



Otty Lake Association

Board Meeting Agenda

Saturday, November 30, 2013 10 a.m. (McMartin House)

Present: Phil Anderson Dave Bell, Robert Cosh, Chris Harrison, Ginger Hay, Barb Hicks, Karen Hunt, Cathy Kari, Roger Nuttall, Gail Read, Peter Siemons

Guests: Murray Hunt, Wally Robins, Jennifer Lamoureux

Regrets: David Reesor, Bill McLeish, Anne Scotton, Rick Stojak

Chair's Report and Associated Updates: Robert Cosh

- Robert welcomed members at 10:05 a.m.
- The agenda was passed with no additions/changes.
- Robert reminded all members that all Board Meeting documents shared in advance for review and question development/identification of speaking points. Thanks to all who made a diligent effort to implement this change.

Approval of Minutes: Gail Read

- Minutes of the August 17, 2013 Board Meeting were distributed in August. No responses were received so this document will stand as posted on the website following our Aug 17/13 Board and Counsellors meeting.
- Thanks to all who were able to email their reports to Gail's attention at least ten days prior to this meeting. Patience as this procedure has unfolded is appreciated.

Treasurer's Report: Dave Bell

- The actual budget vs. projected was reviewed by Treasurer Dave Bell as he works to align for the development of the 2014 budget.
- Discussion points:
 1. Calendar cost only \$2142 vs. projected \$4000. Gail noted that Images InterAlia had again provided an excellent deal to OLA. 360 calendars were printed and 60 remain available through Karen Hunt.
 2. The OLA budget runs on a January to December calendar year.

Motion to pass document by Cathy Kari, seconded by Peter Siemons. Carried

Environment Committee Murray Hunt

- Murray Hunt shared on behalf of the committee and spoke to the Lake Stewart Report that was shared in advance electronically. He noted that one test exceeded the provincial standards. He stated that in general, Otty Lake is a very safe lake for swimming. Carson's Bay has been an area of focus this year with increased testing and some escalated readings with an unknown cause/causes. This was the second year of augmented sampling, increasing from 32 samples to 47 around the lake plus 24 in Carson's Bay. 1994 also saw increased sampling but this number was later decreased by the last Lake Steward.
- Murray proposed augmenting testing for the upcoming year, especially in shallow bays where people are swimming on a regular basis. Nutrient sampling (by this group and RVCA) would be increased as well with a proposed budget of \$1800.

Motion to accept budget and increased testing: motion by Robert Cosh, seconded by Phil Anderson. Carried

Discussion points:

1. Publishing of these results on a regular basis could be appreciated by residents.
2. If algae levels were higher 5-10 yrs ago, why is this an issue now? Health issue? No, this is an aesthetics issue.
3. Does algae limit the light penetrating the water? Yes, but the zebra mussels have increased clarity of the water. This supports the growth of blooms.
4. Has zebra mussel numbers increased? Anecdotal comments are available. Resident Derek Smith will be working with platforms around the lake to gather further data.
5. Derek Smith is also looking for infrared maps of our lake. Robert Cosh is working to find further mapping as well. The production of photos is a rather large sum which we can't do at this point. We continue to talk with a PhD at Environment Canada who is offering sites of reference. Anyone with contacts is invited to contact Derek or Robert.

Land Use Committee

Peter Siemons

One ongoing issue exists with a property on Consitt Lane. Residents have been instructed to include some sediment control. They have now applied for a permit with demands unknown at this point. No further development is expected until the spring.

Shelley McPherson, RVCA Regulations and Enforcement Officer, will respond to the complaint which will be monitored by Peter Siemons.

Discussion:

1. Clarification was sought regarding process of Land Use Committee involvement. As the property owners bypassed the process of application to the Township and referral to the building inspector who refers it to us, other residents contacted the OLA Committee. In the past, meetings between the Land Use Committee, appropriate Township staff and the owner have occurred. Because this is a shoreline work permit vs. building permit it should also involve RVCA. It will remain a shoreline issue.
2. Buildings permits often have a stipulation regarding shoreline planting, drainage, etc. Could there be a review of this follow up? Peter will update the committee in these regard in the spring.

Communications Committee

Robert Cosh

Discussion:

1. What is wanted in the State of the Lake Report? As presented by Murray with additional narrative supporting key points. Reaching a larger audience could increase OLA involvement as lake health is a focus. As "State of the Lake Report" is an RVCA title this committee will review other titles.
2. Means of sharing will be further discussed. Reaching the greater audience is important. All communications will be vetted through this committee.
3. LPAC sees significant recommendations noted in the pre-meeting summary that could impact them. Robert stated that clarification of what occurs as LPAC and what is the role of separate committees needs further review. All committees should be engaged in a set of activities that are approved by the Board. Simply put the Board gives approval. Karen stated that all members of the Board are aware of what is proposed by LPAC and have the opportunity to provide input. Robert clarified the 3Es of effectiveness (Does it get the job done?), efficiency (Does it accomplish the task at the least cost?) and economy (Is this the right thing to do?) should be considered by the Board as clarification of LPAC responsibilities are clarified and other committees that are responsible directly to the Board are created. General direction comes from the Board and plans and activities come from that. Karen said that she was not aware that LPAC was not seeking Board approval nor communicating effectively will all Board members.

Lake Plan Action Committee

Karen Hunt

Update recommendations from last week's meeting include:

- Planting continues as an initiative for the development of a shoreline buffer.
 - Cutting back or an alternate year program was discussed.
 - Planting in partnership with Camp Shomria would add a buffer to their shoreline. A potential start-up cost exists.
- *Love Your Lake Survey* response has been delightful. Thanks for participation was extended. A printing budget will not be required as mailing will be completed by Canadian Wildlife Federation. Their sealed envelope plus their lake address is recommended to be mailed by LPAC. Confidentiality of reports: Concern for privacy as we had previously discussed was expressed. Purchase of multi-page envelopes was suggested so our envelope includes their envelope as provided. Envelopes should be sealed from CWF, our letter plus reassurance was suggested. Marking the back of each envelope with a stamp or initial the sealing of envelope was recommended.
- Naturalization programs would be offered to 5 properties
Discussion: Prioritization could be recommended by CWF.
 1. Perhaps a number of properties can be recommended. We could combine possible support from CWF and other sources.
 2. Property owners could apply for support.
 3. CWF could include a note outlining related benefits. Property owners should have ownership of application.
 4. It could be those in a fine situation who apply. We would then be tasked with turning down applicants.
 5. Further discussion to follow.
- Karen Hunt suggests that a 2 page back-to-back summary of survey responses could be written by Beatrice Schriever which could be distributed with the February newsletter. A budget line would to pay the increase in postage for the additional inclusion would be requested. The Board to decide on this.
 - Action items will be developed by a joint OLA Board + LPAC meeting scheduled in January. LPAC needs to involve the Board as early as possible with a broad framework. Captured items, amend suggested by Karen.
 - Wally Robins stated that from a survey management, business approach, too many priorities are being addressed; the rule of thumb should have 3 or 4 priorities to maintain focus. Take the top 3 priorities and make those the Board top priorities for time and money invested exclusively for the next 5 years. Others not statistically that important.
 - Cathy Kari noted that from a Stats Canada perspective, certain things would be broken out but advised that we not lose valuable information when lake residents say that they have concerns.
 - It was noted that we need to focus on the actions at the January meeting and that this may include seeking expert information.

Other Business

- *TVT & D/NE Updates* Karen Hunt
Karen will email information to all members in regards to the Municipality updates and, in particular, additional details regarding electronic voting.
Robert Cosh will write a letter on behalf of the OLA Board in support of electronic voting.
- *Fishing Habitat Presentation* Wally Robins, Jennifer Lamoureux
 - See documents to be posted to the OLA website.

Adjournment and Next Meetings:

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

The next Board meeting will be held on Saturday, January 2014 TBA and communicated.