

STEENBURG LAKE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Spring Executive Meeting

Sunday, June 7, 2015

Cottage of Marlene Pollard

Executive Members Present:

Anthony Genovese, Pat Stallaert, Donna Cochrane, Marlene Pollard, Dean Butler, Don Mills, Judy Platt, Dave McDonald, Melissa Stallaert

Regrets: Ken Deboo

Minutes were accepted from the fall meeting.

Newsletter:

- extra newsletters should be printed to allow for new members
- 170 were printed and \$751 was spent on printing, mailing and envelopes.
- half of the price of the newsletter is postage, should we consider other methods of delivery
- lighter paper helps keep the weight of the newsletter low and reduce the mailing cost
- should we consider reducing the price of membership to encourage people to accept it by email
- members of the Executive agreed to receive their copies of the newsletter in person rather than by mail, even if this may introduce a short delay.
- Dean pointed out that Butler Marketing Services doesn't require a copy at all (mailed or otherwise) because they already receive a copy at home, and he's fine waiting to receive it in person.
- newsletter had very good feedback, good stories and pictures and out on time.
- lots of ideas for the fall newsletter already developed
- there was one error made in not using the latest advertising material provided by Old Hastings Mercantile and Gallery, but the sponsor is satisfied that the SLCA will do all it can to avoid this in future, and will help promote any lake specific promotions they make available through Facebook.

Action: Marlene to make changes in database to reflect that no newsletter is required for Butler Marketing Services and that the Executive still wish to receive hard copies of the newsletter, but these can be picked up or delivered in person to reduce postage costs

Action: Marlene to change membership database so Crowe Valley shows as a recipient of a mailed copy of the newsletter

Action: Melissa/Pat to print 10 extra copies of the newsletter each run. These can be used to help attract new sponsors, and included in new members' welcome packages going forward. Cost of these additional copies will be offset by Executives no longer receiving copies by mail.

Action: Melissa/Pat to set aside 10 copies for Executive to have for pick-up or delivery

Lake Stewardship:

- the letter on wake does not seem to have been read by the people who need to, boats are still throwing lots of wake,
 - water levels are very low for spring, Crowe Valley did not put the logs in as early as some people wished
 - Don received the testing equipment and the first sample has been taken.
 - depth (clarity) monitoring should be taken monthly and the figure on the Lake Partner Program website is an average of all the figures, 14ft is the first reading
 - zebra mussel testing will be done, students hired by OFAH/MNR help coordinate the monitoring programme
 - according to a local ice fisherman we have some fresh water shrimp in our lake but this doesn't appear to be a problem as they are not an invasive species
 - there is a marker missing further out from the north shore (in the vicinity of the Locke's cottage), needs to be added
 - Waywell family is now handling the markers, several appear to be missing. They have the map and they went around with Rick to pull them out in the fall, so this needs to be addressed quickly.
 - they need to put markers in and out and if new ones are necessary, then this needs to go through Don and the association.
- Action:** Anthony will contact the Waywells to advice on the missing ones and will also provide their cheque.
- Action:** Don will contact FOCA to see what the routine is for other lakes, types of equipment, markers and anchors and other relevant information
- derelict fishing hut was not taken off the lake and by the time our contact from MNR came out to look it was no longer safe to pull it off. The hut ended up floating into shore and some-one pulled it out
 - MNR checks the registration of all fishing huts but manpower is so scarce that it is possible that derelict huts are left
 - on a casual basis, winter cottagers could look at the huts to see if there are registration numbers.
 - our responsibility should be to just monitor and let MNR know if there appears to be a problem.
 - rumour is that the Headland has sold, address this in Municipal
 - first year for Don, but seems to have all that he needs to do the job

Marketing:

- new flashlights are almost ready, expect it to retail at \$5.00, the ones in Canadian Tire are \$4.00
- Dean will clean-up the order sheet to make sure everything is current
- he still can't find the fire stoker fan, Dean has tried a couple but they are not as good as the original left at his cottage but he will keep looking

- if he can find it, a good idea will be to print the fire regulations on it
 - Pat and Heather will sell goods at the Regatta as Dean will not be there
 - T-shirts for the Fun Run will be ordered before Butlers head away.
- Action:** Dean to clean up merchandise page and resubmit to Anthony for the website
- Action:** Dean to provide all merchandise available along with any signage, inventory list, price list and cash float, to Pat and Heather before the July 11th Regatta.

Membership

- to date, 18 people have paid by PayPal
 - 3 new members to date, 7 active MLS listings on the lake currently
 - one 50 year member, Gary McCullough
 - digital copy of Guide to Emergency Preparedness pamphlet can be posted on the website as there are not enough hard copies to give out in the member's package
 - long-term member Betty Matthews passed away this winter, her daughter wrote a very complimentary letter to thank the association for excellent newsletters that her mother loved to read.
- Action:** Marlene to provide Pat the ink to the "Hastings Guide to Emergency Preparedness" for posting on the SLCA website under Reports.

Financial:

- status of financial is similar as in past years, at a loss but this is before all revenue is received in the summer months
 - expenses are mostly paid up so with two months left in the fiscal year, we will be in a good position by end of summer
 - \$31500 in investments at the moment split between 6 GICs that are paying 2% or more so we are in a good position
 - new legislation for Not For Profit organizations is not expected to be passed until 2016 and there is normally a 3 year break-in period to get all bylaws in compliance
 - we will need to start reviewing for the basic changes
- Action:** Pat will circulate the initial changes so executive can provide input, plan is to present the first draft to the AGM
- with all changes in executive, signatures will need to be updated,
 - should we consider some higher earning products that may be higher risk but it is believed that we should keep our money in safer investments
 - should unpaid invoices for advertisers be considered a loss on the books, it was agreed to continue as in the past

Social:

- all events are set up for the year with the exception of the Regatta
- Donna is stepping down from the social committee
- Fred Cotie is not doing the Jamboree this year
- fireworks are planned for Saturday, June 27 with a rain date of Sunday, June 28

- it is uncertain whether the Family Day activities will be held February, 2016
- the Regatta has been cancelled as there is no-one to take the event on, to organize and set up all the races
- if we begin to drop events we may find that membership will drop, these events are the reasons people want to be part of the membership.
- sales of our merchandise will also drop because the regatta results in large sales
- the association will help fund events that people bring to the association, if they are willing to run them, these events help bring the lake together
- Action:** Marlene will put on the website and Facebook that the Regatta is cancelled if no-one steps up to organize it, we have one week to determine if it finally is gone
- Donna to pick up the floaters and other things from Andersons, Anthony could handle the food grilling, Pat will pick up the grill but need to have some-one take on the organizing

Municipal

- tentative agreement for the proposed copper and nickel mine is now finalized
- investment of up to \$12m to develop a silver mine so within 7 years, if viable, will be in full production
- Agave is the owner and has sold off some interests in South America and are now closer to being in the black after many years of poor financial situation
- although it is not clear exactly where the mining property is located, it is thought to be about 10k point to point between Two Mile Lake and Limerick Lake.
- Limerick Township has advised that Hastings County is reviewing this, and they are not involved.
- need to begin the investigation as to the legislative oversight of mining in the county and the province
- Action:** Pat to try contacting Hastings County to ascertain what they know about the development since Limerick Township has deferred the matter to the County.
- Limerick Centre has been updated, it is looking nice and the addition of WIFI is in process

Other Business

- website has been updated to make it easier to update the comments on Lake Talk
- Fletchers have agreed to have a webcam at their cottage so we should vote on purchasing a new one for them
- Motion:** Purchase a new web cam to be installed at Fletcher's cottage.
All in favour. Motion passed.
- Action:** Anthony to purchase new web cam and assist with hook up
- Anthony has not hooked up his webcam yet
- for fulltime owners, Bell internet is a better choice than Explornet although the Fibe is not available in many areas yet
- need to look at having a specialized position for managing our website including who monitors what should be posted, Jimmy Nevins manages the Facebook

Action: bring it up at the AGM

-Don is now receiving a newsletter from Bird Studies of Canada, they are looking for volunteers to participate in a Loon study; the association does have some signs to put in places telling people to stay away from shore due to nesting

-Anita Waddell was doing an informal study for the association years ago, not known if the data was provided to any official organization

Action: Pat to follow-up with the Waddells to find out what data they have, how current it is and whether it was ever submitted.

Executive Positions:

-positions that are up for election

Vice-president – Pat will continue if no-one else steps up

Social – Donna has resigned the position, this is her last year

Membership – Marlene is now finished after 12 years, this is her last year. The position would be best for a local owner, it is all set up and most work is in the spring, Marlene has organized it very well so that some-one can easily take it over

President: Anthony plans that this is his last year, if Pat steps up to the role then we will need a Vice-president

-Minute actions reviewed from the fall executive meeting minutes, all are completed or ongoing.

-meeting adjourned