

Oxbow Lake Cottagers' Association

2016 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

Saturday, July 2, 2016, 10:00 am, Interlaken Fire Hall

- 1) Introductions and welcome were extended by President John Scarfe to the 50+ cottagers present.
- 2) A moment of silence was observed for one of our cottagers who passed away since our last meeting: Dave Barsevich.
- 3) Special Guests:

District Councillor Shane Baker noted:

- Both Oxbow roads have had work this spring.
- On the Township website is a Customer Service portal for questions, concerns, comments. Everyone is invited to use it more. Here is the link: <https://lakeofbays.civicweb.net/Portal/CitizenEngagement.aspx>. The aim is for a quick response from the appropriate personnel.
- The ATV bylaw includes using ATVs from May 1st to December 1st on Township Roads during daylight hours. District roads are not confirmed but hope for July 18.
- Bicycles are allowed on the road so please remember to share the road.
- All 3 Fire Halls in the northern part of the township are below the number needed with more than one hall needed to respond to fire calls. There is an online application form to volunteer. A special thanks was noted to those volunteering.
- Bears have been seen around the lakes. Materials are available with information on bear confrontations and not encouraging bears: don't leave bird seed out, clean your barbeque, take garbage to the dump and clean out garbage containers.
- Thanks to all who helped with the cleanup along Limberlost.

Mayor Bob Young noted:

- Everything is well on the local scene. Finances are solid with a good reserve. There is a need to rebuild infra structure at this time and other unforeseen circumstances are using up some of this reserve.
- Plan has been approved and it's a good plan. There has been some reluctance at the District level but it is hoped it will settle.
- There is no clear idea as to the OPP cost or restructuring because of the new government personnel but it is hoped these discussions will continue.
- LoB not represented equally at the District table and there is work on change there.
- The Airport continues with no regularly scheduled airlines! The cost is prohibitive.
- The Dorset Health Hub is available to anyone by appointment.
- The hospital situation has not changed. The Huntsville Hospital is there and will remain for a number of years. Many details need to be worked through for any change in the future.
- The township is there for you to enjoy your life here... call on us.

New Councillor Mike Peppard noted:

- He has been on the job for 4 days at this point and is working closely with Councillor Burgess. He anticipates continuing the Advisory Committee of local residents.

Questions:

Gary Lachance re boat ramp needing repair work.

Ian Goodhand re grading of West Oxbow more than once or twice yearly.

Shane encouraged use of the portal for these questions.

4) Secretary's Report:

Motion 1: Gary Lachance/ John Lilly

Be it resolved that the 2015 Annual Meeting Minutes be approved as presented through the website. Carried

5) Treasurer's Report:

Diana Leicht, finishing her 7th year in this position, presented a review of this year's financial report and thanked John Lilly for knocking on doors and helping with the collection of dues.

Motion 2: Jim Vigmond, Ian Goodhand

Be it resolved that the dues rate be maintained at \$40 per cottage. Carried

Motion 3: Jim Vigmond, John Lilly

Be it resolved that the budget be accepted as proposed. Carried

6) Upcoming Summer Dates:

Cocktail Social is to be hosted by Jeremy and Anouk Scott-Teichert,

Location: 1431 West Oxbow Lake Rd

Date: Saturday, July 23, 2016, 5 pm – 7 pm

Regatta will to be held on the shores of the OLCC (with thanks to them) on Sunday, July 31, 2016 at 1:30 pm – something for all ages! Organizers: Angie and Peter Heydon

Volunteers needed: Endpoints for canoe and paddleboat races
 Help to organize kids into teams

7) Lake Items:

a) Wall of Recognition recognizing extraordinary service of two cottagers:

Stan McBride, first president in 1959-1966, hosted all the meetings at his cottage, created the dock at the boat launch among many other things around the lake.

Frenus Scott "Scotty" bought the Oxbow Lodge property in 1928, part of a big farm, moving from Allensville, and owned the lodge for 30 years. It was popular and busy in the summer. He was the go-to man for ice with a big ice house and all the equipment needed to keep it. He gradually subdivided and built many of the cottages nearby.

Two plaques have been added to the Wall of Recognition recognized these two for their extraordinary contributions in early years of Oxbow Lake cottaging.

John Scarfe also noted that from the Minutes of 1975 there was concern noted of the narrows and the boat wakes. It is a very traditional part of the cottagers' meeting!

Angie extended thanks to John for his search on the lake history.

- b) Lake buoys/The Narrows: Volunteers are needed to put out buoys each year. Please speak to Ian Goodhand.
- c) Station 50: Ian Goodhand thanked the Association for their donation. Purchases have included new fire gloves (\$800) and 400 feet of special hose. He also requested that all cottagers make sure their fire numbers are visible from the road including any separate secondary numbers.
- d) Barb Singleton invited everyone to enjoy the fireworks tonight, keeping a safe distance, aiming for a 9:45ish start... Husband Paul is a pyrotechnician. Their generosity is much appreciated and greatly enjoyed by all on the lake.
- e) Wildlife:
 - i) Bears – Updated version of the Bear Wise document is available online – URL is <https://www.ontario.ca/page/prevent-bear-encounters-bear-wise> They are around.
 - ii) Bat House - Nick Mosgrove has volunteered to put up the bat house on his property and track the bats for environmental monitoring effects.
- f) FOCA: we are members of FOCA and are entitled to enjoy all of the privileges that entails. Our insurance provider is organized through them. You can add your name to the 'ELERT' list to receive regular emails with lots of good info: [Click here to get free FOCA Elerts](#)
- g) Water quality: Angie & Peter Heydon continue to do the water testing on the West Arm and Marc Lichtenburg on the East Arm. The monitoring data continues to be good. The listing of things to do to keep everything healthy in and around our lake was sent out with the agenda. Marc spoke in more detail about several facts in the environment. There are no invasive species in the lake water.
- h) Roads Report : Ian Goodhand
Extensive work was completed on the East arm, culverts and drainage.
The West Arm is good other than grading is needed.
- i) OLCC Rep: Stephanie Parkin
The OLCC love hosting the regatta – rain or shine!
They also appreciate slowing in the narrows, watching for swimmers and paddlers.
- j) Communications update: Lynda Arnold
The lake website continues to be a source for those inquiring for information on the lake or communicating changes in contact info. Lynda acknowledged Julian Scarfe's generosity over the years in maintaining the website and associated costs.
Presently the website needs upgrading and Lynda proposed a change to Wordpress and requested help or information in moving this forward.

Motion 4: Lynda Arnold, Gary Lachance

That website development and upgrade for the lake website be pursued. Carried

8) Proposed Slate of Officers 2016-17

A note of thanks was given to all who have served including Tara Stickwood who was stepping down as Secretary and Diana Leicht who has served as Treasurer for 7 years.

Motion 5: Gary Lachance, Jim Vigmond

That the following slate of officers as presented be approved. Carried

President	Brian McCann
Past President	Angie Heydon
Vice President	Markus Herten
Treasurer	Darlene Conlon
Secretary	**open**
Communications	Lynda Arnold
West Arm Rep	John Lilly
East Arm Rep	Karen Vigmond
OLCC Rep	Stephanie Parkin - appointed by OLCC board
Member at large	Larry Barber
Member at large	Gary Lachance
Member at large	Ian Goodhand
Member at large	Nick Mosgrove
Member at large	Diana Leicht

FYI - Appointments by OLCA Board with thanks:

Lake Steward – Angie and Peter Heydon

Roads Committee – Ian Goodhand, Gary Lachance, John Lilly, Jim Vigmond

Regatta Marshalls – Angie & Peter Heydon

West Oxbow Cottage Sign – Ian Goodhand

Wall of Recognition – Ian Goodhand

9) Other business

Angie extended a sincere thank you to John Scarfe for his time as President and the efficient running of the meeting.

10) Adjournment at 10:53 am: moved by Gary Lachance

President

Secretary