

Big Basswood Lake Association Board Meeting-September 15, 2014
Sowerby Hall

Members present: Larry Allcorn, Jack Hodgson, Marilyn Kellum, Ron Trivers, Dave Currie, Maeve Coccimiglio. Present remotely: Mike & Lolly Hunting

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by the chair. The minutes from the 7-20-14 Board meeting were read by the Secretary and approved by the Board. The minutes on the web-page are the correct version.

The Treasurer reviewed the financials. The balance of the account, as of 9-10-14, is \$7,189.18. FOCA membership dues of \$362.25 have been paid as well as other misc. fees. Directors' Insurance was paid on 4-11-14. The Board discussed posting financials on the web-site quarterly at the end of March, June, September and December. It was noted that Jane Mason still was authorized to make deposits into the BBLA account. It was moved by Ron and seconded by Mike to remove her name from the account. Carried 8-0. Maeve volunteered to notify Jane and the credit union of this change.

Old Business:

Feedback from the AGM was positive. The meeting was felt to be substantive and members were involved in the discussions. Members have reported savings on their insurance and the BBL bumper stickers given to members have been seen around the community. These stickers were donated by the Huntings and the Board discussed producing more of these for new members and to sell. Dave will follow-up with local printers and send out the cost estimates. The Board will review and approve via e-mail.

The 2015 BBLA calendar was set. After a brief discussion, It was decided that the AGM should be consistent and remain on the third Sunday morning in July. Lolly suggested a retired geologist as a potential speaker and will make an initial inquiry. The discussion about a speaker for the next AGM was tabled pending more information. The calendar was set as follows:

6-25-15 Thursday, 7PM BBLA Board Meeting

7-19-15 Sunday, 10AM AGM

9-14-15 Monday, 7PM BBLA Board Meeting

The Property Assessment Review Committee (PARC) sponsored a Town Hall meeting with Lincoln North as a consultant. Dave reported that four members attended this meeting. One of the participants stated that he thought a municipality had different mill rates for seasonal residents. Larry is attempting to track this down. The assessment issue has been tabled but the PARC recommends monitoring the issue of assessed values and actual sale prices. Suggestions for follow-up include checking a price with Shield's to monitor sales, contacting local realtors and checking the specifics of Huron

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Shores mill rate. Is it the same from lake to lake? Larry, Dave and Lincoln will meet to further discuss this issue.

So far there have been about 24 photos entered in the Nature is Art: Wildlife and Habitat Photo Contest. The next step is to get a judge and review the process. Questions include the date for the end of the contest (June 1st?), the format for judging and what information is needed. Marilyn will follow up by contacting Sheila Currie, who has recommended local artists as potential judges. Producing a calendar for sale from the photos was suggested. Maeve will look into the pricing for this. Cosco, Picasso, & Snapfish were suggested as starting points.

The association's largest annual expense is liability insurance for the directors. This year it was \$989.00. The BBLA has followed FOCA recommendations to procure this insurance. The general board consensus is that we want to have this coverage but it would be prudent to review the options available to assure that we are getting good value. Larry will continue to look into this with FOCA and check how the Bright Lake Association handles this issue.

New Business:

It was suggested by Dave that we continue to contact and follow-up with members this fall. Mike stated that we now have 75 members, the most ever. The Google Membership List will be updated and distributed to the board for review. Members, friends and neighbors who traditionally have joined or may have overlooked paying their dues this year will be informally contacted. Membership forms, a receipt for dues and a hard copy of the newsletter should be available to hand out as a membership kit, both for the fall and spring drive. An article highlighting the benefits of membership will be in the fall newsletter. Also, an e-mail to our paid membership thanking them for their continued interest and support was suggested.

Concern was expressed at the AGM regarding aquatic invasive species. Andrew had contacted Victoria Thomas, Watershed Management Facilitator from CAFC, regarding an article or ad in the Sentinel about boat washing. At the AGM it was suggested that Huron Shores might be approached to put in wash stations. This could be a joint initiative with BBLA, the municipality, Bright Lake Association and CAFC. Marilyn will check with Victoria regarding a seminar next year and planning a community-wide initiative.

Larry plans to contact Counsellor Debbie Kirby to plan a meeting with BBLA and Huron Shores council members. One of the topics will be boat washing stations.

The deadline for fall newsletter articles is 10-8. Larry will compile a list of topics for articles and circulate it for volunteers. Mike has his membership article ready to go.

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The septic pills that were distributed at the AGM were well utilized. Members used them with good results. It was decided to make them available at the AGM next year.

Matters Arising/Announcements:

A question was asked about the procedures for building permits. The Ontario Building Code and Municipality By-Laws are two sources of rules and regulations. Ron LeBlanc is a good resource person for questions.

An honorary membership status was suggested at the AGM to recognize individuals that have made contributions to the lake association. This issue was tabled for now.

A TurDuckKen Dinner will be held 11-1-14 at Sowerby Hall. It is a fundraiser for CAFC. Tickets are \$25 and available at Forestland.

BBLA has been an organizational member of CAFC in the past. Marilyn inquired if we have paid dues for 2014. Questions were raised about organizational relationships and attending respective board meetings. CAFC was represented at our AGM and BBLA is hoping to plan a boat washing education initiative with them. Maeve moved that BBLA join CAFC, seconded by Andrew and the motion passed 8-0.

Marilyn expressed an interest in participating in FOCA's ice tracking program. Maeve will check if the McMillans have this data and get back to her.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 PM.

Marilyn Kellum

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