

BELMONT LAKE COTTAGERS' ASSOCIATION  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
JULY 7, 2008

MINUTES

Introductory Remarks

President Art Church opened the meeting at 9:50 am, welcoming all members and guests, and commenting on the large turnout. It was noted that a quorum of members was present.

President Church welcomed and introduced guests from Belmont-Havelock-Methuen Township Council – Reeve Ron Gerow, Deputy Reeve Sharpe, Councillors Ellis and Martin.

Boating Safety

Mary Ellen Meyers made a presentation (attached) on behalf of the Board regarding Boating safety and speed restrictions. It was noted that the issue had been looked into as a result of concerns raised by some lake residents regarding speed, particularly in restricted channels and in the north and east rivers, and the extent of multi-purpose users on the lake.

Members and guests raised many concerns about the topic including the mandate of the Board to explore this, and the process used since the issue affects both lake residents and lake guests. A range of questions were raised:

- What channels and why
- Basis for an overall speed restriction
- What is the history of incidents on the lake
- The lake is generally not very busy – education & common sense should be needed
- Full licensing kicks in in 2009

***Motion (08-01): It was moved and seconded (Adams/Marshall) that that the membership of Belmont Lake Cottagers' Association support the board of directors in continuing the process for applying for boating restrictions and in implementing alternative non-regulatory boating safety strategies such as a safe boating card. (Motion Defeated).***

Council Update

On behalf of Council Reeve Gerow reviewed issues which have been raised as concerns of the taxpayers.

1. Lake Plan – Township office has received many calls. In response, assurance has been given that once Council is formally advised of the views of the BLCA, an open and public process would still be required before any action was taken. It was further noted that the County and Township official plans are in line for review which would be a very public process. Also, it was noted that there are several other lake associations at similar stages with the development of lake plans.
2. Roads – The bridge on County Rd 48 will be overhauled this coming year.
3. Broadband – The township is working with 2 providers of high-speed internet to expand and improve service. There are some federal and provincial resources available to assist.
4. Crowe Valley Conservation Authority – The matter of additional funding and support for CVCA is under discussion and seems positive.
5. Source Water Protection – This is a major issue for the Township and includes review of septic systems. All were advised to review their own situations and if in need of any help, contact the Township office.

Delegates posed several questions for the Reeve and Councillors:

1. Waste management – Can bins be located at the ends of Fire Roads and can the waste facilities be opened for extended hours? Individuals were advised to express their views in writing as Council was prepared to consider options for seasonal residents.
2. Town Water – Can the Township ensure that lake residents as tax payers have access to the town water supply? The Reeve noted that the water system was totally supported by the fees received from the town users; however, as a matter of public health it is made available to guests of the township.

#### Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Ed Bracht presented the financial statements for the year ending March 30, 2008. He noted that revenues were slightly higher than budget, while expenses were \$4,564 under budget. The positive variance however was largely made up of expenses which were incurred but not yet paid out as of the year end. These payables were accrued to the 2008-2009 budget year.

The Treasurer also presented the 2008-2009 budget noting it was in line with the previous year and included the accrued expenses.

The Treasurer read the financial review letter provided by , which noted that the statements were found to be in order.

***Motion 08-02: It was moved and seconded that the financial review letter be accepted. Carried.***

***Motion 08-03: It was moved and seconded that the financial statements for 2007-2008, and the budget for 2008-2009 be accepted. Carried.***

## Lakeland Alliance

Mary Ellen Meyers outlined the Lakeland Alliance initiative (attached). It is a voluntary program funded by Trillium Foundation to assist interested lake residents in assessing and improving their properties.

BLCA's application to be part of the program has been approved which will provide funding to assist up to 50 interested property owners. Members were advised to contact Mary Ellen if interested.

## Lake Plan Survey

Jim McCarthy presented an very brief overview of the history of the Lake Plan project, and summarized the results of the 2008 survey. The members and guests were reminded that the survey and discussion were based on the Motion from the 2007 AGM that stated:

Based on the work to-dated, a series of actions were proposed:

(1) Motion:

That the BLCA provide Recommendations 1 – 33 (minus 9, 11, 12 13) for consideration by Havelock-Belmont-Metheun Council in planning, including any review of the Official Plan, and operations, and adopt Recommendation 34 to 56 as a Blueprint for voluntary stewardship on Belmont Lake.

(2) The BLCA should address as a first priority the issue of Water Quality.

(3) Recommendations 9, 11, 12, & 13 be set aside for further review as potential voluntary guidelines.

There was considerable discussion particularly regarding the need to make recommendations to Council, and what the likely impact of those recommendations would be. There was also concern raised that the process agreed to in 2007 had not been properly followed. It was also noted that the Lake Plan had an impact on all lake residents, and not just the BLCA members, and as such a broader public process and discussion was necessary.

***Motion 08-04: It was moved and seconded that the discussion regarding the Lake Plan be tabled, that a separate meeting for this discussion be established by the end of August, and that all methods available be used to broadly communicate the meeting and its purpose. Carried.***

## Rock Marking

Greg Alexander reviewed the Rock Marking process, noting that the BLCA was in the process of replacing many of the tethers and markers. It was also noted that there now are available from the BLCA smaller private markers for \$15 which can be used for local marking around cottagers' shoreline hazards.

## Regatta

A call for volunteers was made. Anyone interested can contact Greg Alexander.

## Election of BLCA Directors

A slate of 15 candidates were nominated before nominations were closed on a motion. The slate included: B. Adams, G. Alexander, Bellefeuille, W. Buck, G. Clements, B. Coon, M. Coon, T. Flynn, Liscombe, J. McCarthy, M. Meyers, L. Pick, J. Stowe, B. van Asten, P. White.

***Motion 08-05: It was moved and seconded that nominations for Directors be closed. Carried.***

A vote was subsequently held, and the following candidates were elected as Directors for 2008-2009: B. Adams, G. Alexander, W. Buck, G. Clements, M. Coon, J. McCarthy, B. van Asten, P. White.

## Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 2:30 pm.