

Annual General Meeting Minutes – Sat Aug 14 2021

The meeting started at 9:40 am. Attendance was taken for COVID-19 contact tracing purposes. There were 44 people at the AGM.

ITEM	TOPIC	OUTCOME
1A	Review of minutes from 2020	The minutes of 2020 were distributed, and a motion was put forward to accept them. The motion was moved by Jimmy Burke and seconded by David Caruana.
1B	2020 reflection	Dan highlighted the contributions of each member of the executive over the past year. The executive were all present. Joel Kwinter was also recognized for his contributions to the sale of hats and coordinating the ice cream day.
1C	Election of portfolios	A motion was put forward to see if anyone else wanted to come forward for one of these positions and the offer was declined.
1D	New executive member	Dan Miller introduced new board member Joel Kwinter. Joel has agreed to join the Board in the capacity of Marketing. A motion for the approval of new member Joel was moved by Dick Thomas and seconded by Jimmy Burke.
2	Community Events	Dick Thomas noted that the corn roast and regatta are no longer put on by the Association due to a lack of volunteers and challenges finding a large enough waterfront property to hold events. Dan Miller noted that environmental factors drove the decision to cancel fireworks. It was not feasible to organize gatherings this summer due to COVID-19. Pre-packaged ice cream was delivered to docks by boat this summer. It is hoped we can host a community event next summer. The Association will be seeking volunteers to organize an event. Input on community events was requested from our members. The following points were made: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It is appreciated that the board reflected on the pros/ cons before making a fireworks decision. - Canceling fireworks is forward thinking and a brave decision. - An event committee could be formed outside of the board. - The fireworks decision was made quickly, fireworks could have been put on for one more year and members consulted at this AGM. - Fire risks are high in surrounding areas this summer and an immediate decision was made that another year of putting on fireworks was not worth the environmental risks. - If you want to watch fireworks, you can go somewhere else.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Association survey results indicated fireworks were far down the list of important items to members and the environment was the most important issue. The survey results were shared via email and are posted on the website. - Consulting every member takes times, the Board makes decisions and has been doing so over the years.
3	Website	<p>Gary Lyon was introduced to speak about the website.</p> <p>Our members survey indicated that environmental issues are of high importance to our members. We have recreated our website with the environment as a top priority.</p> <p>The website rebuild was completed in February using a Word Press profile. Website maintenance costs will be reduced as Gary and Michael can now perform the website changes/updates without the use of a web developer.</p> <p>Google Analytics indicate we have doubled our traffic over the past year. Members are encouraged to contact the Association if there is content they would like to see included on our website.</p>
4	Town Liaison	<p>Gary Lyon shared updates from the Town of Gravenhurst.</p> <p>Jo Morphy is our Ward 2 counsellor. If members have specific concerns, it is recommended they email her.</p> <p>Road Work: We monitor our roads and send pictures of pot holes to the Town. Pinetree Rd. is being rehabilitated and completion is anticipated this season.</p> <p>Dock Repair: The Loon and Turtle Lake docks are anticipated to be repaired by the Town by Thanksgiving.</p> <p>Brushing: Some brush removal along the roads has already been completed. The Town has committed to completing this by the end of the season.</p> <p>The Town will be holding a meeting in the future seeking input from cottage association President's about how to encourage good renter conduct. LTLCA members were encouraged to contact the Association if they would like to share their thoughts on this topic.</p> <p>Dan discussed the abandoned boats sitting at the Loon & Turtle Lakes launch parking area. The Town is looking into removing these.</p> <p>Michael discussed road safety, especially for pedestrians and bikes. The Association has put up CAA signs along the roads to encourage drivers to be cautious. The Town is considering reducing the speed from 50km to 40km.</p>

<p>5</p>	<p>Environment Update</p>	<p>Peter Helston was introduced to speak about the Environment.</p> <p>The Goose control program was reviewed. Hunter to be utilized this fall and rehired for next year. Members can expect an email soon with more information.</p> <p>Peter showed a photo of a Pesticide sign that was on a cottage lawn in our area.</p> <p>The Love Your Lakes program is currently underway, with the 1st phase now complete. Members will receive a report specific to their property shoreline via mail, including pictures and suggestions. The focus is on maintaining a natural edge to filter runoff into the lake.</p> <p>Water Plants – an inventory of water plants is to be initiated to identify what is in our lakes and to be prepared for the discovery of invasive species.</p> <p>Rebecca Willison was introduced from Muskoka Watershed Council. Members were invited to stay after the AGM for a workshop to learn more about restoring or maintaining a natural shoreline.</p> <p>Michael discussed that the Benthic Monitoring test was completed on June 19th. The results are now posted on our website.</p>
<p>6</p>	<p>Water Safety Awareness Committee Update</p>	<p>Michael Clarke was introduced to speak about the WSAC.</p> <p>The WSAC was formed in 2017 with the purpose of promoting safe boating practices on our lakes through messages of awareness. Signs, the website and the newsletter are being utilized to share this information.</p> <p>Michael made reference to recent boating fatalities in Muskoka and unsafe boating practices that have been observed on our lakes.</p> <p>Michael asked for input as to whether renters are the main concern with unsafe boating practices. The following points were made by members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Members have observed renters in boats without life jackets, openly drinking alcohol in motorized boats, swimming across the lake without a spotter or marker, driving motorized boats fast and close to the shoreline and driving boats fast at night without lights. - It was also noted that people trailer their boats into our lakes and visit for the day. - It was suggested that the Association reach out to new cottager owners and owners that rent their cottages. Water etiquette information could be shared or posted for renters. - Members who have a new neighbour could also reach out to raise awareness of etiquette on the water or direct them to connect with the Association.

7	Membership	<p>David Caruana was introduced to speak about Membership.</p> <p>E-transfer has become the most common form of payment.</p> <p>In 2020 we had 203 paid members and we have about 180 paid members to date. The lower membership numbers this year are likely attributed to the fee increase, members financial situations during COVID-19 and generational switchover of cottages.</p> <p>If a member has a new neighbour, they are encouraged to contact David so they can be invited to join the Association.</p> <p>It was suggested the Association create a welcome package for new cottager owners.</p>
8	Budget	<p>Carol Helston was introduced to give the Treasurers report.</p> <p>Carol discussed the financial statement that was printed for members to review. It was mentioned that over the past 2-3 years the Association has spent more money than what has come in. The \$45 membership fee will be retained for 2022. A reserve fund of 20K is to be maintained.</p> <p>Members inquired about the bank fees associated and suggested a financial forecast be created in the future. The cost of the ice cream day was discussed, less expensive items could be considered for a future event and the importance of putting a face to our Association on this day was highlighted.</p>

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40am.