

**CLEAR LAKE COTTAGERS' ASSOCIATION
ASSOCIATION CHALETS LAC CLAIR
SUNDAY 02 AUGUST, 2015
ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES**

1. Call to order at 1:09 pm – 29 in attendance

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

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

3. Approval of Minutes of Annual General Meeting 03 Aug 2014. Moved by Brad Laird, seconded by Lois Dobson that the minutes be accepted.

4. Mayor's Presentation. Mayor Savage reported she was pleased to attend and noted that Councilor Tessier was unable to attend due to work commitments. She reminded members that the municipality was always willing to respond to our concerns and to call the Town hall telephone number with any inquiries/complaints.
In relation to previously reported concerns, she advised that the municipality had no jurisdiction to establish signage on Camp Island as previously requested by CLCA. The island remains the property of the Crown and under the jurisdiction of the MNR.
She reported that the landfill is regularly inspected and in good condition. Recycling efforts have actually increased the expected life span of the landfill by 10-15 years. She reiterated that only local residents should be using the Clear Lake landfill.
She reported that the new swim dock/platform at the beach was installed at the request of a Field group who had won a local contest. The municipality will be responsible for setting up the dock and taking it in each year.
She reported council has received a request to leave the gate opened at the beach. She is aware that the gate was installed to keep vehicles off of the beach and is therefore a supporter of keeping the gate closed. (See new business below)
She reported on road building projects in 2015 including the ditching and resurfacing of Muskasung Rd.
She advised that West Nipissing has hired a part-time by-law enforcement officer, who will respond to noise complaints and other reports related to breach of by-laws. After hours complaints can be directed to the Town hall telephone line, or ongoing complaints could be reported to police.

5. Treasurer's Report. President Derek presented a financial report on behalf of Yvette Morrison, who could not attend the meeting. Moved by Claude McGrath, seconded by Anne Lynch that the report outlining a bank balance of \$ 708.88 be accepted. Approved by All.

6. **President's Report** – Derek thanked Mary Laird for volunteering to conduct annual Bird Study of Canada Loon Reports on behalf of CLCA.
Mary has reported that local loons have been sighted with 2 young offspring. In addition on one occasion 5 adult Loons were sighted on the lake.
In lieu of reporting on all issues, Derek indicated he would address additional issues under Old and New Business.
7. **Membership** - Reporting from a report compiled by Yvette Morrison, Derek reported that 57 members have paid 2014-2015 membership. Of those, 25 members have already paid 2015-2016 and 10 members have paid beyond that date.
8. **Lake Partner Program** – Len Tighe reported that water clarity has increased to an average of 12' from an average of 9.5' in 2014. Water samples submitted each fall indicate the lake is healthy with minimal phosphorus levels. While there does not appear to be any imminent concerns re nutrient levels or algae growth, he encouraged all residents to keep up the good work and be vigilant about using only “green” products around the lake. Irresponsible actions around the lake (fertilizing, spills or poorly maintained septic systems) could easily affect future lake quality.
9. **Marker Buoys** – Claude McGrath reported high water levels made buoy setup more difficult this year. He reported he and Derek Stewart would be making new weights this fall. He encouraged anyone taking care of buoys to report any repair needs to him or Derek. Claude requested more volunteers come forward to replace some people who have retired. Luc Tardiff volunteered to assist with buoy setup.
10. **Neighborhood Watch** - Derek reported that 2 break-ins that had occurred on Northshore Rd. were reported to police but the occurrences remain unsolved. All members were encouraged to keep an eye on neighbors' property and report any suspicious vehicles or activity to police. This type of activity is especially helpful after fall close-ups before snow accumulation.
11. **Clean-up.** Derek thanked everyone that assisted with this year's clean-up. Two illegal dumping sites that were found were reported to police, but no culprits were identified.

Heather Janveau suggested that opening landfill gates earlier on Sundays may be more accommodating to seasonal residents and may discourage dumping garbage at the gates. Mayor Savage suggested she would look into this issue and report back to the Association
12. **Elections** – Two members who agreed to fill the existing vacancies on the CLCA Board were acclaimed to the Board.

The CLCA Board consists of the following.

Derek Stewart – President
Lois Dobson – Past President
Bob Jolley - Secretary
Yvette Morrison – Treasurer / Membership Chair
Claude McGrath - Buoys
Len Tighe – Water study
Serge Giroux- Water study
Howie Longfellow – Website coordinator
Brad Laird
Luc Tardiff

13. OLD BUSINESS

Safety Concerns / Clear Lake Rd – Derek reported that the municipality has yet to address safety issues raised during the Denmark OMB Hearing.

In addition, the Board has concerns regarding dead trees on road allowances.

Marc Gagnon, West Nipissing Operations Director and Luc Rifou have agreed to meet with CLCA to review these complaints. Derek Stewart, Bob Jolley and Brad Laird will represent CLCA.

Denmark Quarry – There has been no sign of quarry development on the site. The contractor is required to meet all municipal concerns over the haulage route and access to the pit before municipal approval would be granted and a licence issued by the MNR. Mayor Savage suggested she would look into the status of that situation and report back to CLCA.

Brushing / Southshore Rd – West Nipissing has completed brushing as requested.

Signage Camp Island – Derek reported that a request will be forwarded to Mr. Gauvreau, MNR.

14. NEW BUSINESS

Ditching / Northshore Rd – West Nipissing is presently adding gravel base to Northshore Rd. Residents inquired if ditching will be done. This issue will be addressed with Mr. Gagnon.

Beaver Pond / Northshore Rd. – concerns regarding this new pond will be discussed with Marc Gagnon, West Nipissing Operations.

Website Usage – Message stats for the CLCA website indicate news is reaching more homes than was the case with regular mail. Bob Jolley reported regular mail to 93 residents has been reduced to 12 people.

Hydro One Rate Increases – Derek reported on the Ontario Energy Board ruling approving a 19% rate increase over 3 years commencing Jan 2016. Resident should monitor billing or access the Hydro One website for more information.

Motion – *Moved by Alan Hardiman, seconded by Claude McGrath that West Nipissing Council be notified that Clear Lake Cottagers' Association is opposed to removing the locks from gates at the public beach on Clear Lake when no security personel are on-site. The gate is the only option of preventing a reoccurrence of vehicles entering the beach area , thus creating unsafe conditions and high potential for property damage which was the experience in the past. All in favour.*

Noise complaint – Residents complained of unwanted noise in the Clear Lake Rd. area. The noise reportedly emanates from exterior speakers installed with a large screen projector at a lakefront residence. Nipissing Police have confirmed that the noise by-law would apply in these circumstances. Mayor Savage reminded members that complaints could be addressed by the by-law enforcement officer.

Adding Sand / Aggregate to Beach areas – Members inquired as to the protocol to be followed when adding sand to a private shoreline on the lake. Derek advised that the MNR must first be consulted and authorization was required to do anything that could potentially affect the lake. Members were encouraged to direct any complaints to the MNR.

CLCA Commended – Joe Arcand , a resident of Tanner Lake attended the meeting to personally extend his thanks to CLCA for the support we provided in opposition to the Denmar Quarry Application. He was very lauditory of the quality of work and our new website.

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 Brad Laird, seconded by Gilbert Mayotte that \$50.00 be donated to the Knights of Columbus. All in Favour.

15. Attendance Draw – Denise Desrochers and Michael Bain each won a \$25.00 CTC card. Derek Stewart and Bob Jolley won tee shirts.
 16. Next Meeting Date: Sunday, 31 July, 2016.
 15. Meeting Adjournment Moved by Jaqueline Mayotte, Seconded by Luc Tardif that the meeting be adjourned at 2:35 p.m. All in favour .
- Note **register on the website to receive email notifications if you have not done so already.**