

Otty Lake Association (OLA)

Annual General Meeting (AGM) Minutes

Tuesday July 28th, 2020, 6 – 7 pm via Zoom

Welcome: At 6 pm, Reid Kilburn, President – OLA, welcomed everyone to the virtual AGM. Before moving into the agenda, Reid honoured and acknowledged with respect and care that we are meeting virtually today on the unceded traditional lands of the Algonquin people.

Reid called the meeting to order. Approximately 37 participants were present. Reid reviewed Zoom etiquette and requested participants to both mute and stop video in order to preserve broadband width. He then explained the use of speaker view versus gallery view and the yes/no feature for voting on motions. As well he thanked Cathy & Tom Kari for providing tech support. The chat feature was explained for those with questions or comments.

Agenda – Motion (Kirsten Brouse/Barb Hicks) – Approve agenda as distributed. **CARRIED**

July 8, 2018 AGM Minutes – Motion (Jacquie Mallory/Krista Hearty McLean) – Approve minutes as distributed. **CARRIED**

Financial Report Presentation – Christine Kilburn thanked Ross Hollingsworth for once again reviewing the financial results.

2019 Financials - Christine pointed out that the 2019 financial results were pretty consistent.

- Revenues \$6422.75 Expenses \$5910. She thanked members for paying their dues in a timely manner given the current circumstances. Shoreline planting was extremely successful. Costs for the AGM were significantly reduced due to COVID 19. Information packages were delivered electronically this year due to Covid 19 thus no costs were incurred.

Motion (Christine Kilburn/Anne Scotton) - approve Financial Report as presented **CARRIED**

Introduction of Board Members – Reid presented our current Board members,

- Co-President – Krista Hearty McLean (retiring)
- Co-President/Past President – Reid Kilburn (retiring as co-president)
- Vice President – Director -Loon Surveys – Kyla Haley
- Treasurer – Christine Kilburn (retiring)
- Secretary – Jacquie Mallory
- Director - Newsletter Coordinator & Webmaster – Barb Hicks
- Director – Communications – Monika Savage (retiring)
- Director - Lake Activities Projects – Ian McDonald
- Director – Anne Scotton
- Director - Rachel Roth
- Director – Cathy Kari
- Director - Linda Cuthbertson
- Director – Kirsten Brouse
- Director – Kevin Terrion
- Director – Robert Cosh

Lake Steward – Derek Smith

Management of Association Affairs

Krista took the opportunity to thank Christine and Reid Kilburn for their lengthy and dedicated service to the OLA as they are retiring their current positions from the Board. Reid will remain as past president. It was agreed by all participants that they have been a valued asset to the association.

Krista reminded participants that in 2018 at the AGM members had approved a change to the Constitution to allow the Association to be managed by a Board composed of 10 to 15 members. With the resignation of 3 Directors, the Board will be composed of 12 members for 2020/2021. This meets the criteria established. No additional Directors nor President have been nominated for 2020/2021. Krista stated that volunteers are always welcome and that there are 3 director positions available for anyone interested.

OLA Management Approach in 2020/2021

Kirsten Brouse presented the approach the OLA board will take in the absence of a presidential candidate. The Board will function with a Leadership Team which will also have other responsibilities. The team will consist of Kirsten Brouse (water quality) Barb Hicks (communications) and Rachel Roth (partnerships). There will also be a Finance and Membership Team comprised of Anne Scotten (treasurer), Linda Cuthbertson (assistant treasurer) and Cathy Kari (membership).

Reports, Updates and Member Comments

State of the Lake – this report is still planned and it will be the 8th consecutive year. It includes information on physical limnology, water quality, fisheries, zebra mussel populations, algae, loons and other environmental activities. The report will be published on the OLA website in October.

Lake Steward Observations

Reid thanked Derek Smith for all his work as Lake Steward.

- Ice was in Dec 18 2019 and out Apr 6 2020
- Water level is 41 cms below spring levels as of June 21st and water temperature was 25 degrees C
- Water quality was started in June via kayak due to COVID 19. Reid thanked Kit Muma for the use of her kayak. Richard and Jay Hendry have now started using their pontoon boat using appropriate distancing measures.
- Lake Partnership and RVCA water sampling have been cancelled or postponed for 2020.
- all bacteria samples to date indicate either a total absence of E-coli bacteria or levels well within the Ontario standard for safe swimming.
- Surface algal mats were present on Jun 22 and there has been abundant algal growth over the past weeks..

Shoreline Planting – 155 plants were distributed this year with Covid 19 protocols well observed. Rachel Roth, Kirsten Brouse and Kyla Haley were responsible for the well-executed distribution. 2782 plants have been distributed since the start of the project.

Loon Report – 4 chicks this year with 10 pairs of birds sighted. Observations are always welcome.

I Naturalist – Otty Lake has launched it's own specific site and has had many observations added.

Fish Habitat Survey has been cancelled for 2020 because of COVID 19.

Paddle Power has been cancelled for 2020 because of COVID 19.

OLA Picnic has been cancelled for 2020 because of COVID 19.

Members' Comments

Due to COVID 19 guidelines from municipal, and provincial governments as well as the local Health officials stated that people stay home. Because OLA represents both residents and cottagers it was difficult at the onset of the pandemic to meet everyone's expectations while remaining compliant with the guidelines.

Camping on Cloverleaf Island – the Ministry of Natural Resources may review signage for island use though the campers were observed to have been compliant and respectful.

Gypsy Moths – due to the severe infestation, there has been a wealth of information disseminated and there is a link on the OLA website.

Speeding boats have been reported and boating regulations are on the OLA website. Reid encouraged mindfulness and respect for other users of the lake. There is a possibility of collaboration with other lake associations who experiencing similar issues.

Lake Links will take place Oct 24 2020 in a webinar format as confirmed by Karen Hunt.

Lake Protection Workbook – it is for shoreline property owners as a tool to self-assess. There still a number of copies available. To request a copy please contact the OLA.

Friends of the Tay Valley Watershed – Glenn Tunnock chair of the association brought greeting from the Board and congratulated the OLA on all of its accomplishments. The FoTW is responsible for the planning and maintenance of the sustainability of the watershed. Due to COVID 19, many initiatives have been postponed ,however, they wish to continue the educational component through a series of webinars. He asked OLA members to suggest topics of interest for future sessions. These suggestions can be sent through the website or to Glenn himself.

Drummond/North Elmsley – Reid introduced Steve Fournier, Reeve who highlighted some initiatives from the past year.

- Water quality remains good
- curbside pickup is being extended with the same collection company
- the Pitch-in campaign is going well with bags available at the Township offices
- there was some brush and tree pruning done. Although the method seems brutal and unsightly, everything recovers. Efforts are being made to find other ways to abate vegetation.
- Recreation plan coordinated with Town of Perth, Tay Valley Township and Drummond North Elmsley is going well.
- Due to COVID 19 access to township offices has been restricted

- There is a new planner at the Township and he is settling in well.

Tay Valley Township – Reid introduced Brian Campbell, Reeve who highlighted some of the work done this year.

Brian stated that due to COVID 19 township office access had been restricted but as of Aug 4th the office will be open 9-4. All municipal waste sites have remained open and they are currently looking at the re-use center. The Bolingbroke Bridge is being reconstructed and 2 tandem snowplows have been purchased. The terms of reference for private roads owned by the Township are being reviewed to determine liability. A committee consisting of 3 members of council and 4 members of the public will be struck and OLA members interested in serving should check the TVT website for information. The bi-annual bridge report is being prepared. There is no burning of brush allowed at present. The Fire Master Plan is being updated and is due for release in the fall. Broadband and cellular coverage issues are being discussed especially since disparities were particularly evident due to COVID 19. Gypsy moth information is readily available. Brian then did a virtual presentation of a certificate of appreciation to Karen and Murray Hunt for their extensive contributions.

Noelle Reeve planner for TVT mentioned the Climate Action Plan which has received a provincial grant. It will be presented to Council Aug 11 and hopefully passed Aug 25. Residents have been invited to fill out a survey available on the TVT website.

- Heritage Properties working group which has been together for about 3 years is looking for suggestions of other properties or buildings for consideration. There is a plaque in Bolingbroke and there will be one for Cohen Way near Maberley to recognize Leonard Cohen's great grandparents who emigrated from Poland
- 5 acres of recreational space has been donated by the developer of Tay Valley Estates
- there has been a transfer of land to the township by the solar farm
- the township continues to protect biodiversity with turtle nest protection, no spraying for wild parsnip
- a contest for Gypsy Moth egg collection photos has been initiated
- new building starts are higher than expected despite Covid 19.
- both Cabinscape and Pinebrae are openings
- 1 LPAT appeal has been received and it is going to mediation in the fall.
- 2 large projects – the winery off Bolingbroke Rd initiated by the Coptic Monastery with a 50 year plan and Blueberry Vet Clinic which has tripled in size

Questions

Reid asked if there were any questions. There were none.

Reid thanked all participants and ended the virtual meeting at 7:16 PM