

**Blackstone Lake Cottagers Association- Draft Minutes of Annual General Meeting
July 27, 2021. Meeting held by Zoom**

Erik Mathiesen called the meeting to order at 7:32. A head count was taken by Secretary Lisa Pieper Brown. There were 37 Zoom participants (there were several Zoomers who had multiple participants at their location, thus official attendance was estimated at 50-55)

Welcome and Logistics:

Erik welcomed all participants and thanked them for attending.

Agenda approved as circulated. Moved: Cheryl Ward, Seconded by David Rosen,

Minutes from 2020 were circulated in advance and available on line.

Motion to approve by Andy Metelka, Lisa Pieper-Brown.

The 2020 minutes were approved.

Treasurer Report:

Barb Metelka reported that we currently have 44 paid members – up markedly from prior year. We have participation from all parts of the lake. More than half our dues go to umbrella membership. GBA dues are \$50 per household, FOCA about \$5. Insurance is approximately \$800. Finances are in better than usual shape due to low expenditure due to the pandemic.

Motion to approve. Barb Metelka. Seconded Cheryl Ward. Approved.

Board of Directors:

All current board members have agreed to have their names stand.

Motion to approve was made by Kai Deutch, seconded by Nelson Deutch. Approved approved.

Georgian Bay Association update:

Rupert Kindersley gave his annual update, highlighting the many benefits of membership in GBA. He highlighted the most current issues including Gypsy Moth infestation, increasing property development concerns and ongoing lobbying to allow American cottagers access to their cottages subject to covid protocols. For Gypsy Moths, GBA is working to make sure they are contained and that the spraying process is not harmful to other species. GBA has information on their website to assist with border crossing. GBA is working hard to protect our environment, especially the coastal areas and water quality. All of this information is available on their website, in e-newsletters and in the hard copy updates they send to all members. Rupert urged members to complete the water quality survey as soon as possible as the deadline is approaching. Information on this is also available on their website or contact Rupert. Christine

Tekker asked if GBA has or is putting together a plan for future pandemics or an extension of this one. Rupert noted that we are all adapting to ever changing circumstances.

Medical Emergencies

David Rosen reviewed the information and the procedures for both medical and fire emergencies. There are many volunteers on the lake and there continues to be refinement on how we communicate electronically. Lists will be updated on the website soon as well as a hard copy to all households and hopefully a fridge magnet as well. David noted that that professional EMS responders have the right to refuse to get onto a boat or to administer aid if they feel unsafe. He stated that alcohol is the number one reason this happens. This means there need be contingency plans in place to get an injured person to Angler's Inn. It was noted that a backboard will help stabilize a patient in a boat for transport and CPR. Erik said there are a few available on the lake and likely more over time. David said it is very important to have property addresses visible from the lake. There is a link on the TOA website to request one. It is also very important to make sure you have all necessary medication with you in an emergency as volunteer responders do have any with them or available. Andy Metelka noted that if you have a fire pump please make sure to check it periodically to make sure it is in working order and that there are easy to follow instructions in case someone else uses it in your absence. David Burkhart asked that the land line for his cottage be placed on the emergency list as they often have visitors. There was a question about CPR training and David said there are many good instructional videos on YouTube. Carolyn Rumsby asked about educating people about what to do when one becomes stranded in a boat out on the lake. Erik stressed that we are in the process of updating all of this information on our website.

Councilor's Report:

Ian Mead reported that the TOA zoning bylaws are under review. This was delayed by the pandemic and illness. There is now a new person in charge and things will be happening soon. It will require a special session to review and update all the changes. One new bylaw will address site alteration. This is part of the Ribbon of Life initiative Ian has discussed previously. Ian spoke about road repairs within Seguin that will take place in 2022 without cost to the Township. A question was asked about bridge repairs. The bridge on the road to Angler's Inn is the only bridge in the township. Ian said that the last inspection revealed some deterioration that will be (or has been) fixed and this should not cause any road closure. The Township has the bridge on its long term capital expenditure plan but only modest repairs are contemplated at this time.

Erik thanked Ian for his report and his demonstrated commitment to keeping us informed.

BLCA Photo Contest:

Andy Metelka went over the basics of the contest. The goal is to engage younger generations of cottagers and at the same time honour David McCamus who provided leadership to BLCA and

lake stewardships efforts for decades. Contest details are very fluid at this time. All questions and entries should be sent to him.

Pursuing the Common Good:

In his President's report, Erik gave a brief overview of the various balancing acts entailed in long term lake stewardship and how different people seek to enjoy the lake. This is always a work in progress on our lake. As BLCA members we strive to find a balance and stress that the best way to achieve this is through communication with each other as often as possible. Go out and meet, talk to your neighbours!

Current Priorities:

Erik reviewed our most immediate priorities noting that the pandemic has heightened everyone's sensitivity to access issues. He asked that any questions, ideas, concerns, etc be sent to BLCA via the website or directly to him or any board member. Our priorities are intended to reflect our members and their values.

Miscellaneous:

A few immediate reminders were flagged.

- Stink Week scheduling was being finalized for early mid-August. Water access septic tank pumping is coordinated to save everyone money and minimize impact on Angler's Inn access. Muskoka Septic Services offers a discount for BLCA members participating and there have been over 10 participants each year recently.
- Get involved with BLCA we'd love to hear from you! We are updating the website. Stay tuned there are good things to come from BLCA! We are here for you!

Additional Questions or New Business:

There being none, a motion to adjourn was put forth by David Rosen and seconded by Cheryl Ward. Meeting was adjourned at 9 pm.