



Minutes
Lac Bernard Association
Board Meeting July 29, 2024

Board Attendance:

Officers Present: Jeff Stubbins, President Colleen Forer, Vice-President Glynnis French, Secretary Don McLean, Treasurer	Members Present: Wendy Carr Charles Topp Peter Steele Blair Patacairk
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1. President's Welcome and Announcements

Jeff Stubbins noted that all members of the executive were present for the meeting and he welcomed everyone to the meeting. He started the meeting by stating he would like to underline his key priorities for 2024 and discuss and ensure these were aligned with those of the executive as a whole. These are:

Environment:

- focusing on exploring ways to control and mitigate the spread of milfoil
- maintaining water levels at appropriate and historically normal average levels by introducing measures to maintain flow into Lac Bernard at the inlet and ensure that the outlet does its job of holding back water from flowing out of the lake.
- testing of water quality to maintain and enhance the historical data we have on this important measure of the health of the lake

Boating Safety

- Laurence McClelland is retiring from his role of putting in and taking out the white marker buoys. A new lead for this important job is required.

Community Building

- Engender participation and excitement around the two major ORALB events: the golf day and the Regatta

Create a relationship with Kitigan-Zibi

- In line with Canada's overall agenda of reconciliation with indigenous people and acknowledging that Lac Bernard was part of the traditional lands of the Anishinabeg Algonquin Nation.

New Lake Map

- The current map of Lac Bernard showing the sections and cottages was made in 2006. It is time for an update.

Logo Items

- We need to have a new approach to the supply and production of Lac Bernard logo items. Still looking for a lead on this.

Bylaw Updates

- We now have three years of working with the new bylaws and there are a few sections which should be reviewed and, if necessary, updated.

The committee discussed and accepted the President's stated priorities and added:

Membership

- Increase the number of members of the Association to at least 280 and increase membership fee, as there has not been in an adjustment in 15 years.

2. Approval of Minutes of June 27, 2024

Motion to approve the Minutes of June 27, 2024: Kevin Radford; Seconded by Wendy Carr. Approved.

3. Treasurer's Report

Don indicated that there is not much to report. The \$3,500 cheque to Rick Soderstrum to settle the court case has been cashed. Also, Jeff and Don have been in touch with National Bank to sort out the signing authority issue. Don is sorting out the GICs at the National Bank, and he will ensure they are renewed at the best rates.

Jeff asked for the available bank balance as of June 30th and Don answered that it is about \$78,245.

Peter Steele confirmed that the current membership list stands at 182. He is expecting that a number of additional memberships will be sold at the Regatta.

4. Executive Review of the 2023 Financial Oversight Report

The executive discussed the report and addressed the issues that it raises. The executive would like to thank the scrutineers, Jane Barton & Brenda Patterson, and will be guided by the observations in the report.

5. Environment:

Lead: Kevin Radford.

Kevin reported that the Environment Committee has met and that they would like to purchase an additional 50 yellow buoys and cinderblocks to anchor them. The estimate for this purchase is \$6000.

Discussion: the executive had a long discussion on the spread of milfoil. It was noted that the milfoil coverage is much worse this year. The notion of another study was not supported as we already have three studies and the coverage now is in line with the projections that were made in the 2015 and 2020 studies. Milfoil appears to be adapting to grow in deeper waters so the problem is increasing. Swimmers are noticing more “islands” of floating milfoil in deep waters; and some areas are now completely inaccessible due to the dense nature of the weed cover.

A further conversation was had about the Outlet and the fact that individuals are still illegally clearing the Outlet.

Further discussions noted that while yellow buoys do not keep all boaters out of milfoil beds, they do help to quell the spread. Discussions were also held on the ProcellaCOR herbicide and on neutered white carp as potential agents in the fight against milfoil. Further investigations need to occur as the long and short-term environmental impacts need to be reviewed, as well as their cost.

Kevin raised the motion to approve \$6000 for the environment committee to purchase 50 yellow buoys and related installation materials. Seconded by Don. Approved by the committee.

6. Membership

Lead (Peter Steele)

The President thanked Peter Steele, as did Wendy Carr, for agreeing the step into the role of membership chair. It was confirmed that, as of this meeting date, 182 were signed up.

We need 68 more members to meet the initial target for 2024 of 250 members. He noted that a number of people had indicated that they planned to buy a membership.

It was suggested that a survey be created and used at the Regatta to test out the willingness of members to contribute to the Association through an increased membership fee. Peter agreed to create such a survey.

7. Regatta Event Planning

Lead: Wendy

Wendy reported that everything is going very well with her planning committee and that she has the required volunteers for food sales, raffle, 50-50 tickets, games and water sports. Glynnis indicated that she is prepared to ensure that parking (restricted) is organized and Regatta Bay road is kept open.

8. Regatta Infrastructure

Lead: Kevin

A 10x12 shed to house Regatta equipment such as barbecues has been identified.

Neighbours have agreed to the placement on the site. The shed and pad to place it on is estimated to be \$6,800.

Motion to approve the purchase of the shed and contracting for the gravel pad for it at a cost of about \$6800 proposed by Kevin; seconded by Wendy. Approved unanimously.

Kevin indicated that as in previous years there will be pontoon boat transporting people to the site. Kevin indicated that he would be conferring with Serafinis to see if the pontoon boat ferry can land at their dock so that the arrival of participants is kept separate from the events, which will be ongoing, to ensure the safety of all.

Kevin indicated that he is still trying to identify a suitable facility to act as a shed for barbecues etc. for the regatta.

Kevin also indicated that he would like to speak to the neighbours about setting out permanent anchors for the raft that is used for events at the Regatta as this would simplify annual set-up.

9. Social Media

Colleen; Charles

It was noted that the History Committee has launched its Facebook site and is getting good feedback.

10. Website

It was noted that Carrie Ault was unavailable for this item so discussion is delayed to a future meeting.

11. Golf Day report

Jeff noted that the Lac Bernard golf day was a great success and wanted to ensure that Wendy's son Michael Carr was thanked on behalf of the executive for his efforts.

12. ORALB action list

Jeff urged the members to review the Action List as it will help to ensure that we are on track.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 pm.

The next meeting of the Executive will take place August 26, 2024