



2015 SPRING MEETING MINUTES

DATE: Wednesday, May 6, 2015
TIME: Social Hour: 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. (cash bar)
MEETING: 7:00 - 9:00.
PLACE: RA Centre, Courtside B, 2451 Riverside Drive, Ottawa (613 733 5100)

7:00 1. Opening (Scott Duncan)

Vice-President Scott Duncan introduced the Executive who were present. Welcome to everyone. Scott apologized for John McDonald's absence as he was under the weather and could not attend.

7:10 2. Memorial Announcements (Gaye Moffett)

Mr. Lorenzo Coletti passed away in December. He was a longtime member. He and his wife met at the clubhouse in the 1950s.

Michelle Carr from Chemin Comeau passed away.

Rene Bouchard from Chemin Comeau also passed away.

7:15 3. Invited guest speaker: Councillor Jacqueline Lambert-Madore

Road plan for 2015:

One big issue is the slope on Chemin des Erables coming down to Ryan's Garage. Work postponed as MTQ was looking into working on 105 at Alcove. That is not going ahead. Funds will now be needed to work on the slope. This will probably consume 2-3 years of ward budget to work on the slope. Drainage will be looked into first. Firms to be hired to plan this soon.

The Excise tax subsidy \$140 000 is to be used on extending the paving of Shouldice Rd. There are 3km of gravel road to be paved and then the goal is to pave Chemin Parent up to Duclos.

The new Highway 5 extension map was circulated. It will be emailed to the Association for the website. Highway 5 will be extended to meet 105 where it widens after the cliffs into three lanes. This will be done by end of 2016. It will be more like Highway 105 than 5. Overpass for 366 to continue. Soil and ground water studies are already underway.

Other projects by the Municipality:

Sports Complex and City Hall- A swimming pool is really wanted. The Municipality also need a new city hall or an addition to the current building. There is no work space for additional staff. An extension would cost about \$2 000 000. Building a new building would be around \$5 000 000.

The sewage system in Masham is another big problem and will have to be dealt with.

Start of Public Transport in June. The Municipality has contracted with a transportation company. Transcollines is the name for the service. STO will be handling the sale of passes. Students and Workers will be able to commute daily. The separate Transcollines pass will cost \$102/month. The service will run 5 days a week and this will hopefully increase. There will be 2 trips in the morning, 2 at lunch, and 2 at night.

Extension of high speed internet. Contact the municipality for internet service.
Still working on an improved municipal website.

The Gymnasium at the new Wakefield school was paid for by the Municipality. The Double Gymnasium will be accessible on weeknights and weekends for community groups. Municipality wants control of the booking and this is still being worked out.

The Municipality is in negotiations with the MTQ for a multi purpose use trail from Farrelton along the old rail line.

The signs on Highway 5 are changing strangely enough. Wakefield and Masham appearing.

Septic inspections around the lake are almost completed. Requirements for septic emptying every two years not being enforced or in effect. Not yet an obligation, but needs to be monitored.

Monitor your own septic please.

Don Butler question:

Will the bus service from Maniwaki keep going? Jacqueline doesn't know. There will be parking in Masham and Wakefield and two covered bus stops in both places for commuters.

Jake Blair comment:

Comment about Cantley and Transcollines.

Chelsea and Cantley running first with STO. They weren't happy with that service. The nice thing about Transcollines is that people will be able to come up on the service, so no one way empty buses like with the STO situation in the past. Four municipalities make up the system.

Question about Eurasian Milfoil:

Does the municipality have a position on Milfoil... answer , no not yet. Jacqueline thinks that a pilot project for manual harvesting could get going with funding from the Quebec government and the Municipality. The Milfoil has a 10 year cycle for growth. People are consulting with

Paul Milton from the Museum of Nature about all the technologies. The least negative impact on lakes is thought to be the manual harvesting. The Municipality is not keen to fund projects on private lakes. The municipality could fund a pilot as long as it is not too expensive and the problem is well studied and we have a plan.

7:35 4. Environment (Scott Duncan)

100 years ago, Lake Bernard teemed with lake and speckled trout. The water was clean enough to drink. The lake was clear, and though probably weedy, had no mats of invading species like Eurasian milfoil.

Play – swimming and boating unencumbered by invasive weed mats or blue green algae, in clean, healthy water – can we get there again?

Drink – 100 years ago, Lake Bernard was perfectly drinkable – could we get there again? If septic and run-off threats are removed, then it's feasible.

Fish – an ecosystem that supports a healthy population of indigenous species including trout and what they feed on. Could we get there again?

Benefits:

In addition to the direct benefits to cottagers and residents, we know that a clean healthy lake will:

- Be more resilient to any threats to the environment

- A major benefit when selling your property – some claim that lakes without milfoil have a 20% property value boost

How do we do it?

Monitor: understand the situation today including current problems and threats and understand the impacts of any positive changes we make.

Manage: invasive weeds, other invasive species through communications, individual and collective efforts

Correct any current threats: Starve the lake of nutrient loads: leaking or out-dated septic systems; lawns or disturbed shorelines too close to the shorelines leading to too much run-off

Individual efforts done collectively have a HUGE impact:

If each cottage pulled out four wheelbarrows worth of milfoil cuttings near the shoreline, we will have removed about 160,000 pounds of weeds from the lake.

If every time a boater grabbed weed cuttings as they went through a dense mat of milfoil, there would be thousands fewer possibilities for the weeds to spread.

If those cottages who have grass down to the lake, or ground not protected by plants, thousands of pounds of sediment and nutrients would be kept out of the lake.

If the remaining cottages (there are very few) corrected their septic issues, we could completely starve the lake of human nutrient loads and bacteria..

If we clean our boats prior to putting them in the water, and NEVER dump species that don't belong in the lake (goldfish, crawfish, clams, mussels, carp, aquarium plants and fish, etc.), we could stem the flow of invasive species.

What the lake association is doing:

Update on water levels

The outlet was cleared by a generous gang of residents and cottagers. The water levels in the fall and this spring are in a good "normal" range.

Question: anyone wish to create an "official" water levels measurement system?

Update on water quality:

Efforts are ongoing to monitor water quality and reporting to the municipality – Jane, Chris and Don

Remaining cottages along the north shore will be monitored this summer

Update on fish and animals:

Two loon couples in the western bay

No more news on virus affecting pike

An invasive species of crawfish – rusty sided – has been spotted in the lake. This is bad news for the indigenous crawfish species. These new ones are bigger and very aggressive so that even the bass don't want to eat them.

Lake Tahoe has begun serving invasive crawfish species in local restaurants. This is in fact one of the best ways to manage invasive species.

Update on weed management:

Efforts are underway with Jacqueline and Lac Notre Dame to take a watershed wide approach

We are looking at funding sources to support major weed management efforts.

The invasive weed issue will be presented at council in May – hit to property values and the threat to the municipal environment are top of mind.

ABV des 7 will be completing a lake-wide monitoring this summer so we know the extent of the issue and how best to address it.

We will begin installing buoys around some of the highly visible weed mats this summer.

In the fall, we will present the recommended approaches for lake-wide management beginning next summer.

Priority public areas for management:

- Boat launches

- Regatta bay entrance

- Highest traffic public areas

- Any shared entrance to the main body of the lake (one per bay)

Last year, we provided cutters and advice for those who wished to remove weeds manually. We had some success, and a lot of concern from cottagers who feel there has been a dramatic increase in the amount of weed cuttings in the lake.

We will continue to provide a set of manual cutters and peripherals to those wishing to cut manually. However, we will insist that people receive a primer on cutting and gathering weeds effectively before they use them. The gathering is by far the most important part of the job, and the hardest one to do effectively.

Research into mechanised or lake wide solutions:

DASH – has worked very effectively in Vermont and the northern US. Slow, steady progress. It may take five to ten years to clear the lake of milfoil using this approach. Due to sediment levels in the lake, it may be very slow.

Mechanised cutting – has worked effectively in the Rideau lakes and in some lakes in Vermont. Much faster, but must be repeated and will never remove as many weeds as suction.

Budget: Approximately \$30,000 per season and we anticipate needing to look after the weeds intensively for five to 10 years.

Buying the boats or systems:

\$20,000 for Weedoo weed cutting boat

\$15,000 for DASH pump system

Maintenance and gas:

\$1,000 - \$2,000 per season

Work crews:

\$385 per day; or \$16,000 for a two-month season

Driver - \$15/hour

Helper - \$15/hour

Diver - \$25/hour

Localised solutions

Burlap – ABV des 7 swears by this approach and is proposing a turnkey solution for our lake, at approximately \$2 the square meter. Put another way, Lake Bernard has approximately 20 hectares (or 200,000 sq. meters) of milfoil, costing approximately \$400,000 to eradicate.

Aeration – approximately \$6,000 to remediate a shoreline in front of a cottage (if you purchase a service – less if you build one yourself)

Weed cloth or other approaches done by individuals – cost of materials and volunteers.

Here's where we need help:

- Grant writing

- Researching most appropriate solution for our lake – a scientific perspective

- Monitoring and teaching people how to use the manual cutters

- Help guiding ABV des 7 around the lake this summer

- Help putting in marker buoys

- Water quality monitoring at ice in and ice-out

- Water level monitoring – an official level-keeper?

Comment about:

Beavers being disrespectful, cutting a myriad of trees.

Jacqueline Lambert-Madorre made a comment about getting material from another lodge and take it to where you have a beaver problem to drive away beavers. What also worked for her was to cover trees with diamond mesh that is used in stucco. Smaller holes works well.

8:04 5. Membership and Finance (Louise Poulin)

Louise reported that 130 members had renewed their membership by the Spring Meeting and they will all be in the early bird draw. She hopes to double that number for this year.

In terms of finance, the Association has a bank balance of \$8734 and \$17048 in GICs. Included in these amounts are \$7167 in the Environment Fund, \$4636 in the Clubhouse Fund.

Expenses:

\$200 post office

\$674 meeting rooms

\$576 property tax clubhouse

\$390 property tax regatta site

\$1389 liability insurance

\$2628 insurance for property

\$500 Eurasian milfoil study

Louise thanked Hilary Casey for her help.

Gavin Schnob will be taking over as the new treasurer.

There are 400 cottages on the lake and last year there were 256 paying members.

We can all always encourage more members.

8:08 6. Security (Rick Soderstrom)

Rick started looking into security a few years ago due to thefts around the lake. He narrowed down to 5 stretches of road that could have cameras to record all vehicles that access the lake with wide angle and licence plate cameras.

He was ready to go ahead with a survey of Association members and had a security company lined up. Then the security company said they didn't think it was legal. Now the Association is waiting for a legal opinion on filming public roads. Private roads can be covered legally but limits our ability to see all traffic accessing the lake. Power and internet is necessary to run the cameras. As a result it is difficult to move forward until we know more.

In preparation for this meeting Martin Fournel from the MRC sent an email. There have been 5 crimes reported at Lac Bernard in 2013, 2 in 2014, and none so far in 2015. This doesn't seem to match the reality so perhaps not everyone is reporting thefts to the police.

1/3 of audience interested in covering their property with cameras.

Most thefts occur before the start of the season and just after Labour Day.

Sunday night or Monday is when thefts seem to occur most.

By July 1st, registration of home alarm systems is mandatory with the MRC or you could be fined.

8:20 7. Clubhouse (Gaye Moffett)

Every year, bingos are run on Saturday nights at the Clubhouse on 23 Chemin Christopher. Gaye hopes a dock will be done at some point. In the meantime people are welcome to use Gaye's dock at 23 George Clark to park their boat. Gaye is looking for volunteers for the bingos.

Casino night last year lost a bit a money so she is rethinking the event for this year. Gaye is looking for some volunteer dealers to run tables. Participants last year had a great time. It will be a homegrown casino night this time. Approximate time 7:30-9:00. Bingos will be held starting June 27 and run to September 5. That is a total of 11 Saturday nights for bingo.

8:24 8. History Committee (Gaye Moffett)

Gaye encourages everyone to check out the website for great photos and oral history interviews. Gaye is looking for people to interview and others to do interviews. A questions form is already written up by Jen Lahey and can be used to interview people on the lake. The Committee is collecting just about anything.

8:25 9. Regatta/Community Day (Steve Kulba)

This will be the 7th time as organizer for Steve, and he's looking to help someone else do it. Steve staying on the executive but wants to mentor someone in organizing regatta elements:

- Swimming races

- Food

- Raffle

- Coordinator (thankless wedding planner) to take care of all the odds and ends. Steve has written a comprehensive manual of things needed to be done.

All should attend since it is a Community Day for everyone to come out and see other people on the lake. People don't have to race or swim. They can just buy lots of raffle tickets. \$10 ticket for adults, \$20 includes drinks, \$30 includes food.

New \$50 auto-win means you automatically get something if you buy those tickets.

1 adult ticket gets kids in the draw for kids raffle and all the kids win.

Entry can be done by email to Steve if not present.

Rejuvenation of the site:

- canteen rebuilt

- deck and dock rebuilt

- bought porta potties

- new picnic table made of composite material purchased this year.

Last year there was a water ski day that was well attended and a garage day sale which was less well attended.

Steve pointed out that we all own this site and encourages others to think of activities that could be held there.

8:35 Adjournment



AVIS DE RÉUNION – PRINTEMPS 2015

DATE : Mercredi 6 mai 2015

HEURE : Activité sociale de 18 h à 19 h (Bar payant)

RÉUNION : De 19 h à 21 h

LIEU : Centre RA, Salle Courtside B, 2451, promenade Riverside, Ottawa
(613-733-5100)

ORDRE DU JOUR

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|---------|--|
| 19 h | 1. Ouverture : Présentation de l'Exécutif par John McDonald, président |
| 19 h 10 | 2. Avis de décès (Gaye Moffett) |
| 19 h 15 | 3. Conférencière invitée : Jacqueline Lambert-Madore |
| 19 h 35 | 4. Adhésions et Finances (Louise Poulin) |
| 19 h 45 | 5. Sécurité (Rick Soderstrom/Martin Fournel) |
| 20 h 05 | 6. Environnement (Scott Duncan) |
| 20 h 35 | 7. Clubhouse (Gaye Moffett) |
| 20 h 40 | 8. Comité de l'histoire (Gaye Moffett) |
| 20 h 45 | 9. Régate/Journée communautaire (Steve Kulba) |

Divers kiosques : Marchandises, adhésions, liste des prix et billets du tirage au sort à la régata.

Option de préinscription!!!!

Renouvelez votre inscription avant ou à la réunion et vous courez la chance de gagner (lors du tirage au sort à la régata) des articles portant notre logo (d'une valeur totale de 50 \$)