

MINUTES

1972 Annual Meeting

WEST ARM OXBOW COTTAGERS

ASSOCIATION

The meeting was called to order at 10:15, on August 6, 1972, by the vice-president, Mr. R. Cowan.

Special guests Mayor Jack Hatkoski, Township of Lake of Bays, and Councillor West from the Muskoka Regional Government were introduced.

Mayor Hatkoski spoke on problems and plans for the region, as well as to answer specific questions as follows:

1. Condition of Road 514 - No further work is planned for this year although the yellow dividing line has been completed a portion of the road and maintenance work has been kept up. It is expected, however, that next year some curves should be removed and maintenance as a whole improved.

2. Garbage Dump - Sign has already been posted - problem appears to be that people steal the signs.

3. Road into West Arm Cottages - Although the road surface at the beginning of the summer did not seem too satisfactory it has been proven that oiling the road is far superior to salting it. Weather conditions this year did not help to produce the best results but it is intended that the oiling of the road will be done early enough next season to ensure good results. We requested that the oiling be done early in the week in order that it will be mostly soaked in before a normal weekend's rush of cars get completely caked.

4. Agenda for the Coming Council Meeting - Future may hold the building of a lagoon for the purpose of septic tank dumping and eventually there will be holding tanks to service lots which are not suitable for septic tank beds. Holding tanks would be emptied periodically and waste removed to holding tanks. In connection with septic tank installations general he provided booklets prepared by the Ontario Department of Health which outlined the new regulations.

Plan to provide a dumping area for old cars which should be available in two to three years.

Walkers Lake Estate - The township will not approve the subdivision arrangement. This matter is still under discussion and has proved costly to the township, \$5,821 to be exact, which will be felt in the residents tax bill - one quarter of a mill for each resident, which will be charged under the section Pollution Control. We expressed concern that no lakes in the area be considered for back lot type subdividing.

Raise in Taxes - He explained it was inevitable that there would be a raise in taxes due in the main to the cost of education which has risen some \$114,000 and only subsidized by the Ministry of Education in the amount of \$3,000.

Complaint Forms - The Mayor brought these forms along and they were distributed to the membership, with instructions to fill them in unsigned and the Township would act as the signator. The purpose was to lodge any complaints that people may have in connection with pollution without involving themselves by lodging an official complaint. Mr. W. West offered his services to help and invited people to get in touch with him.

A question period followed.

(a) The rate of increase in tax rate was raised. The answer to this was that most residents experienced at least a 30% increase. When uniform assessment has been carried out the inequities at least should be eliminated and everyone assessed fairly.

(b) Election Day change - recommended such that more cottagers could vote.

(c) Question about the road from Mr. Cambrays to the Creek and why it was not being serviced. The Mayor said that the road was not shown on the map which was given to the regional government. Apparently there is a definite misunderstanding in this respect and representation and proof was to be provided for the Mayor to enable him to discuss the problem at the meeting which was being held in Bracebridge within a few days.

Mr. Cowan moved a vote of thanks for the speakers, which was seconded by Mr. V. House.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Introduction of new members.
2. Communication had been received from the Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Association soliciting our organization joining them. The purpose of this non-profit organization is to handle, and represent cottage owners all over Ontario in the questions of tax disputes, political measure etc. A motion was passed that the West-Arm Oxbow Cottager's Association join this Federation for the years 1972-73. Seconded by Mr. K. Shaney.

JULY 1972.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Cash on hand - Aug. 1, 1971.	\$255.13
Receipts since Aug. 1, 1971 towards 1971 dues.	<u>\$ 65.00</u>
	320.13

Expenses since Aut. 1, 1971

Aug. 1, 1971 Annual Mtg.	\$ 15.00
Aug. 1971 G. Dodds - Stamps	4.76
Aug. 7, 1971 E. Brook - re acct.	50.00
Aug. 21, 1971 Party Lodge	32.16
May 3, 1972. Hydro - re dock	<u>51.00</u>
	\$152.92

Balance July 31, 1972.	\$167.21
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OUTSTANDING DUES FROM 1971.

Arbathnot	\$ 2.00
Barclay	4.00
Catton	4.00
Goodhand	4.00
Hubbard	2.00
Livingstone	6.00
Lowery	2.00
R. Scott	4.00
Thomas	4.00
Wittenburg	<u>6.00</u>
	\$ 38.00

John Cowan

*Paid for 1973
Mrs. Bedell.*