

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

GRAND LAKE ASSOCIATION

Grand Lake Sports Club

**JULY 13, 2019
10 AM to 12 noon**

1. WELCOME

- President Jim Nicol called the meeting to order and thanked the Sports Club for once again providing the venue, and the Crepins and the Lemieuxs for being at the ready if necessary to host.

- Jim welcomed guests- the Mayor, members of the Val-des-Monts fire department, Council members, Presidents of other association and any new members (who were asked to please identify themselves)

- Acknowledgement of Proxies of which there were 11 this year (5, 3, 1, 1, 1). With well over 20 voting households present a quorum was declared.

- Jim introduced the Executive present and a special recognition for past president Dale Smith.

- It was noted there would be translation to French on request at the meeting - including these minutes at a later date.

- Noted bulletin board items -none

- First up the Mayor Jacques Laurin spoke and took questions from the floor thereafter. The Mayor discussed the state of Ch. du Barrage and noted there were issues whether the road fell under a provincial program or not and to what extent and how some details were overlooked and thus the initiative did not get the go ahead as planned. The program currently has over 140 kms of road that need attention. It has been determined that to meet the new standards they will need to rip out everything, put in new drainage, and gravel etc. at cost of \$1M per km! A new plan is being developed and will be submitted within the next year. After this near record winter snowfall and high spring water there is much to do in the municipality. Barrage will get some patching now, but the plan is to completely redo it. It will be a good 2 year project to rebuild Barrage.

It was noted by cottagers that trucks, including concrete trucks, in early spring have caused considerable damage to several local roads including Barrage.

There was also some discussion about the inadequacy of the bridge on Barrage. The bridge is provincial the Mayor noted and agrees it is substandard and the situation warrants attention. Because of the original design and the type of construction, it impedes the egress of water from Grand Lake adding to spring high water problems. Peter Kearns gave a short description of the history of the bridge, which was built on land ceded from the Grand Lake Sports Club in

exchange for other consideration. The Mayor will ask his director of such works to dredge/clear erosion in the channel under bridge to increase the flow until a better solution is realized.

The Mayor agreed there were also issues with the new composting. The Province had imposed a reduction of 40% on the Municipality's garbage service he stated - hence the composting program. Garbage was reduced 128 tons last year and 20 some percent more this year in the first 6 months alone. Noting concerns about attracting animals and getting into the composters, and issues with odour and maintenance, he reported that there is a new system available called a "Digester" for compost which the municipality will deliver at a cost of \$80 - regularly \$120. A "Digester" has none of the problems associated with composters. It was noted that fines for misuse or not using the composter is up to \$1,000, however even filling with just leaves or grass cuttings will meet the guidelines.

There were questions about the noise of airplanes practicing taking offs and landings on the lake and was there anything that can be done? The Mayor said no - it's a federal jurisdiction.

Also residents reported that there appear to be some cottages that are not rebuilding solely on the original grandfathered foundation. The Mayor said he would look into specific cases - perhaps variances were granted. Notice of minor variances are advertised through local sources unless they are major variances of a bylaw, in which case specific notice is given to other nearby residents and objections can then be raised.

Jim thanked the Mayor for attending the meeting.

The representative from Fire department spoke and noted there were 800 to 900 calls a year in the Municipality. This includes medical calls which they do as well. The new fire station now is staffed 24 hours a day with 3 full shifts. The budget is \$3 M a year the Mayor stated. Jim thanked the representatives for their work and taking the time to appear at the meeting.

2. APPROVAL of the AGENDA

Moved by Paul Butler

Seconded by Dale Smith

Unanimously approved

Asked to be added - Fragmites - a soil and water invasive plant usually found around highways in other provinces - now in Quebec. They can reach over 12 feet in height which prevents animal migration etc. Board will look into it. There was a suggestion for another slow wake buoy to be added for discussion, and Yoga, under special activities later in the meeting.

3. APPROVED MINUTES 2018 AGM (CIRCULATED WITH SPRING NEWSLETTER)

Moved by - Ray Otten

Seconded by Janice Dempsey

Unanimously carried

4. REPORTS

· TREASURER (GARY BEACH):

Financial Report:

Gary briefly went through the financial statements of Income and Expenses noting that;

May 31st 2019 was the end of the most recent fiscal year.

The Opening Balance for the most recent fiscal year was \$64,536 as of a year earlier on June 1, 2018

The year-end balance was \$62,237.

The Current balance of reserves is \$58,318.

The Interest on GIC this past year was \$1,558.

Membership dues amounted to \$5,750

Milfoil program for 2019 year cost \$7,198 gross, of which we recovered \$2,316 from other associations, for a net 2019 cost of \$4,882. Gary noted expenses were for the 88 green buoys purchased including anchors and rope etc. as well as print and other educational materials

Gary explained line items on Income and Expenses and the segmentation of the Reserve Fund on an historical basis.

Approval of the Financial Statements:

Moved by Ray Otten

Seconded by Dale Smith

Unanimously approved

Waiver of annual audit of financial statements:

Moved Nathan Cooper

Seconded Paul Methot

Unanimously approved

· **MEMBERSHIP** (ROSALINE FRITH) Rosaline said she still waiting for quite a number of member dues so please try to get them in earlier next year. Also quite important is input on new cottages or info on change of ownership that need to be addressed for the membership contact list and database. Please get in touch with Rosaline if you have new contacts or information. She noted that people have asked about a new directory for this year, and one is usually done every two years. The last one being 2017. Board will take under advisement.

Approval of the annual dues to stay at same level

Proposed - Gary Beach

Seconded – Lynn Honsberger

Unanimously approved

Some new members identified themselves and were welcomed to the meeting and to the lake.

· **ENVIRONMENT** (Tim Frank)

Tim reported that the regular water testing is done now 3 times a year for phosphates and clarity. In spring it is done as soon as the ice is out, which was later than usual this year. Mid July would be next one and then again mid-September for phosphate. E-coli will be done mid-August. Tim noted that the lake is not as clear as it was 20 years ago, but is still in good condition. Issues with the south end of the lake have been resolved - natural causes perhaps.

Tim reported that the Federation of Lakes looks after many lakes in Val-des-Monts and there are links there for various web sites that may be of interest to those concerned with issues regarding the watershed region.

· **WEBSITE** (PAUL BUTLER)

Paul reported that the web site and archives are up to date with pictures from Canada Day, the spring water testing report, info on the upcoming Golf Tournament, and most recently the 2019 sailing schedule and some member photos. Members are reminded they can advertise for free on the website which includes listings for sale and cottage rentals. Please advise when items are sold so they can then be listed as SOLD and old listings removed when no longer active.

The HOME page has the breaking news - this past month that included info about Canada Day, the fireworks, the arrival of the Spring Newsletter, this AGM meeting and the change in venue. So please check there.

Materials are posted in whichever language received. Posting ads in both English and French will reach all members. The French side of the website will be updated as soon as the translation from the Spring Newsletter is available.

As always we are looking for content that would be of interest to cottagers and welcome contributors and volunteers.

· **Milfoil Committee** - Dorothy Laflamme. Jill Toll will be speaking.

Last year the committee was set up and 80 some green marker buoys were ordered and installed. 20 people volunteered for buoy placement. Some of the green buoys need replacement and there has been ice damage to some anchors as well. One marker has deflated.

5 big white ones have been ordered and these are for areas that need to be completely avoided. These will require volunteers to install and remove them each season.

Milfoil Info packages were delivered and Jill thanked the 13 who delivered packages.

Some other lakes have joined our initiative as well.

Jill impressed upon us that other lakes in the region, such as Blue Sea Lake, which is a much bigger, have considerably less milfoil- so we need to be serious about our efforts to control/manage this situation as best we can.

Jim thanked Dorothy and her group for such great work.

· **BOATING and WATER SAFETY (GARY BEACH)** buoys, boating guidelines

Gary gave a short history of how the original guidelines were created some 40 years ago, and have been adopted in the Federal Boating guidelines - and an explanation of dead slow areas, and egress straight out from the shore. The greatest danger for water safety he noted was people swimming far out in the lake. Swimmers should stay within 150 feet of the shore, or be sure that they are very visible to boaters. Gary noted that users of watercraft without official proof of competency may run afoul of their insurance policies if there is an incident. Most home policies will otherwise cover for under 25 HP. There was a discussion about wake boarders and people water skiing and boarding after dark - Gary noted that the law requires that there be no water sports after sunset.

Abby Hoffman asked about wake boarding and areas perhaps where the sport should not be done at all.

Grand Lake Swim of the lake - Francois Jacques reported, as he is the organizer, 50 or so cottagers were interested. This year it will be a 5 km swim from Dorothy's to Gary's. The date will be Sat Aug 10th at 9 am. Volunteers are needed for spotting. Swimmers do not need to sign up - just show up! Paddle boards and kayaks will accompany the swimmers. Volunteers should register ahead of time for spotting and ideally swimmers should have their own non-motorized accompaniment. Emails will be going out for how many will be attending - a brunch will be served afterwards. More information for the event will appear shortly on the web site.

· **PRESIDENT'S REPORT** (Jim Nicol Sr)

Jim noted that we have many activities on this lake and he thanked the many volunteers that make it possible.

5. **NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT and RECOMMENDATIONS**

· There was a vote on Directors to fill 3 three year spots that expired at the AGM - being Jim, Dale, and Nick Barber.

Proposed Jim Nicol, Francois Jacques, Nick Barber as appointees

Dale proposed

Paul seconded

Unanimously approved

There was a call for new directors and it was reported that James Levesque had put his name forward and will be appointed at the next board meeting.

Dale recognized Brian Reynolds (in absentia) for his long standing contribution to our Association and Grand Lake. His one year term has now expired and he has announced his resignation and he will not be on the board going forward. Dale had a special plaque made for him - 'Mr. Grand Lake' as he was often known. Dale and Peter will make the presentation to Brian as soon as can be arranged. There were well wishes from everyone.

6. **SPECIAL ACTIVITIES: CANADA DAY** (Jim Nicol Sr);

There were 50 to 60 boats in the flotilla this year. A panel of special and very distinguished judges awarded the following;

Dave Helgason's Hot Dog boat #1
The Toll boat was #2
Tom Martin being #3 - another big win for Tom!

HIKING TRAILS (ABBY HOFFMAN),

Abby also acknowledged Brian for his original work to secure access for the crown land. Abby reiterated issues about the logging which was done a year ago and the mess and damage that it caused to the trails. Abby asked for volunteers to help in clearing the trails. Dates and info for work parties will be announced. There is a new map which shows the accessibility of the trails in question and more information will be coming on the web site.

GOLF TOURNAMENT (DALE SMITH);

The tournament this year will be July 26th at Edelweiss once again and Dale had signup sheets. All abilities were urged to come out and enjoy the day, or even just come to the dinner. Wine is included in the price of entry this year. Check the web site or Spring Newsletter for more details.

SAILING (IAN MACLAREN),

Ian reported the sailing club's 50 years of racing this year! All were encouraged to come out. The regatta is August 11th this year. The sailing schedule is on the website and the results of the Sunday races are reported there each week.

POKER RUN (Dave Helgason);

Don and Sue Goodwin are unavailable to run the event this year as usual, and Dave Helgason has kindly offered to step in and take over the Poker Run for this year. Thanks Dave!

WINTER PATROL (GARY BEACH);

Gary reported for James this year and noted that James did make several rounds this year, and reminded everyone that the schedule and the timing is weather dependent. There were no incidents this year to report. Rosaline said there were queries regarding lack of feedback and suggested he should make a short report. It was noted that there is perhaps some confusion about what is included in the service.

Hence Rosaline will circulate the guidelines and what people should expect going forward.

LOST & FOUND (NATHAN COOPER) - check the website often Nathan suggested and it was noted that there were many reunions and successes this past year!

7. OTHER BUSINESS

Regarding the channel dead slow in the South Bay, one had been buoy approved. 2 were stolen previously. This current one has much stronger aircraft cable and a concrete block and this single marker is in the middle of the zone. Jill proposed adding a second one to mark the beginning of the zone and moving the current one to mark the end. Dale noted that these markers cost roughly \$500 to \$600 each.

Proposed by Jill Toll
Seconded Elizabeth Vipond
Approved - but not unanimous

8. ADJOURN AND BBQ

Moved by Dale Smith
Seconded by Paul Butler
Unanimous - yes!