

OTTER LAKE RATEPAYERS' ASSOCIATION
Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting
February 9, 2014

APPROVED

Location: Home of Doug and Jane Whitman, Milton, ON

Present: David Amy, Todd Backman, Mario Buszynski, Art Coles, Cathy Morrison, Doug Whitman, Sharon Link, Brian Nelson

Quorum determined by Chairperson, Art Coles

Meeting brought to order by Chairperson, Art Coles

Minutes of September 20, 2013 meeting of Directors unanimously approved by the Directors.

NEW POSITIONS REVIEW AND STATUS

Cathy advised that there had been two responses from individuals showing a willingness to serve on the Board. Daryle Moffatt indicated a willingness to serve as Treasurer. He has an accounting background. His cottage is on Little Otter Lake. It was decided that Daryle be contacted with the request that he allow his name to stand at the AGM as a candidate for director. If approved, he would be asked to assume the role of Treasurer.

Brian Nelson was in attendance at this meeting and was introduced to the Board. Pursuant to the provisions of the Organizational Bylaw of the Association, Brian was approved by the board to replace Chris Van Allen.

COMMUNICATION TOWER

Brian Nelson advised that a new report on the proposed Bell communications tower is anticipated and he will keep the Board informed. Brian also advised that Bruce Gibbon has registered to run for council.

LAKE STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

The Stewardship flags need to be ordered from the Township. The Township has agreed to order flags for the various ratepayer associations. OLRA had agreed at the last Board meeting to pay the cost of the flags, to be awarded to the cottage owners who have demonstrated good lake stewardship as determined by the Lake Stewardship Program checklist. The cost of the flags is not yet known. A Stewardship Report will not be included in the newsletter but will be made available as a separate report.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The financial statements were presented by Cathy. The Operating Fund balance was \$9836.54, approximately \$1800 more than the balance on hand as of January 1, 2013. The Reserve Fund had a balance of \$32,959.99. The Environment Fund had a balance of \$13,721.78. Moved by Art and seconded by Doug that the financial statements be approved as presented. Passed unanimously.

It was moved by Sharon and seconded by Mario that the 2013 Financial Statements be posted on the website with notice of the posting to be included in the upcoming newsletter.

2014 PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET

The proposed budget was the same as presented at the September 20, 2013 Board of Directors meeting. It was agreed that the 2014 operating budget would be circulated prior to the Annual General Meeting for final approval by the Board.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Cathy identified that there are 446 properties on Otter Lake, some of which are vacant lots. The Association has 215 members. There was discussion about possible efforts to attract new members or individuals who have allowed their membership to lapse.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Agenda: possible agenda items include:

- Lake Stewardship Program
- Ministry of Natural Resources representative to discuss water level management issues and addressing cottager concerns about cribs, floating docks and boathouses
- Presentation by Grand Tappattoo
- Location: Grand Tappattoo Resort
- Time: Board of Directors Meeting : 9:00 a.m.
AGM: 10:00 a.m.

NEWSLETTER

The Board was advised that articles are needed for the newsletter. Possible contributions for future issues include:

- an article on issues impacting lake levels;
- an update on the communications tower;
- broadband Internet access;
- reasons to become a member of Otter Lake Ratepayers' Association;
- changes to the Photo Contest for 2014;
- cottage succession planning.

ALL CANDIDATES MEETING/FALL ELECTION

An All Candidates Meeting will be held either on Saturday, September 20, 2014 or Saturday, September 27 at 2:00 p.m. The tentative location for the meeting is the Community Center. All Wards and all candidates will be invited to attend. The election is scheduled for October 27, 2014 with the closing date for nominations being September 12.

ANNUAL BARBECUE

Todd will confirm with Sonja that the Annual barbecue can be held at the Marina on Saturday, August 9, 2014.

NEW BUSINESS

The Board reviewed the form of the 2014 Membership Form and approved using Brian Nelson's Burlington address as the return address to be used for membership submissions.

MEETING ADJOURNED

Many thanks to Jane and Doug for hosting the meeting and for their many years of contribution to OLRA.