

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
BUCK LAKE ASSOCIATION, INC., SATURDAY, JULY 23, 2005
Held at the Perth Road Community Hall**

Call to Order:

President John Wilson called to order the Annual General Meeting of the Buck Lake Association at 9:35 a.m. after people had renewed their memberships. Approximately 90 members and guests attended the meeting. Recording secretary, Amy Rossworm, recorded the minutes of the meeting.

1. Welcome All Attending:

President John Wilson welcomed all members, guests, Mayor Bill Lake and Councillors David Hahn and Ron Vandewal.

2. Introduce Mayor and Council Members. A Few Remarks from Each:

John invited the Mayor to make a few remarks. Mayor Lake commented that Council has had many questions about the results of the septic tank inspections done on Buck Lake last year, 2004, noting fairly good results overall: 341 properties visited- 10 -require more information, 10 –suggested to look at upgrading their systems, 5- will require upgrading and the Health Unit must deal with these cases. 60 percent of the people returned the Questionnaires regarding their septic system.

Bill spoke about 4 items Council wants to look at this year.

- i. They would like to do septic inspections of the Island properties on Buck Lake, hopefully in August. Will need someone who knows the Islands and a volunteer to take the person by boat to the Islands. The Inspection Committee will send a newsletter to residents giving specific information- e.g. septic service names, biodegradable products, etc.
- ii. Buck Lake Causeway- the falling stones around the Causeway to be fixed by August 15,05.
- iii. Re garbage collection and recycling on the Islands: every district, except Bedford will have Blue Box pick up this year. Starting on September 6, 05 all garbage bags must have a fee tag on each bag. Each household will be provided with 100 bag tags at no additional cost. Storrington, Loughborough and Portland will rotate Blue Box pick up- biweekly, as they do presently. Some problems noted with the Bedford dump, as this dump is closed when cottagers go home on Sunday. Overall, Bill commented that he looks forward to a cooperative working relationship with residents on this issue.
- iv. The Provincial Government has come through with gas money. South Frontenac will get \$160,000 for this year 2005-2006. Council has been told that they will get \$1, 333, 000 in gas tax over the years. So far, Frontenac County has received \$1, 244,000.

Questions from members for the Mayor:

- Bruce Barnes- when will the Township work on the corner of Roushorn Road. Bill answered that this work should start soon, as they are currently doing 3 to 4 patches on Perth Road.
- Karel Muzika- asked if the gravel parking area on the north side of the Causeway could be smoothed out for members vehicles. Bill told Karel to contact the Roads Dept. to make this request.
- Question about people parking right at/on the Causeway causing much congestion. Member asked that signs be posted- NO PARKING- noting that this ramp is only for loading and unloading. Again, the Mayor suggested contacting the Roads Department.

Councillor Ron Vandewal, Loughborough District- thanked the BLA for the invitation to attend our AGM, commenting that he was here to listen, not to talk.

Councillor David Hahn, Bedford District- commented on the many changes occurring in the Waste Management System in the entire Township. Fences have been erected at the Bedford Dump site, hopefully to keep out unwanted materials to extend the life of the dump. David noted that the Bedford Dump- Salem- now has extended the hours for summer : Saturday- 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m. to 5: p.m. The Councillor added that tipping fees have increased to come more in line with neighbouring municipalities, such as North Crosby. Councillor Hahn commented that septic inspection will continue in a limited capacity- only one assessment person was hired this year. Buck Lake has more or less been inspected and now the Township is focusing on Sydenham Lake. The new zoning by-law is now in effect. With more Federal and Provincial money available, there is more budget for road work this year- the Township will be working on the Massassagua Road this fall.

John thanked Mayor Bill Lake and Councillors Hahn and Vandewal for their comments.

3. Minutes from AGM Held July 17, 2004:

John asked Amy to read a summarized copy of the minutes of the July 17,2004 AGM. Full copies of the 2004 AGM minutes were available for members. Comment from Helen Mathers re #9 – re washing one’s boat when leaving Buck Lake; Helen noted that boats should also be washed before entering the Lake. Moved by George Speal and seconded by Murray Gill, the minutes were approved as read. Carried.

4. Business Arising from Minutes:

None.

5. Treasurer’s Report:

Treasurer Jim Nolan distributed copies of the Buck Lake Association, Inc. Financial Statements for the year ended June 30, 2005- see attached copy.

Jim commented on the need to increase our membership fee to \$25.00 this year from \$20.00 last year. The Treasurer said he hoped we could contribute some money to the Biosphere Reserve and to the FEP- the Frontenac Environmental Partnership, as both of these notable groups need funds.

Moved by Jim Nolan and seconded by Stephen Roughton the Treasurer’s Report was approved as presented.

6. President’s Comments:

John noted that Lake Planning we had talked about last year was on hold, as we need funds to continue to the next stage in the Lake Planning process. So far, we have not been successful in our application for funds and will continue to work on obtaining funds.

The Association needs to expand its range of objectives and have a broader appeal to all people who have an interest in the Lake to increase our membership. This has resulted in the formation of a new committee structure, as set out in the new by-law:

- Sub Committee on strategies to improve relations with all Lake users chaired by Duncan Sinclair
- Sub Committee to review and revise our Constitution and By-Law #1 chaired by Stephen Roughton
- Outreach Committee chaired by Andy Hills

7. Report of Sub Committee on Strategies to Improve Relations with Lake Users:

Chaired by Duncan Sinclair; members - Andy Hills, Amy Rossworm, Roy Mills and Pat Hegarty. Duncan founded his Committee in Oct.2004 and met with various people around the Lake, receiving both criticism and good comments. The criticism revolved around the perceived idea that the Board of Directors was an old guard clique that does not represent the interests of all people on the Lake in all our diversity. Thus the objectives: change the composition of the Board of Directors for two year terms; expand the services we provide; improve and expand communications- i.e. more frequent Newsletters' ; have more social functions.

Moved by Helen Mathers and seconded by Heidi Linley, Duncan's reported was approved, as presented.

8. Report of Sub Committee Concerning the Constitution and By-Law #1:

Chaired by Stephen Roughton; other member- Richard Linley.

Stephen outlined the changes made to our Constitution - copies available to all members. The Chairman emphasized the invaluable assistance from Richard Linley, asking that his wife Heidi convey our thanks to Richard who was not present. Moved by Stephen and seconded by Andy Hills, the report was approved, as presented.

Motion on By-Law # 1: Comment by Helen Mathers re the big turn over in Board members this year and wondered why we don't have the Office of Past President any more. Duncan responded that at least half of our Board members will remain next year. Moved by Stephen and seconded by Duncan Sinclair, the report was approved, as presented.

John expressed much thanks to Stephen Roughton and Richard Linley for the huge amount of time developing the Constitution and By-Law #1.

9. Outreach Committee:

Chaired by Andy Hills; other member- Amy Rossworm.

Andy noted that we need more people to work on our committee. Our goal is to build community on Buck Lake. Andy highlighted some of the community events taking place: Duncan Sinclair and Rick Smith cleared an area on the north branch for skaters this past winter; a roadside cleanup took place one Sunday morning this spring with Perth Road looking much better now; we are planning an end of summer BBQ- Saturday, Aug.27, 05 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Harris Memorial Park with a rain location of the Perth Road Community Centre- live music, open microphone; Crawford MacIntyre has expressed interest in hosting a rock bass fishing contest for kids on the Lake, if we have enough interest.

10. Results of Questionnaire from Last Year:

John noted that copies of this report are available.

Highlights include: residents on Buck Lake like our good water quality and want it maintained or improved, if possible; peace and tranquility , good swimming and cottage safety- were top priorities of residents; next came the appearance of the shoreline, residential development, lawns and shoreline structures; negative impact of personal watercraft and boat traffic.

The top 3 items most valued: water quality, the natural habitat and peace and tranquility.

The top 4 things we on which we should act: limit and control development, septic inspection and control, maintain a natural shoreline and control boat speed close to shorelines.

11. Nominating Committee:

Chaired by Duncan Sinclair; members- Amy Rossworm, Pat Hegarty.

Duncan outlined our goals of trying to get more women on the Board, to have both North and South Branches and the Islands represented. Directors to stand for next year- Duncan Sinclair, Stephen Roughton, Roy Mills, Crawford MacIntyre and Andy Hills-each for a term of one year, July 2005 to

July 2006. The Nominating Committee voted to have Amy Rossworm continue as recording secretary and Director.

To retire: John Wilson, Pat Hegarty, Jim Nolan, Ralph Wirsig, Helen Mathers and Mary Rawlyk. To complete a full slate of 12 Directors, the Committee nominated the following as Directors of the BLA, each for a term two years from July 2005 to July 2007: Bruce Barnes, Nancy Daugulis, Marilyn O'Connor, Jim Manuel, Jan Theoret and Tricia Waldron.

Moved by Duncan and seconded by Jim Nolan, the report was approved, as presented.

Seeing no further nominations- moved by Roy Mills and seconded by George Speale, nominations were closed. Carried.

12. Open Forum:

John noted that the Open Forum format was very successful last year and would be repeated this year. Roy Mills, moderator, reviewed comments from last year and how they were used:

- many items from last year like the lake study, the Causeway, communications have already been dealt with.
- members responded we are doing a better job at communicating to people.

Roy stressed the importance of giving Ralph Wirsig one's e-mail address, so we can continue to communicate well. He mentioned that Richard Linley looks after our website- info@bucklake.ca- and to share the site with neighbours and friends.

Crawford MacIntyre-would like to document some history and memorabilia of Buck Lake. He reported that Ron Matthey is working on the history of Perth Road Village. Lib Boston is working on the history of the Christmas Bay area, South Branch. Crawford stressed the need to approach older residents to get more information and history.

Roy suggested that we ask for these gems of history in our next newsletter.

Bruce Barnes- asked if we could be informed when he has updated the BLA website; we will ask Richard to let members know the subject and date of revision of the website.

Re the waste management issue: the logistics are that three quarters of the districts will have some waste management now, but Bedford does not. We have about 70 cottagers who should come up with some ideas that the Township could implement to help people living on the Islands.

David Hahn responded that the bid that came in for garbage pick up in Bedford was way too high for Council. Re Island garbage pick up- Council is looking for ways to solve this problem and need some feedback on how to find a solution to this issue; area rating is not the answer.

Bruce Barnes- re septic reinspection; with such a cursory inspection that was done last year, he feels that the Township really didn't get much useful info

Al Williams- agreed with the above comment and said he was expecting a much more detailed inspection.

David Smith- noted that after all, this was to be a voluntary program, so at least it's a start

David Hahn- the 2004 inspection was to be a superficial inspection; then the Township would move towards having the tank opened to look at it, look for pooling and smells on the septic field and then Take samples from the septic field for testing; nobody declined to have the septic inspection last year; stressed the positive value would be the educational impact, if nothing else.

The final report will be prepared by the Mayor and put on their website.

Roy encouraged people to come out next winter to skate and have great fun. Lib Boston questioned how to get across the Causeway to the North Branch, since it doesn't freeze there. Kim Turner answered that she and her husband crossed on either side of the Causeway.

Boater Certificate Course- Roy had 16-18 people last time; many people indicated interest to take the course and were asked to register with Roy.

Lake markers- John Grant puts out buoy markers to indicate shoals. Roy also asked how many members mark shoals around their cottages and a few people indicated they do put out markers.

Ralph Boston- said there is a map of Buck Lake which shows the profile of lake depth, but not of hazards; Ralph asked about liability for people who do mark a stone; someone answered that it is the same liability that one has if you put out a floating raft in the water near your property.

Crawford MacIntyre- indicated that there probably is some personal liability and that one might be exposed to a lawsuit if you do put out shoal markers. Crawford perhaps it would be better to post a map (indicating shoal markers) at the bulletin board at the Causeway.

J. Grant- all boaters should have common sense and know the dangerous areas of the Lake before venturing out; he suggested that you don't have to acknowledge your role in distributing markers.

Roy Mills informed the group that he has learned that you must get Coastguard approval to put out floating platforms.

Memorial sign at the Causeway has been repaired by Roy, Ralph and Crawford with financial support from Marg Mason.

Murray Gill- grave concerns about the Township's ability to control development on Buck Lake. Noted the a property on the North Branch, a big cottage close to the Lake, had bulldozed rock into the Lake and a big boat house with living accommodations above was built on the edge of the Lake.

Ron Vandewal, Committee of Adjustment- noted that under the old policy, there are lots of record which allowed building; the Township has some power, but couldn't deny people from using their land. Now- with our new comprehensive zoning by-law, the Township can act at least with respect to new lots and properties.

David Hahn- in the past, the Township did allow a minor variance to build within the 100 feet set back rule; has to go to Committee of Adjustment- which had been tough on allowing people to build cottages on small lots; re expansion projects- there is 5 % lot coverage; the Committee of Adjustment had observed lot additions on applications from people trying to fit into the new by-law.

Roy Mills- sees improvements overall on Buck Lake and wants to have a good working relationship with Council.

Ron Matthey- asked to what extent will the BLA be a-political, endorsing or not endorsing candidates for Council in the future? John answered that the new Board of Directors could deal with that issue. In the past, Lib Boston has sent a questionnaire to all candidates to get their input and then posted it to everyone; has been informative, but neutral. Roy added that it is difficult to be apolitical on this issue. It was suggested to give one's comments on the topic to the Directors.

Roy commented on the huge amount of time, service and dedication given by all the retiring Directors- John Wilson, Jim Nolan, Pat Hegarty, Helen Mathers, Mary Rawlyk and Ralph Wirsig. A warm welcome was extended to the new Directors.

As a small token of affection and friendship, Duncan presented a Buck Lake monogrammed cap to each of the retiring Directors.

John reminded people interested in obtaining high speed internet to contact Ralph Wirsig who has the information on three service providers for our area.

John asked Ron Matthey to make a brief comment about Community Watch. Ron affirmed that Community Watch has been successful and continues to do good work. He emphasized the need for cottage safety, etc. as the end of the summer season approaches.

John reminded people to check our website- www.bucklake.ca

Again he thanked Richard Linley for maintaining the site.

John also acknowledged Ralph Wirsig who has compiled an e-mail list of Buck Lake members.

Finally, the outgoing President thanked all the Directors who have served with him over the years and extended best of luck to the new Board in the coming years.

John closed the AGM at 11:50 a.m.