

Oxbow Lake Cottagers' Association

2018 ANNUAL MEETING

Saturday, June 30, 2018, 10 am, Interlaken Fire Hall

- 1) The President, Brian McCann brought the meeting to order at 10 am and welcomed approximately 50 cottagers and guests.
- 2) Special Guests were introduced by Brian:
Councillor Mike Peppard commented on the new property standards bylaw: very comprehensive, safety related, not a lot of effect on lakefront, and bylaw officers checking.

District Councillor Shane Baker offered his farewell as our District Councillor, stating it was time to move on after his many years of service on the both Township Council and the District. He reported that ~100 km of ditches along Limberlost were cleaned up again this year in the spring. He also mentioned a program to be aware of, namely the District is paying for addition ambulance/crew presence throughout this summer with 15 extra paramedics. Shane was collecting opinions (straw poll) on garbage bag tags and the mailing of 150 bag tags (cost added to your taxes) to each residence which could be more beneficial for seasonal residence who may have more than the weekly allotment, or \$3/bag with no tag. Almost all favored the present system – no bag tags. The Bigwin boat will run out of Dorset, and also Dwight this season on Tuesdays.

Mayor Bob Young expressed appreciation for his Councillors' efforts. He reported the biggest accomplishment was the funding for a permanent health care unit in the Lake of Bays. The township office expansion (2500 sq ft) is finished. Another project will be to replace the garage in Baysville by consolidating facilities. The official plan has been completed. Next will be to update the zoning bylaws. There has been some staff changes but a strong core remains. Bob expressed disappointment in getting fibre spread throughout the township. Lakeland's application to provide it was turned down, so they are still working on it. One other big challenge is affordable housing which is a complex issue.

Jim Vigmond requested an update on hospital situation.

Bob expects a recommendation from the hospital board soon.

Golden Stickwood (Barber) commented that at this point fibre technology is no longer the answer.

Candidates present, for the upcoming local election: Gord Adams, Charles Cooper and Martin Mann, were introduced but at this point campaigning has not officially started.

- 3) A moment of silence was observed for cottagers who passed away this year.
- 4) **Motion 1:** Lynda Arnold, Markus Herten
That the 2017 Annual Meeting Minutes as distributed be approved. CARRIED
- 5) Upcoming Summer Dates
 - Singleton's Fire Works will be Sunday, July 1 at 10 pm. Everyone is welcome to enjoy with special thanks to the Singletons for sharing this display!
 - Lake Social: Saturday, August 4th hosted by the Vigmonds on the East Arm from 4 to 6 pm. Bring an appetizer and your own beverage.

- Regatta: Sunday, August 5th beginning at 1:30 pm at the OLCC organized by the Heydons. If you can lend a hand, let the Heydons know.

6) Lake Items:

a) Lake Markers – Darlene Conlon

The Association has been responsible for putting markers in the lake for a number of years. After discussion on the responsibilities needed, Darlene researched and found: that markers need to follow Transport Canada guidelines; our insurance provider must be notified; documenting procedures needed on putting out the markers (dates to put in and take out); use of regulatory markers labelled with ownership; a disclaimer, notification of no liability should be displayed. New markers have been ordered (caution colour, sturdy plastic). Procedures will be emailed and posted on the website. FOCA emphasis that we are all responsible for our own watercraft and safety. Peter & Angie Heydon and Michael Conlon will put them in when they arrive. Jim Vigmond also offered to help.

b) Fire Hall Station 50 – Ian Goodhand

Ian noted: Smoke alarms have a life expectancy and must be checked regularly; there have been more medical calls than fire calls at this point; in an emergency you must make sure that you know your cottage number.

Special thank yous were extended to the two fire fighters who retired this year: Larry Barber who served 14 years and Jen Cambray, 7 years.

There are 4 fire fighters on the hall right now – 3 in their 60s and one 39.

c) Lake Stewards' Report - Angie & Peter Heydon, Marc Lichtenberg

The critical issue is phosphorous in the water, which can cause algae which needs to be kept down. Water testing of the West Arm of Oxbow Lake continues to be very good. Our activity determines the phosphorous levels which show good work on our part here.

Marc Lichtenberg reported the Secchi disk (water clarity) on the East Arm had the worse reading last year. It has been 18 feet in the past, but now only 9 feet down is visible. There is concern. Ministry of Environment reports septic are up to date.

They will do a test at the end of the summer to see if they can tell why water clarity has deteriorated.

No fertilizers on the lawn.

d) FOCA – Angie Heydon

Our lake association is a member of FOCA. The FOCA newsletter received by email contains great info. i.e. Political advocacy on behalf of waterfront residences. It is recommended for all cottagers to consider signing up for it.

e) OLCC Rep – Sheryl Breadner

OLCC is looking forward to hosting the lake Regatta and offered a great view of fire works for anyone interested in watching from the OLCC.

f) Roads Report - Ian Goodhand, John Lilly, Jim Vigmond

West Oxbow has had one grading this year and the pot holes fixed. Some pavement is breaking up on some of the hills and needs attention. Many of the hills are washboard again and another grading is in order. Concerns need to continue to be made known to the township through the Roads Reps.

g) Communications/Lake Website – Lynda Arnold, Markus Herten

Markus noted the ‘Oxbow Etiquette’ information for all cottagers, guests and visitors. A hard copy is available and it is also on the website.

Oxbow’s Sign board replacement (including mailboxes, name listing) for the corner at West Oxbow Road is being investigated with a proposal to be presented.

Lynda requested all contact information be kept updated and the most recent Cottage Contact Listing booklet will be emailed as lake dues are received.

The website receives requests through the contact form and are passed on to cottagers if relevant. Currently anyone wishing more information on EthoEnergy – an alternative energy solution, should email Lynda directly for the link. Pamphlets were received and available on Safe Boating.

h) Wall of Recognition – Lynda Arnold

The Wall of Recognition was established by one of our Past Presidents: John Scarfe in 2015 as a way to recognize extraordinary service by those who had passed away and who had served the Association and/or the lake community through the dedication of brass name plates mounted on the sign board at the corner of West Oxbow Lake Road.

This year, we remember and honor Jim Evenden. The Evendens came to Oxbow around 1949 and joined with the St. Catharines Bridge Club in purchasing land on the West Oxbow side. Their cottage was located just 2 down from us where the Steeles, the new owners are now.

Jim had, over the next 6 decades, taken on different roles at different times including the early days of the Cottagers Association group. Our past minutes show that he served as secretary from 1959 to at least 1966. Along with other cottagers, the Evendens hosted social events and Jim was one of the key folks in the building of the road not only behind his place but also right around on the peninsula. He didn’t think just about his own place on the lake, but also making it better for all the rest to come. Barb Singleton is Jim’s daughter (Paul is Barb’s husband) and they have their own family place on Oxbow on the peninsula.

MOTION 2: Lynda Arnold, Diana Leicht

That Jim Evenden be recognized on the Wall of Recognition for his extraordinary service in the Association and the Oxbow Lake community. CARRIED

7) Treasurer’s Report – Darlene Conlon presented the financial report. She also reported that the new markers came in at under \$500 and the Fire Hall did not feel the need for additional funds at this time. With the possible expense of a new sign board area, excess funds may help cover this.

Motion 3: Markus Herten, Diana Leicht

That the budget as presented with the 2018 Membership dues set at \$45/cottage be accepted. CARRIED

- 8) Proposed Slate of Officers 2018 - 2019 was presented by Angie Heydon
A special note of thanks was offered to retiring members: Karen Vigmond and Diana Leicht

Officers: for Election:

President	Brian McCann	East Arm Rep	Phil Guselle (new)
Past President	Angie Heydon	OLCC Rep	Sheryl Breadner
Vice President	Markus Herten	Member at large	Larry Barber
Treasurer	Darlene Conlon	Member at large	Ian Goodhand
Secretary	Lynda Arnold	Member at large	Nick Mosgrove
Communications	Lynda Arnold	Member at large	Neil Cambray
West Arm Rep	John Lilly	Member at large	Nina Lowe (new)

Motion 4: Angie Heydon, Jim Vigmond

That the slate of officers for 2018-19 be approved as presented. CARRIED

Officers: For Appointment:

The following individuals have volunteered to stand for:

- Lake Stewards – Angie and Peter Heydon, Marc Lichtenberg
- Roads Committee – Ian Goodhand, John Lilly, Jim Vigmond, Neil Cambray
- Regatta Marshalls – Angie & Peter Heydon
- West Oxbow Cottage Sign – Ian Goodhand
- Wall of Recognition – Ian Goodhand
- Councilor’s Advisory Rep – Murray Arnold

9) Other

- a) Logging operations on West Oxbow Road

Dave Wylie noted that while the logging was done, there is still a mess.

Neil Cambray reported that he had called Tracey the logger and Tracey was supposed to clean up logs/rubber mat soon. John Lilly has also been in contact with this group.

- b) Wildlife

Lynda reported that there had been no reports of bear, wolves, coyotes or coywolf this season. A doe and fawn were seen near the gravel pit and a young moose closer to Tasso Lake. This doesn't mean they aren't around. Vigilance is still needed.

- c) Tommy Yin, as a newer cottage owner, expressed his appreciation of Oxbow and had special embossed wooden book marks for everyone at the meeting. Thank you, Tommy!

10) Adjournment - Jim Vigmond 10:57am

President

Secretary