

**CLEAR LAKE COTTAGERS' ASSOCIATION
ASSOCIATION CHALETS LAC CLAIR
SUNDAY 06 August 2017
ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES**

1. Call to order at 1:12 pm – 27 in attendance

President Howie introduced Joanne Savage Mayor of West Nipissing and invited her to address the group after the New Business portion of the meeting.

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

3. Approval of Minutes of Annual General Meeting 31 July 2016. Moved by Alan Hardiman, seconded by Sharon Murnaghan to dispense with rereading and accept the minutes as posted. Approved by All.

4. Treasurer's Report. Yvette Morrison presented a financial report outlining expenditures of \$ 445.24 (bank charges, website firewall, administration costs, etc.) since the 2016 AGM leaving a bank balance of \$704.65 . This balance will be increased by an additional \$250.00 (membership fees) collected at the 2017 AGM to a balance of \$954.24. Moved by Yvette Morrison, seconded by Len Tighe that the report be accepted. Approved by All.

5. President's Report – Howie thanked members for attending the meeting and the assistance that volunteers provide to keep the Association active. He commended Board members for the the assistance they had provided during his first year of tenure and the assistance and guidance they had provided to him in his new role as President. Members were reminded to remain vigilant in their efforts to protect the lake by refraining from introducing soaps, cleaners . fertilizers and other contaminants directly to the water and by maintaining grey water and septic systems. He also commented that people should keep to speed limits while on the lake to protect other users, water fowl and shorelines. Members were reminded that the Board is maintained for the benefit of all residents and could be consulted to address any issues that arise in relation to the local environment.

6. Membership - Yvette Morrison indicated that a total of 44 members have paid their dues for the next year at the time of her report. Some of those members have paid ahead for future years.

7. Lake Partner Program – Len Tighe reported that he and Serge Giroux had completed water clarity testing of the lake. Early tests showed a clarity depth of 16' which is even

more remarkable than the 2016 level of 15'! Previous testing showed an annual average of 13' only. He explained the procedures employed and advised members that water samples are routinely sent for testing in relation to "phosphate" levels.

Members are reminded that they can review our test results back in excess of a decade at: <https://foca.on.ca/lake-partner-program-sampling-assistance/>

Note: to review results open the listed excel documents and search under Clear Lake (Bain) Field station 6954. You will note that phosphorus levels have decreased considerably since CLCA actively encouraged members to protect our lake!

8. **Marker Buoys** – Claude McGrath reported that he and Luc Tardiff had placed the buoys around the lake despite delay due to spring weather. He reported the new stainless steel cables are working well, but suggested that additional buoys be purchased. Moved by Alan Hardiman, seconded by Len Tighe that Claude be authorized to purchase 3 new small and one large buoy. All in favour.
9. **Neighbourhood Watch** Bob Jolley reported that Chief Seguin, West Nipissing Police had indicated there were no reported break-ins or police problems reported around the Lake.
10. **Clean-up.** Howie reported that the 2017 clean up went well. Volunteers cleaned area road allowances and the beach area over the first week of May. No illegal dumping sites were found. He thanked volunteers, and specifically commended Carole Ann Friedrich for coordinating the event for so many years. Heather Janveau commended the local gentleman who she routinely observed removing trash from the roadway while riding bicycle on Northshore Rd. (identify unknown)
11. **Board of Directors**

The CLCA Board still consists of the following members.

Howie Longfellow – President / website coordinator
Bob Jolley - Secretary
Yvette Morrision – Treasurer / Membership Chair
Claude McGrath - Buoys
Len Tighe – Water study
Serge Giroux- Water study
Brad Laird
Luc Tardiff – Buoys
Angele St George
Alan Hardiman

12. OLD BUSINESS

Follow up on Hydro Complaint - Howie reported that he had made a formal complaint to Hydro 1 regarding comments their employee made to Yvette Morrison in relation to a 2016 power failure. After numerous communications, Hydro indicated they could not take any action against an employee unless the complainant could identify that employee by name. Mayor Savage suggested that future concerns in that regard could be directed to the local MPP, who may be able to assist.

Beaver pond - Northshore Rd - Bob Jolley advised that situation with the pond does not seem to have changed since last year, when the municipality confirmed there was no basis for concern in relation to runoff or leaching from the landfill. Carole Ann Friedrich reported that the beaver dam at that location was huge the last time she travelled the area. No further action anticipated.

Road Repairs - Northshore Rd - Howie reported that he and Bob Jolley had met with Jay Barbeau, CAO and Shawn Remillard, West Nipissing Public Works to discuss outstanding repairs on Northshore Rd. Mr. Barbeau confirmed that the Ministry of Environment had refused to authorize placement of two new culverts over concerns of runoff to the lake. Mayor Savage suggested she would follow up with the MOE to see if that decision could be adjusted to allow road repairs to prevent roadway flooding.

Signage - Lake Tonnerre - Howie read from a letter Mr. Barbeau had sent in response to his meeting on 1 August 2017. The municipality will erect two “boat launch ahead” signs, and four signs indicating that parking is not permitted on the lake side of Clear Lake Rd near the boat launch. Single lane parking will be permitted on the opposite side of the roadway only. Also it was suggested that the municipality may be able to expand the parking shoulder sometime in the future to allow clear passage. There was no firm commitment on this aspect of the project. Howie suggested that these actions should help alleviate safety concerns. Due to the fact that the Denmar Quarry project seems to have failed to get off the ground, the remaining concerns that CLCA had regarding increased heavy trucking in the area were not discussed with Mr. Barbeau.

13. NEW BUSINESS

Community Facebook Page - Alan Hardiman reported that he had created a community Facebook page entitled “Clear Lake of Field News” to enable residents to exchange communication in relation to the lake area. He stressed that the site would be an informal method enabling residents to exchange photos commentary, etc. in relation to life at the lake. The site would not be administered or operated by CLCA. Residents who wished to direct any formal inquiries or comments to CLCA would not use the Facebook site for that purpose. He will include a “disclaimer” to that effect on the page.

At the suggestion of Mayor Savage, a list of “rules of usage” will also be included in the site to prevent misuse of the Facebook page. Residents who have any further inquiries regarding the Facebook site may contact Alan Hardiman at alan@abcbuzz.com

New “Join Us” sign Northshore Bulletin Board - Howie reported that the Board had approved the expenditure of \$65.00 for a new sign to encourage residents / visitors to sign up on the CLCA website. The sign has been mounted. After some discussion, it was agreed that the remaining portions of the bulletin board would be kept exclusively for CLCA use. No commercial advertising would be permitted.

Lakeside use of cleaning products / fertilizers. The Board reminded members that despite some advertising claims to the contrary, use of soaps, shampoos, etc. in or near the lake is still strongly discouraged by scientists. Reliable sources would warn that untreated soaps, etc. should not be introduced to the ground within 200’ of a waterway. All residents are encouraged to refrain from use of soaps and or fertilizers in close proximity to the lake! Phosphorus is only one of the many damaging components in these products. It was suggested that the Board could provide some guidance in that regard on the website. In the interim, residents are reminded to keep grey-water and septic systems in good functioning order.

Landfill Lifespan - Howie reported a response he had received from Mr. Barbeau, CAO regarding use of the Clear Lake Rd landfill site. It is anticipated that the landfill will not be full for at least 10 years. Mr. Barbeau suggests when the site is full, it will be remodelled as a transfer site and residents will retain the ability to drop trash at that location. Regarding use of the landfill by contractors, Mr. Barbeau confirmed that contractors retain the right to drop refuse from any renovation within the catchment area to our landfill. Contractors must go to one of another two specific drop off sites with garbage emanating from outside our catchment area. The Board is not aware of any breaches of that policy, but the municipality will be reaffirming this policy with the attendant at the Clear Lake Rd. site.

Joy Riding - Seadoos - Residents reported problems caused by two visitors at the lake. The parties involved trailered seadoos to the lake and continued to drive erratically. Concerns related to the speed used, and oil/gas spills caused when the seadoos were intentionally immersed in the lake. In the event of future occurrences, residents are encouraged to call West Nipissing Police at 705-753-1234. WNPS will ensure that the appropriate police agency (OPP) is advised. If possible retrieving the watercrafts license number would be helpful.

Snowshoe Trail - Carole Ann Friedrich reminded residents that a trail in and around Northshore Rd is maintained during the winter. It is a great site for wildlife viewing. While volunteers do a good job at maintaining the trail, the more traffic the better. Those interested are encouraged to use the trail throughout the winter.

Hydro Pole Problem - Members discussed concerns that the hydro pole (#34245 - 1397 Clear Lake Rd) was falling over across the roadway again. It was suggested that the Hydro be contacted. (Mayor Savage agreed to refer this issue to West Nipissing Public works - who may have more clout in getting the problem corrected by Hydro 1).

Donation to Knights of Columbus – President Howie thanked Claude McGrath for facilitating use of the rental hall. Moved by Joyce Jolley, seconded by Gilbert Mayotte that \$50.00 be donated to the Knights of Columbus. All in Favour.

14. MAYORS PRESENTATION

Mayor Savage thanked residents for the invitation to attend. She reported that the budgeting process had been difficult this year. but efforts were made to ensure that all areas of the municipality received attention. She thanked CLCA for its advocacy role in relation the lake and surrounding area and encouraged members to call the municipality when they could assist in that regard.

One large project in planning involves Verner hosting the International Plowing Match & Expo in 2019. This project will require approximately 1000 local volunteers and bring between 15,000 - 20,000 visitors to the area for 5 days. There should be considerable spin off business for local entrepreneurs . It is anticipated that camps and private billeting will be required to accommodate the overload from local hotels and motels.

Howie thanked the Mayor for attending and promised to follow up with her regarding the issues raised at the AGM.

15. Attendance Draw – Sharon Murnaghan and Mike Bain won \$25.00 CTC cards.

16. Adjournment - Moved by Alan Hardiman, seconded by Lois Dobson that the meeting be adjourned. All in favour.

17. Next Meeting Date: Sunday, 05 August, 2018.