

**CLEAR LAKE COTTAGERS' ASSOCIATION
ASSOCIATION CHALETS LAC CLAIR
SUNDAY 04 August 2019
ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES**

1. Call to order at 1:00 pm – 26 in attendance

President Howie introduced guests Mayor Joanne Savage and councillor Chris Fisher of West Nipissing .

2. Adoption of Agenda. Moved by Gerry Murnaghan, seconded by Mary Dobson that the agenda be approved as amended by the group. Approved by All.

3. Approval of Minutes of Annual General Meeting 05 August 2018. Moved by Al Hardiman, seconded by Claude McGrath to accept the minutes as posted. Approved by All.

4. Treasurer's Report. Yvette Morrison presented a financial report outlining expenditures of \$ 201.52 (bank charges, administration costs, donations, etc.) since the 2018 AGM leaving a bank balance of \$1011.69. This balance will be increased by an additional \$135.00 (membership fees) collected at the 2019 AGM to a balance of \$1,146.69. Moved by Gerry Murnaghan, seconded by Tom Sayer that the report be accepted. Approved by All.

5. President's Report - Howie reported on the recent forest fire adjacent to Clear Lake Rd that was attributed to a lightning strike. He asked that everyone remain conscious of the potential fires , due to the dry spell and respect any fire bans. Once again he encouraged members to spread the word to protect our lake water and adhere to the saying CLCA has adopted " If you wouldn't eat or drink it....please don't put it in our lake". He provided a review of the action taken on items raised at the 2018 AGM and commended the Mayor and West Nipissing administration on the actions taken. He thanked Claude McGrath and other volunteers for setting buoys.

6. Membership - Bob Jolley reported that records indicate that paid membership has waned from previous years. Eight members paid membership fees at the AGM. Records will be updated to reflect full paid up membership. In the interim, Howie Longfellow reported that an initiative was being undertaken with the assistance of Al Hardiman to enhance membership numbers.

Association expenditures have been reduced with the implementation of the website and email, but maintaining safety buoy markers to protect boaters is paramount and requires financial commitment. Residents who have not yet done so are strongly encouraged to help out by joining the Association and paying the minimal \$ 15.00 annual fee. Any existing member who has not yet done so is encouraged to pay the 2019-2020 fee by sending a

cheque for \$15.00 payable to Clear Lake Cottagers' Association at P.O. Box 98, Field . ON , P0H1MO or by contacting the Association Treasurer, Yvette Morrison at 705-758-6225.

7. **Lake Partner Program** – Serge Giroux was unable to attend the meeting . In the absence of an actual report, Alain Faubert reported that he had assisted with testing and could report that the water clarity findings were very good...showing good clarity at a depth of 20 ft in some areas. Members are also reminded that they can review our test results back in excess of a decade at: <https://foca.on.ca/lake-partner-program-sampling-assistance/> During the discussion on water quality, a question was raised regarding the potential for “itch” in the lake. This is not a widespread local problem . However, members were reminded that showering after a swim can help, but vigorously towelling dry to prevent “parasites” from burrowing into the skin immediately after swimming is a more effective method of preventing “swimmers’ itch”.
8. **Marker Buoys** – Claude McGrath reported that he and his volunteers had placed the buoys around the lake. He reported that despite adding some stainless steel cable and swivels, there would be a need to purchase and replace some buoys to meet future needs. Buoys are now much more expensive than in the past. He also reminded boaters to stay way clear of buoys , as some buoys are placed to identify areas of shallow water versus a specific outcropping of rock.
9. **Neighbourhood Watch** - Bob Jolley reported due to the recent transition to OPP policing in West Nipissing, no actual police report was received in relation to reported incidents around the lake over the past year. Residents learned that one incident of attempted theft of firewood had been reported on Clear Lake Rd. and a basket of artificial flowers had been taken from a cottage driveway entrance on Northshore Rd. In addition, a towable water riding device and rope had been removed from a beachfront on Northshore Rd. While there is no official “neighbourhood watch” program in West Nipissing, members were encouraged to remain vigilant to unusual activity and report incidents to police as warranted. Members were also reminded that the 911 number should still be employed to obtain emergency police response, however administrative calls should now be directed to the OPP.
10. **Spring Clean-up**- Howie reported that due to a wet spring, the 2019 clean up had been completed by volunteers over a period of weeks vs on one specific day. He indicated the area road allowance and beach area were less problem than during past cleanups. He thanked all those who were involved. He also thanked West Nipissing for providing garbage bags and landfill access.
11. **Election** - Nominations were opened to fill a vacant director position on the Board. Bob Jolley nominated Alain Faubert . Claude McGrath seconded the nomination, and Alain was acclaimed to the position. Welcome to our new member.

12. OLD BUSINESS

French Translation - Howie commended Christian Levesque for accepting the role of translator and providing fine service over the past year.

High Speed Internet - Howie Longfellow and Bob Jolley reported that a formal inquiry had been sent to Bell Canada regarding the potential of extending “fibre optics” to the lake area. The response from Bell confirmed that Bell has no plan to extend such services to Clear Lake due to limited market. Members commented that upgraded Internet service may be available through Netspectrum. Howie confirmed that this company had completed some upgrades to equipment since the last AGM.

Traffic Concerns - Landfill - Howie reported that West Nipissing had placed a temporary Stop Sign at the entrance to the landfill at Clear Lake Rd, as requested by CLCA. Mayor Savage thanked the Association for its input and confirmed that a permanent sign is planned in the near future. Members commented that the intersection would be safer if a sign warning southbound travellers of a “Hidden Intersection”. The Board will direct this request to West Nipissing administration. Howie Longfellow asked Mayor Savage to convey CLCA thanks to the administration and report that members are very pleased with the actions of the new landfill attendant Andrew Cangiano and the installation of new gates.

Signage - Lake Tonnerre - Members remain concerned about the parking and have concerns for safety. Despite new signs in the area, drivers are still parking vehicles and trailers in a manner that reduces the roadway to unsafe levels. This is a big problem on the hill located near the boat launch. Gerry Murnaghan suggested that the boat launch be moved to a different safer location. Howie Longfellow reported restructuring of the area was complicated by the fact that the municipality does not own all of the land. Mayor Savage agreed and in the interim, encouraged members to report any infractions to the OPP and Bylaw officer.

Concerns : Beach Area - Members reported that boaters continue to beach vessels and tie off at the floating dock. Mayor Savage reported that the issue had been raised with administration. To address the problem and enable proper enforcement, the administration will be conducting research and implementing a municipal bylaw controlled activity at local beaches. She said that installation of a proper “buoy line” would be considered (not until 2020). She requested that CLCA submit recommendations to council regarding what should be included in the bylaw. Howie Longfellow confirmed that CLCA would follow through on that suggestion. In the interim, the Mayor reminded members that boating problems on the lake remain within OPP jurisdiction. In addition to the issues on the water, Howie Longfellow reported problems that West Nipissing police had encountered attempting to evict an overnight parker at the beach in the spring. CLCA will address parking and signage in future submissions to council.

Loon Watch - Mary Laird reported on her findings with the “Loon Study”. She reported that the loon population is affected by boating activity as well as natural predators. Members voiced concerns that some boating activity, especially seadoos can affect nesting areas. In addition members have spotted “bald eagles” in the lake area. Mary has not noted any young loons in the lake area this summer. Residents are encouraged to report any such sightings to Brad Laird. Mary volunteers her time and at personal expense remains a member of Birds Canada Association . Howie Longfellow thanked her for her assistance.

13. NEW BUSINESS

Dog Problems - A member reported encountering problems with barking dogs and dogs running at large. Mayor Savage clarified all of these issues fall within the purview of the Bylaw Enforcement officer and encouraged the member to call for assistance in the future.

Overnight Parking/ Beach - In spring 2019, police encountered problems evicting a local who persisted in parking overnight in the beach parking lot. CLCA will be submitting recommendations to West Nipissing to aimed at preventing future occurrences of this nature. (See 12. Old Business / Beach Area, above)

14. MAYOR’S ADDRESS - Jo-Anne Savage updated members on many issues affecting the Municipality. In response to inquiries, she reported that the OPP would be maintaining patrol levels consistent with the past. While the transition would not provide immediate savings, it would even out in the future. . All but three of the original West Nipissing officers had been hired by the OPP. While patrol levels will remain consistent the actual officers patrolling may change from time to time. Members also learned that planning for the International Plowing Match in Verner area in September 2019 was well underway. Anyone interested in volunteering to assist in planning or billeting for the IPM was encouraged to call the planning committee at 705-753-6958.

Howie thanked Mayor Savage for her presentation and ongoing support of CLCA.

15. Donation to Knights of Columbus – President Howie thanked Claude McGrath for facilitating use of the rental hall. Moved by Yvette Morrison, seconded by Gilbert Mayotte that \$50.00 be donated to the Knights of Columbus. All in Favour.
16. Adjournment - Moved by Bob Jolley that the meeting be adjourned. All in favour.
17. Next Meeting Date: Sunday, 02 August, 2020.

Clear Lake Association of Field

August 2018

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| Balance as of July 31 2018 | \$ 333.21 |
| Income/Revenue | |
| Membership fees (collected 31 July 2018-31 July 2019) | \$ 880.00 |
| Total | \$ 1,213.21 |
| Expenses/dépenses | |
| Bank service charges | \$ 65.15 |
| CTC Gift cards | \$ 50.00 |
| Donation to K of C | \$ 50.00 |
| Admin Costs | \$ 36.37 |
| Total expenses for 2018-2019 | <hr/> \$ 201.52 |
| Balance as of July 31 2019 | \$ 1011.69 |