

# **Belmont Lake Cottagers' Association**

## **Board Meeting Minutes Saturday, September 08, 2012**

### **Present:**

Brian Deas, Gerry Hutcheon, Evan Meyers, Larry Pick, Peter White

**Regrets:** Greg Alexander, Courtney Belanger, Brandon van Asten

### **1. Follow-ups from previous meeting August 13**

1. Newsletter schedule has been set
2. Draft proposal for newsletter outsourcing prepared and shared with potential editor – a response is expected by the end of September
3. Brian has prepared a draft of a social program survey – see agenda item 4 below
4. Reminder email has been sent. Only one registration came in to date as a result of the reminder
5. Membership list sent to board
6. Timing of regatta remains Sunday
7. Larry and Peter have transferred treasurer responsibilities. Peter will set up a meeting with the TD bank with Larry to complete the transfer
8. Banking signature forms need to be completed by Greg and Evan – **item brought forward**
9. Greg has worked out a system for easily updating signs. Greg submitted the following by email: I have a pretty good idea of how I'm going to make these. I'm expecting the cost to come in around \$300. Basically it will be a plywood backing with a plexiglass sliding cover on the front. I don't expect to have them completed until mid-November
10. Evan has drafted dates for next year – see agenda item 3 below

### **2. Water level action plan**

- Gerry will discuss with Greg the information he has collected to date.
- Greg provided the following by email:

I'd like to continue to be involved in the CVCA interaction as I think it is going to be a big issue over the next few years, and the lack of interaction between CVCA and BLCA, and perceived lack of support from HBM to CVCA has always bothered me. I talked to Tim Pidduck yesterday as I was trying to get my hands on the month-end watershed report; unfortunately it was not ready. We discussed a few things:

- He did confirm that the Belmont Dam is indeed an asset of the CVCA. Apparently Jeff Leal had told George that all dams in the watershed are MNR. Cordova and Round Lake dams are MNR. There is one other in the watershed that is MNR, but I can't recall which one he said

- Neil was able to get a flow-meter on loan and on Friday was out measuring flow speeds and water width/depth as a means to estimate the flow rate on each of the three rivers. The data is not yet available.

- I'm still not sure why, but Tim is very reluctant to pin any of the outbound flow rate issues, if there are any, on the state of the infrastructure. Ed Bracht is yet another cottager who made the trek to the dam, and

as I read his opinion on this it sounds like the majority of the flow is indeed due to basic issues with the dam. (vs say water that is leaking through the logs, which is something unavoidable in a stop-log dam)

For me the big issues with the CA are the budget and the infrastructure funding question. The more I look at the figures related to water in the watershed the more I become convinced that we would have this situation regardless of what action the CA took.

Can you put me down for an action to compile all of our collected info / background on CVCA, along the lines of the rock markers how-to. This will be a simple working document; nothing fancy (or publishable) but it would give us a place to store all that we're learning about the CVCA's operation during this time.

- The following concerns were expressed about **low** water levels: motor & boat damage, boats being stranded on bottom or on lifts, boats having to be removed well before the usual end of season, silt and algae in shallow bays, lack of water for water lines
- The following concerns were expressed about **high** water levels: flooded roads, shore erosion
- Gerry will focus on better planning of the Crowe Valley water system, starting with gathering all current information
- Peter will forward a message from Jeff Bondett to Gerry as a potential volunteer on this project
- The recent communications from Norm Harris was discussed. It was agreed that we are not ready to attend meetings with authorities until we have a chance to collect all information. Peter has asked Norm to let us know what transpired at his meetings with Dean Del Mastro and Jeff Leal.

### **3. Schedule for 2013**

- The draft schedule was reviewed in detail.
- A new version reflecting the discussion is attached to these minutes
- Peter will send a list of members and non members with postal codes K0L 1Z0 to Larry for use in identifying permanent residents
- Larry will contact Sue Cushing at Round Lake to see if they would like to be part of the Permanent Residents Meeting
- Brian will place large event signs at the 6<sup>th</sup> line and county road 48, the 2<sup>nd</sup> line and county road 48 and the entrance to Fire Roads 23 and Miles of Memories
- Peter will ask Brandon to confirm the date for the Pike Tournament
- Evan will pursue a volunteer to lead the Parade of Lights

#### 4. Social Activities

- Brian discussed the draft of the survey and several changes were recommended
- Brian will circulate a new draft of the survey for board review
- Larry will discuss with his wife whether the survey can be conducted using Survey Monkey
- The board decided that the survey should be distributed to members and non members who have email addresses, and to members only by regular mail who we do not have an email address on file

#### 5. Other Items

- **Lake Directory:** Peter will take the responsibility to contact members who did not specify whether or not they want to be included in the lake directory
- **Water Testing:** Peter sent a package of information on the water testing program that FOCA has defined to Brandon. He will forward the same information to Larry for review and feedback. The board agreed that we need to do more testing of our lake water to follow trends and ensure that we can react as soon as possible if the quality deteriorates.
- **Cottage Watch:** Larry will work with Courtney to set up a new section of our web site for cottage watch issues. Evan will provide an article for this new section highlighting a recent incident where a large stone was removed from his property without permission.
- **New Cottager Package** (from Greg via email): Terry Rees told us FOCA has a book that would be an excellent alternative to the Living by Water guide that I was looking at <http://www.livingbywater.ca/prodservices.html> . The FOCA book is called “Take the Plunge” and it covers a broader range of issues for cottagers. I’d suggest we buy a box of 10 – they are \$20 each but the per-box price is lower (I think Terry told me \$14).
- **Markers** (from Greg via email): 10 replacement markers have been ordered. I’ll receive them this week. Total cost \$271.20. I’ll roll this into my regatta expense report and send to Larry. Did you get the BBQ cash from my folks?

#### 6. Newsletter

- The following are the responsibilities for creating articles for the newsletter. Peter would like to review all articles before starting the president’s comments, which will be similar to an executive summary with reference to the detailed articles that follow.
- Social: Brian
- CVCA Interaction: Gerry
- Water Quality: Brandon
- Finances: Larry
- Fireworks: Evan
- Road Reps: Evan
- We also agreed that Belmont Lake Marina, Sam’s Place and Cottage Books would get a free ½ page ad in the newsletter
- Evan will follow up with West Ben and Stirling theatre to see if they would like to donate tickets to be drawn for members who join before mid July.

## **Summary of Follow up Items:**

1. Complete banking signature forms at the TD Bank (contact Teresa Todd at 705-778-3375) – **Greg, Evan** (Brought forward from prior meeting)
2. Forward a message from Jeff Bondett to Gerry as a potential volunteer on this project – **Peter – Done**
3. Send a list of members and non members with postal codes K0L 1Z0 to Larry for use in identifying permanent residents – **Peter - Done**
4. Contact Sue Cushing at Round Lake to see if they would like to be part of the Permanent Residents Meeting – **Larry**
5. Ask Brandon to confirm the date for the Pike Tournament – **Peter**
6. Pursue a volunteer to lead the Parade of Lights – **Evan**
7. Circulate a new draft of the survey for board review – **Brian**
8. Contact members who did not specify whether or not they want to be included in the lake directory – **Peter**
9. Forward to Larry water testing package originally sent to Brandon – **Peter**
10. Work with Courtney to set up a new Cottage Watch section on our web site – **Larry**
11. Follow up with West Ben and Stirling theatre to see if they would like to donate tickets to be drawn for members who join before mid July - **Evan**