

**STEENBURG LAKE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Sunday August 4, 2013**

President's Welcome:

Thanks to Jackie Rudd and Waddell family for arranging the refreshments for the meeting including home baked goods.

Guest Speaker: Chris Drost, North Hastings Economic Development Committee

- spoke about growth and development in North Hastings County
- goal is to encourage entrepreneurs and new business and also encourage tourism
- working on North Hastings profile to assist people with data to build their marketing plans to start businesses
- working on a seasonal resident survey to help find gaps where services are necessary
- information will help municipality determine what services are needed in the future
- working with the group Eastern Ontario Townships committee for improvement on the technology
- encourage everyone to go on-line to do the survey
- survey will be available until end of September, and then results will be posted on line on Hastings County website.

Call to Order: 10:15 am, 34 cottages represented. Quorum established

- approval of minutes with amendment of Goodyear corrected to Longyear
- Motion to accept minutes from 2012 annual meeting – 1st Ken Waddell, 2nd Ian Fraser
- Motion carried

REPORTS

President: Anthony Genovese

- discussed the potential blue green algae problem along the South Steenburg Lake Road
- various agencies were called and responded quickly
- ours was a 3 rating, but a rare variety
- consumption of this water can make you very sick and animals could potentially die, check website for information if you think you have found other sites
- logging company created problems with the road during the spring, marking trees that should not have been marked, it made the road in-traversable for some time
- they are in the wrap up stage now
- The Steenburg Lake Community Association archives are now on-line and reports are being added all the time
- hazard on lake, the old boathouse that needed to be removed will be covered by Pat further in the meeting
- headland property is still up for sale but is over-priced and mired in owner's family discussions about its future; also there is no legal right of way to the property
- any request for development will need to go through proper process
- internet seems to be working well now through various providers
- FIBE is now in the area plus approval for a new tower at 62 and 620 is in process

Vice President Report: Pat Stallaert

- thanks to all of those who submitted copies of newsletters and other documents for posting on-line for our archives
- encourage everyone to look at the site and if you have any of the documents that are missing, please send them in
- the old boathouse now has an approval for removal and will need some volunteers to help take it down

-it was thought it could be taken down in winter but it was not high enough above the ice, then delays were required for spring fish spawning, it is now timely to take it down

Action: Pat Stallaert to organize volunteers for 2013

-it was decided that SLCA will not be involved in purchasing fire pumps as it would be too difficult to administer

Treasurer: David McDonald

-it is now 11 months through the fiscal year

-most expenses have been paid but the bulk of income will not be in until end of summer

-we are still in a strong financial position

-our restricted reserve remains at \$20,000, our unrestricted reserve is approximately \$9,500

-investments are kept at our Scotiabank branch in Bancroft, interest rates presently are around 2%, we always invest in no-risk investments, i.e. GICs

-expenses are being kept to a minimal amount

-income from merchandise sales and memberships are in good shape

-all treasury information is in the newsletter

-income from advertisers help pay for the newsletter

-changes to Ontario Not For Profit regulations are being investigated and Tom Little has volunteered to assist with the rules in order that our association remain in compliance

Membership: Marlene Pollard

-not all canvassers have turned in their fees yet

-two new 50 year members; Savage family, #24 and Gillison family, #172

-photo contest was a success, see appendix 1 for list of winners

-continue to encourage members to enter into the contest and send in their pictures

Municipal Affairs: Dave Golem

-McGeachie Conservation area is owned by Crowe Valley Conservation Authority who is now in the midst of some financial difficulty

-they are looking at reducing their costs which may include selling properties such as McGeachie

-Dave Golem is researching how people can make bequests to help keep the land in conservation mode.

Action: Dave Golem

-Limerick now has funding to rebuild the bridge on North Steenburg Lake Road near Mowat Lane, work is expected to take place in 2014 between July 15 and Labour Day, when school buses are not running

-water levels and method of control in the creek will not change when the work is done

-bylaw revisions are finally going to be approved by fall

-high taxes for waterfront property are due to MPAC

-50% of tax collected goes to county and province

-no industry is located in this area to help keep taxes down

-new requirements such as computer programmes and accessibility of facilities have added large costs to the townships

-running the community centre is very expensive, bad heating and it is not up to standards for an evacuation centre which is now required

-it would take at least 600K to build a new one

-Ken Waddell asked a question of the executive – is Limerick and Tudor & Cashel considering amalgamation?

-response is that unofficial talks are taking place but many ways are being looked at to save money

-cottagers are 60% of funding, we need to make our voices heard

-there is a position available for Executive Director in the Family Health Team, interested parties can check the website for more information.

Lake Stewardship: Dave Langman

- water testing was done on May 24, 2013
 - zebra mussel testing continues, there are no reports of adults yet
 - glossy blackthorn is a serious problem, there will be more information in the fall newsletter
 - four stroke engines are quieter as well as being more efficient and better for the environment
 - it is critical that shorelines be maintained with vegetation, to protect from rain and snow run off
 - water levels are now close to normal because a beaver dam has been removed
 - cormorants have been sited on the lake, they are a very destructive bird to lake environs
 - watch for bass with worms in their eyes and head, they should not be thrown back and not consumed
 - no stocking of splake was done this year, but bigger fish are being caught
 - cottage on small island appears to be abandoned, can municipality advice on status
- Action: Dave Golem
- information would be good on how to identify poison ivy
- Action: Dave Langman

Newsletter: Erika Langman

- please send stories, pictures and other content in order to keep the newsletter going

Marketing: Dean Butler

- some new t-shirts are always being offered, but quantity is minimal in order to keep the inventory low
- if cottagers have ideas for product in which they would be interested, please let Dean know and they will be considered

Social: Anthony Genovese

- constant events are going on year-round, these are great activities for families
 - regatta was almost cancelled; thank-you to Margaret and Dave Anderson for picking and organizing the event
 - road clean-up was poorly attended
 - consider putting garbage bins at various points along the road
- Action: SLCA directors to discuss
- beach garbage bin was moved to behind the outhouse to prevent people putting their household garbage in it
 - consideration could be made to changing the date of the road clean-up or consider multiple pick-up dates
- Action: SLCA directors to discuss
- SLCA contributed some funding to Limerick Township community fundraising
 - it is critical to have new director if we want to continue all of these great activities

Other Business**Election of Officers:**

- Social Director, it is important to have volunteers if we are to continue to present events

Municipal Elections

- 2014 municipal elections are next fall; cottagers should begin to prepare themselves to know who to vote for
 - do a bit of homework; help others to know how to register to vote
 - we should consider reaching out to other lake association to connect for a louder voice on municipal issues
- Action: SLCA directors to discuss

Audits Reports

-motion was put forward:

SCLA will request the financial audits from Limerick Township and Tudor & Cashel Township for the past five years

Motion to accept -1st Jim Bridger, 2nd Kent Anderson

Motion carried

Action: SLCA to request the audits

Summer Safety

-this is a reminder to individuals to keep speed limit to 10 km along shoreline

-people floating and swimming on lake do not realize that they are not that visible and regardless how safe or unsafe the practice of swimming out in open water may seem, it remains the boat operator's responsibility to watch for and avoid any such swimmers.

Steenburg Lake South Road

-latest proposal from Limerick Township regarding South Rd. maintenance is that they would let Tudor/Cashel Township plow the road

-Tudor and Limerick are now negotiating how they can handle the maintenance in a shared way

-unless they get in the same room to keep talking on how to resolve this issue, no progress will be made

-the road committees of both townships appear to be more open to talk

Meeting Adjourned 11:55 am

Prizes Drawn

-16 door prizes were drawn, thanks to all contributors

Appendix 1: Prize for Photo Contest 2013 Winners

Best of Show	-Donna Cochrane, 4 mugs
Landscape	-Donna Cochrane, black hat
Cottage Life	-Tyler Burke, T-shirt (L)
Action	-Tyler Burke, hat
Child Under 12	-Maisie Anderson, T-shirt (S)
Nature	-Dave Golem

All pictures were in the 2012 fall issue of the SLCA newsletter