

Proceedings of the 2014 Grand Lake Association (GLA)

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING-JULY 5, 2014

Welcome and Thanks: Harris Boyd welcomed over 40 members to the AGM. And thanked the Crepin family for the use of their beach and the Lemieux family for the use of their facilities. He welcomed the newly elected Mayor, Jacques Laurin, and newly elected Councilor Mireille Brazeau. He also welcomed Jill Allen, representing Dam Lake. McArthur Lake was not represented.

The Mayor was given the opportunity to say a few words. He acknowledged the endorsement provided to him in the recent election from the Grand Lake Executive. He has an open door policy and has met with 125 citizens to date. His focus is on problem solving and is committed to talking to the public before decisions are made so there should be no surprises. He spoke about the new municipal septic policy. The municipality has received 80 complaints and 3000 septic tanks have been pumped to date.

The mayor agreed to take questions from the members. Joe Houghton asked about the status of internet access in the Municipality. The initiative has been pushed back by about six months, however, Digicom expects to reach 95% access by the end of October, 2014. Any remaining holes in service will be addressed in 2015 through the use of boosters.

Harris Boyd asked the Mayor to speak to the issue of private roads. The mayor indicated that he has formed a committee to look at options available to the municipality, which is currently prohibited from maintaining private roads by Provincial Legislation. The municipal lawyer will make recommendations to the Province. One option would be the provision of grants to private road committees.

Abby Hoffman asked to mayor to speak to the matter of the Culbute development. The Mayor reiterated that any public land must be sold publicly, and nothing has been approved to date.

The Mayor advised that the road and sewer project underway in Perkins should be finished by mid-August. The improvements will include a cycle path, sidewalks and street lighting.

Roger Paul acknowledged that the GLA executive had endorsed both the Mayor and the two winning councilors; he congratulated them on their election victories and thanked the mayor for his stance with regards to the Culbute development.

Brian Reynolds asked the Mayor to advise the members as to when the municipal section of Chemin du Barrage will be resurfaced. The Mayor advised that the municipality has 250 roads to fix over the next three years. It will cost \$8M to fix them. The good news is that the current focus on corruption has resulted in lower quotes, for example Blackburn at \$2.1M vs. the estimated \$2.8M and Monte Paiment at \$120K vs. \$180K. The mayor indicated that Chemin du Barrage is scheduled for resurfacing and that this will take place in 2015 or 2016.

Councilor Mireille Brazeau said a few words to the members in French, essentially thanking them for their election support and offering a transparent term in office.

Roger Paul noted the Proxies received from members unable to attend. He introduced the executive and advised that the conduct of the meeting was bilingual. He advised that there were two items to add to the Agenda under Other. George Avon would report on the Culbute/Crown Land Development. The issue of Marker Buoys would also be covered. The Agenda was approved with these additions.

Eva Kmiecic/Don Poole moved/seconded the approval of the 2013 AGM Minutes APPROVED unanimously

REPORTS

Treasurer: Gary Beach asked that a motion be moved to waive the requirement for Audited Financial Statements. Moved by Dale Smith, seconded by Paul Butler **APPROVED unanimously**

A Motion by Judy Meloche to approve the Financial statements was seconded by Tom Barber. Unanimously APPROVED

Membership: Roger Paul reported that we have almost 100% paid up membership. E-mail is the preferred method for communication.

Environment; Tom Barber reported. The ice was out later this year, April 30, normally this is around April 20. We have been testing the water for the last 8-9 years. Due to the late melt, the phosphorous testing was not done this year, however it may be done in November if a boat is available. An algae bloom was noted at the narrows between Grand and Green lakes. The possible source is being investigated. E-coli is tested over the summer and is usually good. The matter of septic contamination is being address by the new municipal policy. The Federation of Lakes is very active and well supported by the Mayor and Councilors.

President: Harris Boyd spoke to the shift in focus of the Executive, from social to political and the environment, which are our two priorities. The executive supported the three elected candidates for Mayor and council. The Mayor supports this focus. With respect to the environment, we are focused on reducing the use of pesticides and herbicides, tree planting, and not cutting of trees too close to the shore. We also want to see any further development on the lake restrained. Harris indicated that he is planning to sell his property on Grand lake, and that he would not be running for President, he also stated that it was a pleasure to serve over the last four years.

Nominating Committee: Dale asked for volunteers to serve on the Executive. There are currently no new volunteers on the list. We have a rotating system of three year terms, and three terms are due to expire. Paul Butler and Gary Beach agreed to stand again for another three years. A motion to re-appoint them was moved by Tom Barber, seconded by Nathan Cooper. Unanimously **APPROVED**

Tom Barber/Judy Moved and seconded that Peter Kearns is re-appointed as Sports Club Director. Unanimously **APPROVED**

The passing of several members was noted: Dan O'Leary, Helen Marchand, and Grace Muriel Graham. Gary Beach was thanked for the excellent celebration of life organized for Dan O'Leary.

Jill Allen from Dam Lake reported that they were meeting tomorrow and that they had many of the same concerns, she noted that phosphate levels were lower over there.

Special Activities: Harris reported that the Canada Day activities were great despite the weather. He thanked Mike for the fireworks which just get better every year. The judges for the boat parade were Dale Smith, Roger Paul and Michael Kelen. The winners were; Star Wars/Rob Wright; Chuck Wagon/Ed Hemmel; Decorated Dog (Kirby)/Shelly Baker; Honourable mention was given to the bayliner#175208 for the quantity of flags, but we don't know the owner. Harris thanked everyone for their participation.

Abby Hoffman reported on hiking and ski trails, she thanked everyone who helped install 120 new blazes and urged users to sign the book at the trail head. There will be work parties on September 7 and October 12 at 10:30, (posted on the web). The ramps are not in good condition and users should take care.

George Avon received a letter from Patrick Autotte at the MNR. He advised that the Culbute agreement had expired. The conditions for continued use have changed including the requirement for a GPS description of the trails which will cost \$1K plus. The trails also must be improved including rest areas, toilets and lookouts. If these are not carried out we can use the trails but we will have no authority over them. George will speak to Abby and provide her with a copy of the letter.

Golf Tournament: Tom Martin reported that last year's tournament was fabulous and specifically noted the band, dancing and the wine raffle. The year's tournament is on July 25th. He urged members to come and bring their friends, attend the dinner, and volunteer. This year everyone will start and finish at the same time. The patio has been reserved. We need 72 golfers. There will be a prize table and we need donors/sponsors. Please register ASAP.

Poker Run: Dale reported that the Poker run is the last event of the season and will be held on the Saturday of the Labour Day weekend. There will be a family BBQ and prizes for youth 12 and under. Please call to register, the cost is \$20. per boat. If the weather is not suitable the event will be held on Sunday.

Winter Patrol: 60 members signed for this service last year. There was one incident regarding burst pipes.

Lost and Found: Nathan Cooper reported that this is a web based system to report lost or found items. A 10x10 dock is currently looking for its owner. If not claimed it will be donated to Abby.

Sailing Association: Duncan Vipond thanked the Poole's for their 3 years as Commodores. Information sheets are available on races. The association needs timers.

Web Site: Paul Butler reported that traffic on the site is up 75% over last year. He asked members to provide him with photos. A new budget of \$400.00 is required, the money will be used to re-work the site including pay pal and a community page. The new look will be launched in three months.

Other Business: Peter Kearns reported that the Sports Club is operating again. Twenty people attended the CPR course. It will not be offered again this year, however it may be offered next year and will be announced in the Spring News Letter.

Joe Houghton Moved/Seconded by Paul Methot: That marker buoys and speed limits be installed in the narrow portion of channel near Joe's dock. There are 10 land owners near the channel. There have been several near misses with swimmers. Harris indicated that the Executive needs time to look at this as there are legal implications as well as insurance implications. The currently installed markers are not approved by the Association. The motion was amended by Joe Houghton/Tom Barber, that a plan be developed with the idea of implementation in 2015. The Association Executive will look at need, cost and liability and will consult with the QPP regarding authority. The plan will identify the narrow passages that need markers. The motion was **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**.

Culbute Development: George Avon reported on the current situation with respect to the Culbute development and a proposal from Pierre Bourque for a land exchange for crown land at the south end of the lake. While the Municipality under the former administration supported the proposal, it was rejected by the MNR. The policy is not to sell crown land if 60% or more of the lake is already developed. A second Bourque proposal which included the upgrading of Chemin du Parc to municipal standards and would include the acquisition of 3200M of shore line, providing up to 60-70 lots was also turned down by the MNR. George has received a letter from Patrick Autotte that states the MNR opinion regarding further development on the lake. Approximately 80.5% of the lake is already developed and therefore no further development will be permitted on the lake. There are 26,600 meters of shoreline, and 21,400 is already developed. The MRC must adhere to the same rules. George was thanked for his efforts on this file.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at noon for the BBQ, many expressed that they liked the 10:00 start time. There was discussion on how to make the Association more inclusive and to get more members to attend the AGM, special events such as a meet and greet was suggested. Gary Beach indicated that he will fund a new event to be called "The Grand Swim to the Beaches" this will be a 6K swim to be held on the last Saturday in June, the swim takes about 1 hour and 40 minutes. A trophy has been ordered.