

Big Basswood Lake Association Board Meeting

June 20, 2016

Sowerby Hall

Members present: Larry Allcorn, Lolly Hunting, Andrew MacKay, Mike Hunting, Ron Trivers, Dave Currie, Marilyn Kellum, Maeve Coccimiglio

Members absent: Jack Hodgson

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM. The Secretary read the minutes from the 9-14-15 Board Meeting. It was noted that Dr. Nurnberg's name was misspelled. The corrected minutes were approved by Maeve with a second from Dave and were passed 8-0. Larry provided the updated information that Associate Members do not qualify for an insurance discount. Larry will check with other insurance providers and the receipts will be corrected if necessary.

The Treasurer submitted the Annual Financial Report. As of March 31, 2016 the balance is \$6677.87. Revenues for 2016 were \$2058.52. Expenditures were \$2432.47. It was noted that service fees have increased at the bank and these should be reviewed. Also the Treasurer plans to follow-up with the accountant regarding BBLA's tax status. Marilyn moved to accept the Treasurer's report, Andrew seconded the motion and it passed 8-0.

The subject of septic testing was raised by the Chair. He brought the Board's attention to Jim Thomson's efforts in this area including a document entitled "Proposal for the Establishment of a Septic Inspection Program for the District of Algoma". BBLA plans to work with the municipality to develop a plan that includes funding, a proposal and follow-up with this process. BBLA will purchase more septic tabs and arrange to have water testing bottles from Algoma Health at the AGM again. Both were well-received by the membership last year.

Last fall the lake level was very low triggering questions and concerns. Larry has been in contact with the MNR requesting information and guidelines in place for monitoring lake levels. In March 2016 the MNR held a Water Level Seminar which he attended. Water Management Plans are in place for lakes that generate power. Peggy Wilson from the MNR reported that a plan would be generated for Big Basswood. It was suggested that the BBLA appoint a committee to monitor the dam and to partner with the MNR. Dave volunteered to talk to Peter Falk, Len Iverson and Reg Gardner about serving on this committee.

Larry and Mike attended a seminar sponsored by the Clear Lake Stewardship Association on Blue Green Algae blooms and Invasive Species. This lake had experienced an algae bloom despite consistently good results for water clarity,

phosphorus levels, O2 levels, temperatures, and pH. The importance of education was stressed. A link to a boat washing video will be added to the web-site.

Marilyn reported that Bob Kellum is doing the sampling for the Lake Partner Program. She also noted that water clarity has been reported every year at the AGM but the results have not been sent into the Lake Partner database. She will contact Anna DeSellas to see if data can be entered retroactively.

Maeve attended the spring FOCA seminar and shared several ideas for community events with the Board e.g. septic pump-out day, environmental programs, picnic or barbecue, Love Your Lakes, etc. There is a you-tube video on cottage succession planning that can be posted.

The calendars will be ready for the AGM meeting. It will be a 2017 calendar that will include Canadian and US holidays. It was suggested that it include the lunar calendar as well. Superior Media has priced them at \$480 + tax for 50. The ideal number of calendars would be 75. BBLA will sell them for \$10 each at the AGM. Maeve will follow up with them and circulate a copy to the Board prior to printing. The calendar represents the end of the photo contest. The Board will decide if we want to start another contest next year e.g. photo or lake tales. Creating BBLA merchandise was tabled for this year as well.

Larry will meet with Gil Reeves, the Mayor of Huronshores, this Friday. Also, he may arrange for an informal get-together between the Board and a few councilors in August or September.

There was much discussion about the change of ownership occurring at the Bill Phillips property. There have been long standing questions regarding the current septic on the site. Future plans may include more intensive use with a campground. A motion was made by Mike and seconded by Maeve to contact the MOE about water quality concerns. It passed 8-0. The ownership change is viewed as an opportunity to engage the new owners in the lake association.

The summer newsletter should go out in early July. An e-mail has been sent with article assignments and ideas. Content should go to Andrew ASAP. Andrew will put it together upon his return from vacation.

Speaker ideas were generated and include Paul Haslett, a MNR representative or Elizabeth Buchanan, a local geologist. These ideas will be pursued. A separate session may be planned in August if a speaker is unavailable for the AGM on 7-24.

Finally, it is an election year for the Board of Directors. A nominating committee will be appointed to present a slate of candidates for vote by the membership at the AGM. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:30 PM.

Marilyn Kellum

