

Otty Lake Association (OLA)

Annual General Meeting (AGM) Minutes

Thursday July 8th, 2021, 6 pm via Zoom

Welcome

At approximately 6 pm, Kirsten Brouse, President – OLA, welcomed everyone to the virtual AGM.

Ms. Brouse called the meeting to order. She demonstrated the Zoom polling feature, which was used to vote at the meeting, and indicated that OLA members in good standing are eligible to vote on motions. She also thanked Cathy & Tom Kari for providing tech support. The chat feature was explained for those with questions or comments.

Quorum was confirmed by Barb Hicks. Ms. Brouse chaired the meeting. Before moving into the agenda, Ms. Brouse honoured and acknowledged that the meeting was taking place on the ancestral and unceded traditional lands of the Algonquin Anishinaabeg people, and spoke to the importance of reconciliation with our indigenous communities.

Agenda

Reviewed by Ms. Brouse. **Motion** (Susan Murray/Rachel Roth) – that the Agenda be approved as distributed. **CARRIED**

July 28, 2020 AGM Minutes

Presented by Ms. Brouse. **Motion** (Dan Woods/Rachel Roth) – that the July 28, 2020 AGM minutes be approved as distributed. **CARRIED**

Financial Report Presentation

Ms. Brouse introduced the OLA Treasurer, Ms. Anne Scotton, who then gave the financial report.

- **2020 Income Statement** – Ms. Scotton presented the 2020 Income Statement, and indicated that it has been verified by Ross Hollingsworth. She also thanked Christine Kilburn for her assistance in preparing same. Revenues were \$6,972.93. Expenses were \$4,583.54. Ms. Cotton sought approval of the Income Statement. **Motion** (Linda Cuthbertson/Barb Hicks) – that the Income Statement be approved as distributed. **CARRIED**
- **2021 Budget** – Ms. Scotton then presented the proposed 2021 Budget. **Motion** (Anne Scotton/David Murray) – that the 2021 Budget be approved as distributed. **CARRIED**

Proposed Updates to OLA Constitution

Ms. Brouse referred to the materials distributed in advance of the meeting, and briefly described the nature and purpose of the proposed amendments to Articles 6(4), 8(4), 9, and 12(2). She

then asked for a motion to approve the amendments as distributed. **Motion** (Susan Murray/ Mr. Hudson) – that the proposed amendments to the OLA Constitution be approved as distributed. **CARRIED**

Introduction of Directors and Officers – Ms. Brouse presented our current directors and officers:

Leadership Team – Kirsten Brouse, Barb Hicks, Rachel Roth

Past President – Reid Kilburn

Vice President – Director - Loon Surveys – Kyla Haley

Treasurer – Anne Scotton

Recording Secretary – Linda Cuthbertson

Director - Newsletter Coordinator & Webmaster – Barb Hicks

Director - Lake Activities Projects – Ian McDonald

Director – Membership – Cathy Kari

Director – Kevin Terrion

Director – Robert Cosh

Ms. Brouse also acknowledged the tremendous contribution of OLA's many volunteers, including our Lake Steward, Derek Smith, and many others. She also thanked Gail Read, our area councilor coordinator. Ms. Scotton also thanked Christine Kilburn and Linda Cuthbertson for their significant efforts assisting with the Treasurer's duties, as well as Cathy Kari and Gail Read for their efforts.

Election of President; New Directors

Ms. Brouse asked Reid Kilburn, as chair of the Nominating Committee, to speak to the election of the President and the slate of new directors. Mr. Kilburn acknowledged and thanked the Leadership Team, and indicated that Ms. Brouse has agreed to stand as President of the OLA for a 2 year term. Mr. Kilburn asked if there were nominations from the floor. Hearing none, he put forward a motion. **Motion** (Reid Kilburn/Keith Desjardins) – that Ms. Kirsten Brouse be appointed to the office of President of the OLA for a 2 year term. **CARRIED**

Mr. Kilburn then introduced the slate of new directors. He described that the four candidates were appointed by the Board in 2020 to fill vacancies until the next (2021) AGM, and have been participating in Board activities for several months. Mr. Kilburn asked if there were any nominations from the floor. Hearing none, he put forward a motion. **Motion** (Reid Kilburn/Victoria Gibb-Carsley) – that Susan Murray, David Murray, Jen O'Donoughue, and Keith Desjardins be elected as directors of the OLA each for a 2 year term. **CARRIED**

Ms. Brouse thanked Mr. Kilburn, and advised that this completed the core business of the AGM. Several reports, updates, and presentations would now follow.

Water Quality Update

Ms. Brouse advised that Kevin Terrion has agreed to take over from Derek Smith as water quality steward, and invited Mr. Terrion to provide his report. Mr. Terrion highlighted the key aspects of the water quality programs, and key findings, including water sampling and water levels. He indicated that high water levels due to the beaver dam at Jebb's Creek will be resolved shortly. The State of the Lake report will be available on the OLA website in October. It includes information on physical limnology, water quality, fisheries, zebra mussel populations, algae, loons and other environmental activities.

OLA Activities Report

Ms. Brouse asked Barb Hicks to report on other key OLA activities.

Map update – completed. Maps are available free of charge to Members. For sale to others for \$5. Will be posted to the OLA website.

Shoreline planting program - very successful. All plants (230) sold in short order. 3012 plants sold to date. Thanks to Wendy Coombs for taking this on.

Loon Report – Kyla Haley continues to take this on. Five mating pairs sighted. Two confirmed chicks. Observations welcome.

Invasive Phragmites – serious invasive plant. FOCA funding will be used to eradicate some stands. A workshop was also held with Friends of Tay.

Pitch In and Cleanup – another successful operation this year. David Murray is also coordinating lake cleanup activities.

Paddle Power – scheduled for Saturday, August 21.

Lake Links – October 23, by Zoom.

Jebbs Creek Wetland Embayment Project

Ms. Brouse thanked Ms. Hicks for her report, and invited Jennifer Lamoureux of RVCA to speak to the Jebbs Creek Wetland Embayment Project. Ms. Lamoureux reviewed the detailed presentation delivered in advance of the meeting. She thanked the many volunteers from Otty Lake who assisted with the project in various capacities.

Drummond North Elmsley Update – Reeve Steve Fournier

Ms. Brouse and others thanked Ms. Lamoureux for her presentation and for the work on Jebb's Creek. Ms. Brouse then invited Steve Fournier to address the meeting. Mr. Fournier thanked the residents of Otty Lake for maintaining the lake and surrounding areas clean and healthy. He then gave a detailed update on various operational and other activities, both

completed and underway, in the Township and County. Ms. Brouse thanked Mr. Fournier for his presentation, and invited Brian Campbell and Noelle Reeve to address the meeting.

Tay Valley Update – Brian Campbell and Noelle Reeve

Mr. Campbell advised that it has been a very active time within the Township, then provided a thorough report on the various operational and other activities completed and underway. A question was asked regarding the septic re-inspection program, and Mr. Campbell provided an overview of same. The program is now mandatory, and the Township is playing “catchup” to ensure that older systems are inspected.

Ms. Reeve then provided a report on planning matters. The Official Plan is due for its 5 year update. New dwelling and renovation applications have increased five-fold in recent years, so growth management is to be discussed for the first time, as well as climate change targets, affordable housing, and indigenous recognition. If OLA has additional topics to consider, please send them along. Ms. Reeve also reviewed various zoning amendments. A climate change plan has been adopted. Ms. Reeve reviewed certain significant development projects within the Township, and concluded by reviewing certain biodiversity protection projects. Reviewed significant grants received, and public consultations.

Ms. Brouse thanked Mr. Campbell and Ms. Reeve for their thorough presentations, then invited Kit Muma and Bruce Smith to make a presentation regarding iNaturalist.

iNaturalist

Kit Muma described iNaturalist as a worldwide “community science project” for recording observations of living wild organisms. Observations are shared with fellow naturalists through the platform. They can be validated by other users, to form a database of “research grade” observations. Contributions to the platform contribute to science. There is a project specific to Otty Lake, the “bio-blitz” challenge, intended to inventory wildlife in and around the lake. iNaturalist is useful with regard to climate change research and other initiatives, tracking invasive species, and other purposes.

Bruce provided a thorough demonstration of the platform. Links to it are available on the OLA website. Bruce fielded a number of questions.

Adjournment

Ms. Brouse thanked Kit and Bruce for their excellent presentation. She then thanked all of the presenters and participants, and asked if there were any further questions. Hearing none, she declared the meeting adjourned at 7:51 pm.