



## **Board Meeting - Wednesday, June 15, 2022 - 8:30 p.m. – MS Teams**

**Start Time:** 8:34 pm

**Attendance:** Full attendance

1. Chris Ault
2. Wendy Carr
3. Colleen Forer
4. Don McLean
5. Blair Patacairk
6. Kevin Radford
7. Paul Saunders
8. Jeff Stubbins
9. Brad Sweeney

Board members introduce themselves to one another and synthesize their objectives for the year.

### **Elections:**

- **President**

Kevin Radford - Nominated: Jeff Stubbins / Second: Wendy Carr

- **Vice President**

Colleen Forer - Nominated: Chris Ault / Second: Wendy Carr

- **Secretary**

Jeff Stubbins - Nominated: Chris Ault / Second: Don McLean

- **Treasurer**

Don McLean - Nominated: Chris Ault / Second: Paul Saunders

### **Committees:**

Most committee chairs have yet to be decided.

- Membership
- IT Chair
- Records Management
  
- Environment Committee Chair - Paul Saunders

### **Question:**

Colleen Forer asks about liability insurance.

Chris Ault replies that President is the liaison with insurance and lawyers

### Action:

Chris Ault hands over the reins to Kevin Radford. Reminds that we are to discuss the management of our email system, and the question of membership refunds.

### Kevin Radford takes over the chairmanship of the meeting

### Discussions and Motions

#### Membership Fee Refunds - Should demands for refunds be accepted?

##### Discussion:

- The membership “year” is half over.
- 2022 members had an opportunity to participate in 3 important meetings and vote in two of them
- 2022 members had an opportunity to vote in the general election and elect the new Board of Directors which serves them today
- Wendy: Need to underscore that membership isn’t only about voting. It is about the environment and good lake stewardship...and it costs just \$50.00 per year (pennies a day; about 14¢ per day)
- Brad: Voting is an act of declaration of membership
- Don: Under normal circumstances, the AGM is the only time when there is an opportunity to vote.
- Wendy: What did Steve Kulba say in an email, and do we have to follow what he said?

SK: *“Give them their \$25 for a half year, then remove them from all mailings. Avoid asking them for money in the future.”*

- Blair: Suggests getting legal counsel on refunds
- Jeff: Suggests refunds of \$20. Once done, those members are off the books.
- Blair: Agrees with that principle.
- Paul: Refund to the four who have asked, but pass a motion to say that there will be no more refunds
- Don: We will take this request under advisement. Not an issue we wish to react to quickly.
- Kevin: Warns of danger about setting a precedent where If someone doesn’t like the outcome of a vote, they can ask for their money back.
- Wendy: Can Jeff ask Gerry Yemensky for his opinion on this?
- Kevin: Will ask his brother-in-law who is a partner in a law firm in Toronto

##### Motion:

- Kevin Radford:

I move that the individual Association members, who have requested a refund in mid-year, who have voted/participated on three opportunities, (the January SGM, voted for new set of Bylaws for the corporation, and participated in the June AGM) and have exercised their membership rights, will not receive a full or prorated refund. Any future request for in-year refunds will be denied. This is subject to legal counsel.

- Seconded: Brad Sweeney
- Carried: (Unanimous)

### Gaye Moffett’s Membership Status

- Chris Ault initiates discussion about Gaye Moffett refusing to accept her 2022 membership refund
- Kevin Radford provides background on the situation for new Board members. Cites the May 11, 2022 letter from Ms. Moffett’s lawyer, Mr. Alexandre Dubé. Adds that GM was suspended but remained on the membership list in error. A \$50 refund cheque was sent to GM. She chose to return it.
- Wendy suggests that GM’s name be removed from the membership list.

## Motion:

- Kevin Radford:

I move that Gaye Moffett's suspension from membership in the Owners' and Residents' Association of Lac Bernard on September 16, 2021 remain in place until such time as this Board, or a future Board, reinstates her eligibility for membership.

- Second: Chris Ault

Paul Saunders - I think that we have to respond to her legal letter, as Don McLean has suggested. If GM asks why she cannot be a member, it needs to be explained that she needs to retract her letters and her threats against the Association.

**Action Item:** Kevin Radford will send the latest legal letter to Mr. Groulx for his review and will discuss his opinion at the next Board meeting in July.

- Carried

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## Board of Directors' direct email system

- Chris describes Paul Hays' role and his "administrative access" to our email system (Board email addresses) and the lake website at lacbernard.ca
- Chris gives examples which indicate that Paul Hays has visibility into the president@lacbernard.ca Creates distrust because Paul Hays was a signatory to the Group of 39's demand for an SGM
- Chris: we need to move to a new email system and it won't be difficult at all.
- Wendy: listserv should be discontinued, and new version of it should be created.
- Paul: we need to control our social media. We don't control listserv and we don't control the lake Facebook page (Claude Bertrand is the admin) We need a new website as well. We have been lax in that area.
- Blair: we could be in breach of privacy. 100% (Wants to bring in someone from Privacy Council of Canada to educate us on Privacy requirements.) Blair details his request to Paul Hays to take his personal info off of the website. (It was never done.) It's a breach of his privacy. We have clear grounds to dismiss Paul Hays. Indicates that it would be good to educate members at the next AGM about their rights to privacy.
- Paul: Advises that to replace IT personnel, the new system needs to be ready to go at that moment
- Blair agrees with Paul
- Jeff: this is all good talk, it's such a good idea, but we need to make it happen.
- Kevin: points out that we are in a good financial position. We need to find someone with capabilities for a new website, email system, Facebook page, and a new listserv. Start fresh in those four areas. We should hire a firm to do it but basic systems should be reasonably priced. Maybe some youth on the lake that could take that on.
- Don: agrees with everything being said, but we need a proper RFP, we need to inform the membership that we are going to do this. We need to be transparent.
- Colleen: did this kind of thing for the Ottawa Farmers Market. Spent about \$30,000 but it was a way more complicated than what we need.
- Kevin: we have general agreement. What is the methodology? Don suggests RFP. Kevin suggests 3 quotes. There is some urgency.

**Action Item:** Kevin proposes a working group of the IT folks on the Board - Blair, Paul, Chris and Kevin - to put something together to bring to the Board for review at the next scheduled meeting.

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## Budget for new fiscal year – May 2022 – May 2023

- Wendy Carr asks about the budget for the coming year. What is our timeframe on that?
- Don: still putting the numbers together. Can't put a budget together until he has all the numbers organized.

- Wendy gets that, but wonders how we as a group can decide what to spend, and not spend, if we don't have a budget.
- Kevin asks for, and Don McLean commits to, having a draft so that new Board members have an idea of our strong financial position...and that we look at a budget for 2022/2023.

**Action Item:** - Paul Saunders will come forward with his thoughts and initial ideas about where we need to spend on issues related to the environment.

Don McLean wants the minutes to show that we all thank **Chris Ault** for the incredible dedication to the Association, for his actions, for his guidance, for his tenacity in going through last year. Everyone applauds.

**Action Item:** Chris Ault to send out the Code of Conduct, Confidentiality Agreement and Conflict of Interest Agreement for us all to sign.

**Next meeting: Wednesday, July 20 at 8:00 pm**

(Future Board meetings will be scheduled on the third Wednesday of every month at 8:00 p.m.)

**Adjournment:** 10:28 p.m.

### **Action Item Summary List:**

- 1) **Action Item:** Kevin Radford will send the latest legal letter to Mr. Groulx for his review and will discuss his opinion at the next Board meeting in July.
- 2) **Action Item:** Kevin proposes a working group of the IT folks on the Board - Blair, Paul, Chris and Kevin - to put something together to bring to the Board for review at the next scheduled meeting.
- 3) **Action Item:** - Paul Saunders will come forward with his thoughts and initial ideas about where we need to spend on issues related to the environment.
- 4) **Action Item:** Chris Ault to send out the Code of Conduct, Confidentiality Agreement and Conflict of Interest Agreement for us all to sign.