

Otty Lake Association Board Meeting Minutes

9:30 am Saturday February 20, 2021

Zoom Meeting

Attendance

Present: Kirsten Brouse (Chair), Barb Hicks (Zoom Host), Linda Cuthbertson (Acting Secretary), Reid Kilburn, Ian McDonald, Anne Scotton, Kyla Haley, Robert Cosh, Kevin Terrion, Susan Murray, David Murray, Jen O'Donoughue, Keith Desjardins, Gail Read
Regrets: Cathy Kari, Rachel Roth

Welcome

Chair welcomed everyone. Introduction of new Board Members(appointment to be ratified by OLA members at 2021 Annual General Meeting): Jen O'Donoughue, Keith Desjardins, David Murray, Susan Murray. Chair asked everyone to introduce themselves for a virtual meet and greet.

Approval of Agenda

Motion (2021-01-01)

Moved by Reid Kilburn "that the Agenda as distributed be approved."

Carried

Approval of Board Meeting Minutes October 17, 2020

Motion (2021-01-02)

Moved by Anne Scotton "to approve the Board Meeting Minutes from October 17, 2020 with the minor accepted amendment to change the word 'chairmanship' to 'chair' in the section entitled 'Welcome'."

Carried

Nominations Report

Motion (2021-01-03)

Moved by Reid Kilburn, seconded by Barb Hicks "that Susan Murray, David Murray, Jen O'Donoughue and Keith Desjardins be appointed to the Otty Lake Association effective February 20,2021 with the understanding that their appointments are subject to ratification by the OLA membership present at the 2021 Annual General Meeting of the Otty Lake Association."

Carried

Rachel Roth has stepped down from her position as one of the members of the Leadership Team.

The "Discussion on Leadership Vacancies" section of the report was deferred but noted.

Membership for 2021

Cathy Kari has been updating membership records for 2021 with information about mailed cheques and e-transfers of dues forwarded by Linda and Anne. There is a membership form on line but its use isn't essential as long as the information required on the form is forwarded either electronically or by mail.

Area Councillors

Properties around Otty Lake are divided into 11 designated areas. Some areas are further divided into smaller parts to reduce the number of residents the area councillors have to visit or connect virtually with. Normally each spring the councillors visit residents in their area to drop off a spring information package and collect membership dues. Due to pandemic protocols most were forwarded information electronically and councillors did not collect membership dues in 2020. Gail Read expressed thanks to Barb Hicks who was very helpful in assisting with assembling the online information package.

Area councillors play a very significant role in not just forwarding information and collecting dues but as the friendly liaison between residents and the OLA.

Comfort levels and opinions about doing things online vary so it is important that accommodations are made for both area councillors and residents. These accommodations are being considered in planning for the 2021 campaign to ensure safe pandemic practices. The spring information package whether online or hard copy goes to everyone. Area councillors will be distributing new Otty Lake maps to members who have paid their dues.

It is important that Gail has updated paid membership lists for the councillors. A system such as Google Sheets would allow a shared data base so multiple users could update the membership role. It was agreed that Cathy, Anne and Gail would check this out with Kyla as consultant.

This year Gail's get together for area councillors will be a zoom meeting. Co-chairs are asked to be prepared to bring messages from the board. Gail will arrange for a speaker and honorarium. Jen and Barb offered to assist Gail in preparing the spring information package.

Finance Update

Anne Scotton will have a report for the next board meeting. She noted that collected membership dues for 2020 were projected to be \$6500 but were only \$4783. Overall the finances are healthy and the OLA remains in good financial standing.

Communications

Barb was complimented for her report and latest Captain Otty's Log.

Water Quality

Kevin will be taking over the role of lake steward from Derek Smith in 2022. Derek will be taking him out for training this summer. Kevin is a seasonal cottager so will need help with some reporting such as when the ice is out. Kyla reminded everyone that she is storing records collected by Karen and Murray Hunt that include yearly water quality reports.

I Naturalist

Kit and Bruce Muma have volunteered to assume the role Kevin held. Members are encouraged to download the Citizen Science App. I Naturalist sightings provide a record of wildlife and nature on the lake.

Lake Activities

Traditionally Ian has provided a yearly list of both board and private planned activities on the lake. Due to the pandemic it is a shorter draft list: Area Councillors Zoom Meeting, Shoreline Planting, Paddle Power and Map Project.

Mapping Project

As indicated in Ian's report the new map will be available this spring and distributed by the area councillors. The map provides information about shoals and the 30 meter from shore no wake zone. This board supported project is an extension of our promotion of safe boating and respect for our shorelines. In addition to the map GPS readings by individuals would give coordinates for shoals and could be shared on line.

Motion (2021-01-04)

Moved by Anne "that we approve \$1000 for the mapping project, that all paid members of OLA get the map for free, and that leftover maps will be available for a yet to be determined cost".

Carried

Shoreline Planting Project

Rachel's "Lake Activity Proposal" outlining the purpose, costs and organizational considerations for this project were discussed. Rachel will set up the project with RCVA but will be handing it over to volunteer, Wendy Coombs, at some point.

Motion (2021-01-05)

Moved by Susan "that we approve \$600 for the Shoreline Planting Project".

Carried

AGM Organizing Committee

We are anticipating a July zoom AGM this year. Kirsten, Kyla and Keith volunteered to be on the organizing committee. Reid will be an advisor for the committee.

For communication purposes it was suggested the committee decide on a date and time as soon as possible.

Motion (2021-01-06)

Moved by Anne “that \$250 be approved for the AGM Organizing Committee”.

Carried

Road Side Cleanup

Ian reported that Elizabeth Allcock has been directing this initiative in previous years but it was cancelled last year due to the pandemic. Elizabeth wants approval from the Board to organize the cleanup this year taking covid precautions to ensure the safety of all involved. The Board gave their approval. Ian and Kirsten will contact Elizabeth.

Partnerships

Over the years OLA has developed partnerships with a number of associations, organizations, groups, authorities and municipalities. Rachel highlighted just one of those partnerships in her report about the “Lake Networking Group”.

Traditionally the president of OLA has been the contact person with these partnerships. Karen Hunt found that having one contact person worked best. Perhaps someone on the board might consider being that contact person. For the time being our co-presidents will assume this task.

Loon Survey

Recording of loon sightings will continue in 2021.

Next Zoom Meeting: Saturday May 8, 2021 at 9:30 am.

List of Board member reports shared prior to this meeting:

Nominations Report-Reid Kilburn

Communications Report-Barb Hicks

Mapping Project-Ian McDonald

Shoreline Planting Project-Rachel Roth

Partnerships/Lake Networking Group-Rachel Roth

