

Belmont Lake Cottagers' Association

Minutes, Board Meeting

Sunday, August 26, 2018

Present: Brian Deas, Greg Alexander, Fred Bennett, Donna Peeling, Wendy Vuyk, Peter White, Katherine Deas, Evan Meyers

1. Board Member Update

Membership

Fred:

320 by draw date. 350 current. 352 from last year. Discussion as to if we need to maintain home addresses, agreed for now that we keep collecting home address data. Comment that the QB file is in excellent shape.

Bylaw renewal – need refresh. Possible to engage Jim McCarthy

Should also be reviewing insurance; Greg to engage Todd Spalding.

Water:

Water test next week. Discussion as to if we could / should test at the outlet of the Deer River to compare as a baseline to the higher readings that we see at the outlet of the river.h

Rocks: Discussion regarding placement of new markers, how to reply to requests for new placement.

Brian:

Placement of new signs (provided by FOCA) regarding cleaning your boat for invasive species. New signs at the beach and the marina.

Katherine:

Fireworks: We might not be eligible next year due to dates for 2019. Either way we should be able to get promotional material for 2019. Value is subsidy for 2018 was \$650.

Trivia: Total 27 entries, this year's focus was on lake heritage.

Facebook: Discussion regarding general

Add social page to BLCA site, to discuss content.

Donna:

Lots of history material to still work on, just a matter of prioritizing when and what to publish.

LPP water testing continues on a two week cycle. Newsletter link to the LPP program (publish this)

Evan:

Donna great work getting Fish Hatchery road distributed.

Evan – new recruit on Bowen Rd.

Calendar photos – working on more ongoing updates and requests for photos; Lisa is now getting the photos as we receive them.

Brenda Tonn does want to continue with the newsletter despite health challenges in the family.

Peter:

HBMLA now up to nine lakes. Septic inspection becoming a more pressing issue. FOCA has a program that HBMLA could piggyback on.

Peter received contact about work in Munn's Bay

Election Oct. 22

HBMLA minutes – some discussion off the record

Newsletter resp

Discussion re – revising of newsletter responsibilities, update of articles list. John Dixon has volunteered to help with editing for the 2019 newsletter.

Other

- Ed
- GA how to share on media

Wendy

- One water test done, two more to be done, one in August and one in September

Brian

- 33 people have registered for golf, down from this time last year due to a number of individuals who played last year not able to make it this year

Fred:

- Now at 333 members.
- Peter will prepare a list of members last year who have not yet renewed this year
- Fred asked that the white sheets for road reps be distributed earlier next year to give road reps a chance to provide feedback.
- He suggested that only the green membership sheets be used for providing updates to the Quickbooks data base

Greg:

- The regatta was another success this year
- Greg may not be available for next year's regatta. He will recruit others to organize events for next year
- Greg will look into a new tug of war for younger people
- Rock marking needs to use longer rope
- For email pushes, only 50 to 70% are actually opened

2. Newsletter Planning for 2018

- Peter will issue the responsibilities list for next year's newsletter in October of this year
- Donna agreed to do an article on fireworks on the lake
- Wendy will write the article for the regatta and parade of lights
- Greg will provide the list of winners of the events (something not included in this year's newsletter)
- Greg will ask Wayne Alexander to do an article on the sailboat races this year

3. Feedback from members

- All board members reported positive feedback from members
- Concerns focused on loud and sometimes apparently unsafe boating. Most members understand that BLCA does not have the authority to directly intervene on these issues
- Fred noted that there is a website "quietlakes.ca" that provides suggestions to address inappropriate boating behavior

4. Ideas for using our surplus

The ideas surfaced at the AGM were reviewed as follows:

- Scholarship for children or grandchildren of members to study environmental programs. Thought to be too narrow in scope so that too few member would benefit
- Distribute money to road associations around the lake. Determined to not fairly benefit those members who are not on a private road, such as Mile of Memories or islands
- Reduce fees, thought to be a problem for future years
- Programs for children, thought to be difficult to organize, but worthy of future consideration

- Crowe Valley Conservation Authority projects (specifics to be determined). Given the current issues between HBM Council and the CVCA, the board decide to defer action on this until a later date
- Provide breakfast at the next AGM. This would require additional volunteer involvement even if fully catered. It was decided to defer this for now.
- Order tee shirts for road reps. **It was agreed that we would move ahead and order a quantity of the yellow volunteer shirt.**
- Look into BLCA decals that members can display on their cottages. **Wendy agreed to investigate this and move ahead and order 450 decals with a budget not to exceed \$300**
- Look into providing a map of Belmont Lake with membership, in addition to the calendar. **Greg agreed to look into sourcing a map 17” by 11” that could be folded and inserted into the newsletter with a budget not to exceed \$2,000**

5. HBMLA

- Peter identified two key items to be discussed at the next HBMLA meeting in September
 - Septic inspection: the board supported the concept of having lake property owners having their septic pumped every 5 years and submitting proof of this to the township. Failure to provide the proof would first prompt a reminder, and if not done, an annual increase in taxes of \$100 to \$200 per year.
 - 2018 Township Election: The board supported the idea of the HBMLA endorsing candidates the election.

Peter thanked the board for their hard work and constructive ideas. It is a pleasure to work with you all.