-line process for membership and payment was suggested. Andrew and Larry will look into this further. Providing a receipt for dues was recommended as well.

Committee Reports:

History- Lolly has been collecting oral histories and making them available on the website. The feedback has been positive.

Communication- Andrew has been utilizing the Facebook page to communicate with members. Announcements, news and links to information can be posted on Facebook as well as our web page. About 50 people have "liked" this page.

Stewardship- Marilyn reported that the Wildlife and Habitat Inventory has not been well-utilized. She plans to follow up with Andrew on this.

Membership-Discussion below.

Special report- Several BBLA board members attended an Area Lake Associations meeting this past Saturday, September 15, 2012. Day Lakes Stewardship and Bright Lake Association members were in attendance. Maeve summarized the content of the meeting, which was informational. Reducing nutrient loading, updating and improving septic systems and maintaining the Ribbon of Life on shorelines are ways to protect and improve water quality. CAFRC was mentioned as an area resource for water protection. Area associations have sought funding from Shell Oil, the Trillium Foundation, and Environment Canada to address water quality issues. Paul Perry, from Bright Lake, was mentioned as a good resource person for this type of information. It was also noted that

the municipality's economic development plan does not appear to value and protect water resources.

Low attendance at the AGM and the low membership rate is a big concern. Ideas were presented to promote membership and involvement. The possibility of a summer lake and community social event, perhaps at Corduke's Barn, was suggested. A member handbook was suggested. It could include organizational information as well as a member directory. Both ideas were tabled for now.

Calling individual property owners has been an effective way to communicate. Mike has done this the past two winters and recommends that board members divide the list for making calls this winter. Using the Big Basswood Lake map with property owners listed, the lake was divided up geographically. Lolly has compiled the caller list. Mike and Larry will develop a script so we collect uniform information. Callers will compile the results by at least one month prior to next year's AGM.

Mike presented the Walloon Lake mission statement as a starting point for revising and simplifying the BBLA Mission Statement. It is as follows:

"The Big Basswood Lake Association is- to preserve and protect the quality, safety, and natural beauty of Big Basswood Lake and its watershed; to work with and exchange data with other environmental organizations and local and Provincial governmental units whose interests are consistent with our goals; to provide timely information pertaining to the preceding, including educational information, to our members and the public."

This is a good starting point as it includes important elements. Maeve and Marilyn also had suggestions. Board members will consider the above, edit and make suggestions to begin to finalize the statement for the next Board Meeting and to be presented at the 2013 AGM.

Next year's calendar was set and is as follows:

June 20, 2013 7PM Board Meeting

July 21, 2013 10AM AGM

September 19, 2013 Board Meeting

Following up from the 7-22-2012 Board Meeting, Ron Trivers has agreed to serve as the vice-chair.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10PM.

Marilyn Kellum
Secretary

