

**CLEAR LAKE COTTAGERS' ASSOCIATION
ASSOCIATION CHALETS LAC CLAIR
SUNDAY 03 AUGUST, 2014
ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES**

1. Call to order at 1:20 pm – 54 in attendance

President Derek introduced Joanne Savage Mayor of West Nipissing and invited her to address the group and respond to questions after the President's report.

2. Adoption of Agenda. Moved by Gilbert Mayotte, seconded by Fern Levesque that the agenda be approved as amended by the group. Approved by All.

3. Approval of Minutes of Annual General Meeting 04 Aug 2013.
Moved by Gerry Murnaghan, seconded by Brad Laird that the minutes be accepted.

Residents reported that illegal parking on Clear Lake Rd near Lake Tonnerre continues to be a concern. There is no signage at this area. (Mayor Savage agreed to look into this problem)

Residents also reported that the municipality has yet to clear brush away from the intersection of Clear Lake Rd and Southshore Rd. President Derek clarified that brushing has been completed on Northshore Rd and Clear Lake Rd. The Board will contact public works to address this issue . Approved by All.

4. Treasurer's Report. President Derek presented a financial report on behalf of Yvette Morrison, who could not attend the meeting. Moved by Fern Levesque, seconded by Winston Lemay that the report outlining a bank balance of \$ 900.06 be accepted. Approved by All.

5. President's Report – Derek reported on a number of issues that had been addressed since the last AGM

President Derek commenced his remarks by welcoming Jenny Navid back to the fold after a lengthy illness.

Denmar Quarry – President Derek reported that the Ontario Municipal Board hearing into the application had taken place in January 2014. The OMB approved the quarry application, but set several very stringent restrictions based on the evidence that had been introduced by those opposing the plan. Denmar Construction will be required to meet many new restrictions and obtain Municipal approval of entrances, setbacks, etc. before the quarry can proceed. He indicated that the actions of those opposed to the application had been instrumental in setting new restrictions on the applicant and actually reduced the potential for environmental damage as a result of any work at the site on Clear Lake Rd. He advised the OMB ruled that "road safety" issues remain solely within the prevue

of the municipality, but the OMB had encouraged Roads Supervisor, Luc Rifou to meet with CLCA to discuss five safety issues that had been raised during the hearing. A letter has been sent requesting a meeting. Derek was very laudatory of the work put into the presentation by the Board members who assisted in preparing the presentation; He thanked Howie Longfellow and Bob Jolley in particular.

2013 AGM Issues – President Derek reported the Board had followed through on issues raised at the 2013 AGM by contacting West Nipissing Police, West Nipissing Council, and the West Nipissing Roads department. He clarified that police had agreed to step up enforcement in relation to parking on Clear Lake Rd... near Tonnerre Lake. (Tom Sayer confirmed that the WNPS has been observed issuing tickets in the area). Chief Seguin, Nipissing Police has also requested a meeting with CLCA to discuss coordinated messaging through the CLCA Website.

Council did not respond to the CLCA correspondence and the roads department has not yet carried out brushing in the area of the Northshore Rd and Clear Lake Rd. intersection.

CLCA Website - President Derek reported that the new website is up and running. Howie Longfellow, who used the resources of his computer graphics business, Crimsonpepper to build the site explained what information was available to users.

Bob Jolley encouraged all members / residents to register to receive regular updates via email. He explained increased use of the site would lead to efficiencies and reduce costs to the Association. Residents were encouraged to review the site at <http://clearlakecottagersassociation.ca>

6. **Presentation by Mayor Savage** - Mayor Savage commended CLCA for the efforts presented during the Denmar OMB Hearing. She reported that the CLCA and other opponents had been instrumental in bringing in restrictions that would reduce the potential for environmental damage and make it much more difficult for the quarry to proceed. She indicated the Municipality would take steps to monitor implementation and take steps to ensure that any road repair costs caused by contractors would be borne by the contractor and not taxpayers. Mayor Savage agreed to look into complaints in relation to parking on Clear Lake Rd. near Lac Tonnerre and brushing in the vicinity of CLR and Southshore Rd.

Mayor Savage indicated the municipality has implemented a TOWN HALL telephone number to enable constituents to register complaints/concerns.

Residents are urged to call: 753-2250 (business hours) or 753-1170 (afterhours) to register any concerns. Callers should receive a response within 48 hrs.

7. **Membership-** At present, 45 CLCA members have paid 2014-15 membership dues. Anyone wishing to submit payment may contact Yvette Morrison at 1-705-566-1035 or submit payment by mail to the Association at *P.O. BOX 98, FIELD, ON P0H 1M0*
8. **Lake Partner Program** – Len Tighe reported lake testing indicates the lake clarity has depleted over the previous 10 years (down from an average of 14 ft to only approx 9.5 ft below surface). He said excessive rain could affect readings, but suggested that the readings may also be the result of increased activity on the lake. Use of any substance including “phosphates” will lead to a decline in the health of the lake. All residents are encouraged to refrain from the use of any powdered laundry / dish detergents, or lawn fertilizer in or near the lake. To ensure longevity of our watersource all residents must be vigilant and take all reasonable steps to reduce pollution. In conjunction with Serge Giroux, Len will arrange for more comprehensive testing of the water quality. In the interim, members suggested that the Board initiate an educational program to ensure residents protect our lake quality.

Members discussed concerns over lake water quality, reviewing past measures that have been employed. (i.e. dye packs, reports to Environment Canada and discussions with North Bay Conservation Authority). The Mayor heard that CLCA’s past involvement with these agencies was futile and any remedies that were proposed were not acceptable to our members. The Mayor will check into the situation with the Conservation Authority and report back to the Association.

In the interim, the Board agreed to use the CLCA website, CLCA poster board (CLR & Northshore Rd) and handouts to spread the word to protect our lake.

8. **Marker Buoys** – Claude McGrath reported that installation of buoys was delayed this year due to weather. He asked that anyone finding loose buoys or wishing to report shallow spots on the lake contact him or Derek Stewart. Derek reported additional buoys and rope will need to be purchased in the near future.
9. **Neighborhood watch / Loon Watch Study.** There were no reported break-ins over the winter. The Board asked everyone to continue to be vigilant in reporting suspicious activity to police and refrain from taking any policing action on their own.

No one has volunteered to take on the Loon Watch Study.

10. **Clean-up.** President Derek thanked Carole Friedrich for coordinating this year’s cleanup. Carole Anne reports indicate there was less trash found than in past years, but discarding of used diapers has become a problem in the area of the public beach. She has reported concerns to the Tribune. Cleanup day as always will be held the first Saturday in May of next year (weather permitting).

Members reported concerns that the local landfill is being used by people from outside of Field and inquired if the municipality had conducted any studies to determine the life span of the landfill. Mayor Savage indicated she is not aware of any plan to expand the Field landfill, but confirmed that all sites are subjected to engineering studies to determine the viability for use. She advised she would make inquiries to report back to the Board in relation to the future of the local landfill.

Members reported concerns of illegal dumping off area roadways. Mayor Savage indicated she is very supportive of any actions to curb this type of behavior. She encouraged members to call police, not municipal authorities, when such offences are observed. Callers are encouraged to make note of licence numbers or any identifiers to provide information that will enable police to identify and prosecute offenders. Residents are reminded to leave any enforcement to the police.

11. Call for nominations to the Board.

The Eight existing Board Members will remain in office until 2016. The Board sought nominations from the floor to fill the two remaining vacant director's spots. No response was received.

The CLCA Board consists of the following.

Derek Stewart – President
Lois Dobson – Past President
Bob Jolley - Secretary
Yvette Morrision – Treasurer / Membership Chair
Len Tighe
Claude McGrath
Serge Giroux
Howie Longfellow – Website coordinator

12. New Business

Overnight Camping / Bonfires – Camp Island. Residents reported that people are camping and lighting campfires in the above location. The Board reported this problem to the Municipality and Ministry of Natural Resources in 2011, seeking appropriate signage to discourage this activity, but there has been no response to date.

President Derek advised the Mayor that CLCA would take responsibility for posting of signs if the municipality could provide signs. Mayor Savage indicated she would look into the situation and report back.

Boaters beware - Boaters are encouraged to refrain from any activity on the lake that would interrupt wildlife or the other cottagers. Most recently, boaters have been observed unnecessarily swamping loons and other wildlife.

Loose dogs – Residents reported that some dogs are being allowed to run loose and bother pedestrians using the roadway. Mayor Savage encourages anybody having such problems to call the Town Hall line. Reports will be investigated by the humane society, and loose dogs can be impounded causing owners to incur costs.

Donation to Knights of Columbus – President Derek thanked the McGrath's for facilitating use of the rental hall. Members were pleased with the venue. Moved by Gilbert Mayotte, seconded by Brad Laird that \$50.00 be donated to the Knights of Columbus. All in Favour.

13. Attendance Draw – Anne Lynch and Gail Tighe each won a \$25.00 CTC card. Jacqueline Mayotte and Alice Arbour won tee shirts.
14. Next Meeting Date: Sunday, 02 August, 2015.
15. Meeting Adjournment Moved by Gilbert Mayotte, Seconded by Brad Laird that the meeting be adjourned at 3:00 p.m. All in favour

NOTE: To reduce future mail out costs, a list will have to be developed to identify those members who have computer access to our new website. Members with internet access will please register on the website to receive email notifications and reduce the need for costly regular mail outs.