



BELMONT LAKE COTTAGERS' ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING JULY 27, 2012

MINUTES

Called to order at 9:35am. Approximately 39 attendees. All members of HBM Council were present with the exception of Andy Sharpe.

Board members present: Brad Adams, Greg Alexander, Evan Meyers, Courtney Spalding, Larry Pick, Peter White, Brandon Van Asten

Opening Remarks:

Brad welcomed members of the lake association and members of HBM council. Noted that there will be changes to agenda to include a draw for the membership; Ron Gerow will draw the ticket. Brad encouraged members to consider a volunteer position on the board.

1) Resignation of Brad Adams and Tamara from the Board.

Brad asked attendees at this time to consider running for Board positions. Board elections will take place at the end of the meeting;

2) Golf tournament already arranged for next spring. A tentative date of Aug. 24 has been booked. Approx cost could be between \$30 and \$50 per person including a catered lunch, cart and prizes. There is a budgeted item for the BLCA to support this in a minimum capacity. Signup sheet available in the back of the AGM meeting room.

3) HBMLA update--our BLCA is a part of this 8 Lakes assoc. 2 focuses this past year.

1) Taxes. The HBMLA was successful in lobbying Council to reduce their initial tax levy. A number of individual BLCA members also wrote to Council on this very important item, along with members from other lake associations in the township.

2) Planning process. The HBMLA was very active in following the planning process by Council to update the official plan and zoning bylaws for the township. It will continue to play a key role in feedback to Council as the planning process continues. It is anticipated that the final official plan and zoning bylaws will be in place by Oct/Nov 2012.

Noted that the full HBMLA report and be found in the 2012 Newsletter.

4) Mayor Gerow/Council update;

Mayor Gerow talked about positive partnership between the HBMLA and also the BLCA. The Mayor was very positive re our BLCA and the active and cooperative role it has played this past year.

The planning process was reviewed by the Mayor including his desire to have the language user friendly, continuing to encourage HBMLA (and others) input, and an approx final law into place by Oct/Nov 2012. The official plan update should be available on the HBM Website by July 30.

The Mayor also highlighted the key role of Linda Reid, the new CAO and her vision of cooperation in Council's work and deliberations.

The Mayor highlighted a strong commitment to continue to improve communication and transparency.

New road work along the Jamboree road was also discussed. Vehicle repairs due to the road repairs, primarily flat tires, are being dealt with by the contractor (Drain Bros). The CVCA is undergoing a thorough review and the Mayor is now a member of that governing committee. Our BLCA also has a member (Mr Alexander--an engineer) attending CVCA meetings. The key issue is dam upgrading--due to health and safety risks as well as huge environmental risks. There will be a final report due out in Oct.

5) John Fulton-Police Services Board Vice Chair.

Security for Jamboree: Provided feedback on the Havelock Jamboree security. The security program for the Jamboree is submitted to the township for final approval. The OPP is very much involved in that process. OPP will be present during the Jamboree, other security will be provided by the Jamboree, and specific areas will be monitored more closely. Mile of memories is one area that will be monitored closely--for drinking and showering. Office Jerry Smith is currently the key contact for the OPP review of the Jamboree security plan. Noted that MoE might be able to assist with the issue of bathing in the lake esp. during Jamboree weekend.

Budget for OPP: It was also highlighted that 25% of council budget is OPP services.

Break-ins on Belmont Lake. There were a few break ins on Belmont Lake during the winter and the culprit was caught. It is recommended by Mr. Fulton that we try to initiate a community watch program involving full time residents.

6) The draw for the plane ride for those members who had paid for their registration by July 16 was made by the Mayor. Special thanks was given to Ron and Valerie Marshall for offering their plane and for offering his time for piloting. The winners were Harold and Mary Jo Harmer.

7) Courtney provided a quick web site update. The BLCA has updated our website and now includes twitter and Facebook connections.

8) Peter provided a review of last year's actual financial results along with budgets for this year and next:

Discussion regarding the budget and if we should continue the process of drawing down the surplus. Membership asked the board to reconsider if this draw-down made sense; suggesting that these funds may have value for future programs. There was discussion regarding the state of the CVCA infrastructure and the potential for BLCA to contribute to a revitalization program. It was decided to approve this year and next year's budget and try to maintain a \$10,000 surplus.

The BLCA would like its membership to grow to 250 from the current 200.

There was a discussion about some of the budget items, and one in particular fireworks. The fireworks event was introduced to try to minimize the number of private fire works displays across Belmont Lake. The budget for the fireworks was questioned. It was highlighted that 2 years ago a survey was conducted among members and their feedback was very positive to having a Lake fireworks display. The budget for fireworks was approved for 2012 and 2013.

It was suggested that the BLCA board conduct another review of social activities to understand what programs are most valued by our members.

Motion 12-01 Peter White / Brad Adams: It was moved and seconded that the budget for 2012-2013 be accepted. Carried.

Motion 12-02 Peter White / Evan Meyers: It was moved and seconded that the financial statement for 2011-2012 be accepted. Carried.

9) There is still a desire to meet and hear feedback from the permanent residents on Belmont Lake. Larry will pursue this.

10) Brandon reviewed Belmont Lake quality and his recent testing.

There were 9 locations tested for e-coli. 7 samples were 0. One had 4 parts and one had 1 part. An acceptable level of e-coli for swimming is a reading of 100. This year's testing, combined with previous testing shows that Belmont Lake water quality is very good.

Brandon will also check the connection between the Ethanol plant and more pigeons on our Belmont Lake.

The high algae and 'elephant snot' present in Belmont Lake this year is something to monitor. This year's early thaw and warm temperature maybe a cause. The BLCA will monitor this throughout the remainder of this year and next year.

Brandon also reminded members that he 'tagged' 10 fish this spring. If a BLCA member catches one of these fish, please write down the tag number and bring it to a Board member for a \$50 prize.

There will also be a fishing camp held in August conducted by Brandon.

Brad thanked Brandon for his expertise and highlighted that Belmont Lake has many such "experts" from fishing experts, to TV show writing, graphic designers to engineers and involving these Belmont Lake experts is an honour for our Board and Lake Members.

11) Evan updated us on the value of our road rep program. We currently have 25 road reps and growing. There were some suggestions including-that Belmont Lake signs be stored in a central location and that road reps would update and place them every year. Another suggestion was that Evan would get a group of Road Maintenance managers together to discuss common concerns and joint opportunities among all roads on the lake.

12) There is a real estate package that will go to real estate agents when cottages are sold to new Belmont Lake cottagers. If you know of a new cottager, please let the BLCA know. It was also recommended to the BLCA Board that there be a link on our website for "tips for cottage owners who want to rent their cottage". It seems that even with a fire ban, cottage renters are having fires. The owner is directly responsible.

13) Other business.

Please watch the website for a date for an information session on cottage fire prevention.

Greg Alexander : Requested that members let us know when cottages have changed hands so that we can provide them with our "new cottager package"

Evan Meyers: Evan will be convening a "road mainenance summit" for the 2013 season to help fire roads more efficiently manage fire road costs and maintenance programs.

Carl Dorge asked the lake association to consider a communication program for rental cottages. The board took an action to look at education programs for cottage rental owners and clients.

14) Board elections.

Nominations: Nomination for current board members who wish to stand for 2011-2012: G. Alexander, B. van Asten, P. White., Larry Pick, Evan Meyers, Courtney Spalding, Brian Deas

Motion to close the nominations. Carried.

No election required as there is one vacant seat.

Peter White thanked Brad Adams for his work as President in the past two years.

Meeting adjourned at 11:45 am