

MINUTES (DRAFT)

REDSTONE LAKE COTTAGERS ASSOCIATION (RLCA)

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF MEMBERS, JULY 12, 2014 (AGM)

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| 1 | Welcome Announcements, Agenda | <p>Steve Danko opened the meeting at 9:15a.m. and welcomed everyone; he reviewed the agenda, noted that the guest speakers for this meeting would be Murray Fearrey, Terry Moore and Peter Schleifenbaum and handed the meeting over to the President, Harvey Bates</p> <p>This is the Agenda for the meeting :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Welcome/Announcements/Agenda2. President’s Message—Introduction of RLCA Board of Directors3. RLCA Picnic Announcement4. Introduction to Murray Fearrey, Reeve of Dysart et al5. OPP Funding6. Treasurer’s Report7. Membership Report8. Introduction to Terry Moore, Research Director CHA9. Coffee Break10. Lake Steward Report and Lake Plan Progress11. Redstone Lake—Lake Plan Progress continued12. Introduction to Peter Schleifenbaum, President Haliburton Forest & Wildlife Reserve13. Elections14. Closing Remarks <p>LUNCH</p> |
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| 2 | President's Message | <p>Harvey Bates spoke about the upcoming RLCA picnic and over the course of the meeting introduced the current members of the board and mentioned their specific tasks as follows:</p> <p>Lee Hayward—the RLCA picnic Shirley Rule-treasurer—unfortunately Shirley is retiring from the board Lindy Smith—membership--Harvey noted the significant increase in membership under Lindy's direction --well done Lindy Dave Douglas—website and its continued development Mike Johnson and Bob Cole—lake stewards and lakefront water survey Steve Danko—the AGM Mary Lou Ciancone—newsletter preparation and publication Barbara LeVasseur—secretary Anne Bates—advertising (not a board member, but manages RLCA advertising)</p> <p>Harvey then highlighted the major issues the board worked on in 2013/14:</p> <p><u>The Garlon Issue:</u> Ontario Hydro was using garlon to clear the brush around the power lines and we felt that garlon was not the only way to keep the lines clear, as chemicals are not the best for animals and water. We decided not to make it high level in the press, so dealt with on a low key basis and it was resolved.</p> <p><u>Website:</u> This is a work in progress and we have decided that everyone will have access without a password, making the site more user friendly. Please see www.redstonelake.com</p> <p>.</p> <p><u>Arborist:</u> RLCA has endorsed Josh Burk of Arbor View and everyone is satisfied with his work. We want to ensure the work performed by those we recommend continues to be well done and the price is correct, so please keep us advised.</p> <p><u>Membership:</u> Membership was mentioned earlier and will be an agenda item later in the meeting.</p> <p><u>Milfoil:</u> We were advised of and handled a milfoil growth. It was examined by Barb Elliot, Professor of Ecosystem Management at Fleming College and determined <u>not</u> to be Eurasian milfoil, but rather a species that is not as invasive. If it had been the Eurasian</p> |
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| | | <p>milfoil we would have needed to increase the fees to increase the bank account substantially—for example it would cost \$10,000 per application to treat Eurasian milfoil and it would take multiple applications to eradicate it from the lake.</p> <p><u>CHA and OPP billing issues:</u> discussed later in the meeting.</p> <p>Harvey ended by mentioning the following :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Saturday Aug 9th—Haliburton Highlands Outdoors Association chicken and rib dinner for the hatchery—will try to reserve table(s) for RLCA members—please come, as last year was a lot of fun. 2. Looking at propane supplier for the members; he is trying to get a survey ready and out to members to assess needs. 3. Trying to organize a curling bonspiel—competitive between the Haliburton cottagers associations 4. CHA is the Coalition of Haliburton Property Owners Associations. The RLCA made a donation to CHA this year. 5. Fee increase—RLCA probably has the lowest fee for members of any of the cottagers association and we have tried to keep the rates down. Anne has been co-ordinating the advertising and she is bringing in about \$6,000 per year which keeps the rates down as it exceeds the total membership fees. The \$25.00 membership fee will increase to \$30.00 effective Jan 1, 2015. |
| 3 | <p>RLCA picnic Saturday August 16, 2014 at the West Guilford Community Centre—11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.</p> | <p>Lee Hayward is organizing the first RLCA picnic and she indicated that since we have no beach or marina where we can hold a regatta we will be doing a picnic. All members and their guests are invited. There will be games, draws and prizes and it will be free. Lee will send out an email blast next week so please respond and also consider using the sign-up sheet at the entrance to the seminar room. Lee said that she hoped everyone could attend and she would see everyone there.</p> |

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| 4 | Murray Fearrey Reeve of Dysart et al | <p>Murray Fearrey was introduced by Steve and at the end of his presentation Steve also thanked him and gave him a small token of appreciation—Haliburton beer in a brown bag from the brewery near Abbey Gardens on Highway # 118.</p> <p>Murray confirmed that Harvey speaks to him a lot and they always talk about roads. Murray agreed that the roads are not good, but asked that everyone be patient please. All roads were built for seasonal residents and now they are being used all year round by residents and also by the construction industry and logging trucks which are using pups. In addition, we have had a couple of bad years. The Township is now looking at roads with less traffic and may put them back to gravel roads and spend the money on the other busy roads like Redkenn and Blue Heron. He hears the concerns about roads; hot asphalt is double the price and there are over 300 km of roads in the county. If you drive at 40 km/hr the roads are not that bad. There is relief at the end of the tunnel.</p> <p>The Municipality took over septic re-inspection this year. The health unit has done it over the last 20 years and filed by name. So now re-inspections cannot be tracked to new owners. The Municipality is now trying to tie inspections to roll numbers. There are old septic systems that never had a septic inspection and the Municipality will focus on them first.</p> <p>Murray commended RLCA on working with CHA on shoreline program—we were first and a couple other lakes will also be done this year.</p> <p>We are getting lots of rain and storms this year and facing some challenges with weather so we have to prepare for that, which will deplete reserves further.</p> <p>Murray stated that he thought the work on the OPP issue done by David Douglas of the RLCA was outstanding—a hand to Dave. Work from us, other associations and CHA provided materials that the Municipality was able to use to meet with the Minister; The</p> |
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| | | <p>proposal is basing OPP charges on households and treating seasonal residences as a full household. The Minister understood this does not work. Murray expects they will probably come back with a formula which allows for a partial charge for a seasonal residential-- not perfect, but better.</p> <p>QUESTION: completion date for road work on Redkenn? Almost finished and thinks scheduled for August completion.</p> <p>QUESTION: resumption of road maintenance list? Dysart will resume the reconstruction after the crews fix the roads needing repair as a result of the last storm.</p> <p>QUESTION: timing re mandatory septic inspection? First focus will be on old septic systems that have never been inspected and then consider specific areas.</p> |
| 5 | OPP Funding | <p>David Douglas advised that there is a reprint of an article at the back of the room re meeting with newest Minister on the OPP funding issue. He suggested that there are benefits to being a member of public such as being able to look into issues and push back with the Ministry. He mentioned making a request under FOI to look at the mayors who met to discuss the OPP issue and the Association of Municipal Officers (AMO) and there is a piece on the website about doing this. Finally he expressed thanks for the letter writing that members did on the OPP funding issue.</p> |
| 6 | Treasurer's Report | <p>Shirley Rule presented the fiscal yearend report indicating it was a little bit different than the membership report which is prepared on a calendar year basis.</p> <p>Shirley went through the financial report line by line, highlighting all of the expenses. The only questions from a member was why picnic is free and several board members answered that the decision was made for the first picnic in order to encourage members to get together and meet each other in a social setting.</p> <p>SHIRLEY'S FINANCIAL REPORT IS APPENDED TO THESE MINUTES.</p> |

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| | | Harvey thanked Shirley for her many years of service to the board and Lindy Smith gave her own special thanks for all the help Shirley has provided to her. |
| 7 | Membership Report | Lindy Smith talked about the website as it works so well with membership. She went through her slides and showed people how to use the site to pay using pay pal or otherwise (eg. interact) and how to register online. Lindy is hopeful that we will get 300 members this year as opposed to 188 last year; glad you are here and please tell your neighbours about the meeting and becoming members. Lindy also talked about the success of the dock drop, where she, with the aid of Steve and Barry Smith dropped RLCA membership information off at people's docks. Lindy asked for people to help sign up their road associations—please speak to her at the back. Thanks were given by Steve. |
| 8 | Terry Moore, Research Director, Coalition of Haliburton Property Owners Associations (CHA) | <p>Terry was introduced by Steve and after his presentation, Steve thanked him and also gave him a token of our appreciation—more Haliburton beer in a brown paper bag.</p> <p>CHA has a lot of projects and he is in research director. The major focus for his talk was “At Capacity and Climate Change”. See his slides which are posted with all the other slides from this AGM on the RLCA website.</p> <p>There are 600 lakes in Haliburton, 225,000 in Ontario. Trout lakes are rare in the world and in Ontario; Haliburton County has 25% of all the trout lakes in the world. Terry gave the definition of “at capacity” which, in a biological sense, means that further development that has the potential to add phosphorous or other nutrients, directly or indirectly, into the lake will not be permitted within 300 metres of the lake. They test lakes in September after the thermocline sets in. The test is for dissolved oxygen and determines the average oxygen level for below the thermocline. There are approximately 105 cold water trout lakes in Haliburton County and 50 are at capacity, 43 are not at capacity and 12 are not rated. Over half the lakes that have been tested are at a level below the 7ppm of dissolved oxygen which is needed to support the trout fry; At capacity has implications for future development of the lakes.</p> |

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| | | <p>Conditions of the lake are changing because the climate is warming. The winter of 2014 was very cold in Haliburton, but it was raining in Alaska and there were wildfires in Norway. The climate change signal is very hard to see given the variability of the climate, but ice out dates in Algonquin Park are getting earlier and experts predict an increase in temperatures for summers of 4-5 degrees and the same number of degrees for winters. We are in ecoregion 5E. Terry's slides contain predictions about the shift of this zone over different periods of time. For example, the prediction is that by the period from 2041 to 2070 this region will have moved significantly to the north. The question is: Will the species in it be able to move fast enough to be able to survive. Government is expected to have difficulty sourcing seeds because of the expected changes in location of the seed regions—into more northerly areas with shorter growing seasons.</p> <p>Redstone Lake is not at capacity—Terry has a list of those lakes which are and are not at capacity.</p> |
| 9 | Coffee Break | |
| 10 | Lake Steward Report—Lake Plan | <p>Steve introduced Bob Cole at 10:30a.m. and Bob spoke about the <u>Shoreline Assessment</u>. He introduced the 2 shoreline assessors who were present, Danielle and Dominic. Bob advised that he is looking for people who have boats to take the assessors around. If you can spare a day to go around the lake please call Mike or Bob—it would be during the period July 17 to August 1st. Bob referred to the letter sent out re the assessment and by show of hands asked for those who received the letter. Only a few did not receive the letter and it was because they are new on the lake.</p> <p>Bob also spoke about the <u>Lake Plan</u> which is about preserving the water quality. These were his suggestions—see his slides posted on the website as part of the AGM slides, for more details:</p> |

- a) Reduce water usage—efficient toilets, low flow shower heads—dual flush or 1.9 l to 3 litres as opposed to 6. l per flush; front load clothes washer; also consider spreading out your water usage;
- b) Be careful of what you put into your septic; no garburators, do not backwash your water softener into the septic; no chlorine bleach-- use hydrogen peroxide; 2 ply toilet paper breaks down a lot easier than 1 ply; use biodegradable soaps; no anti-bacterial soaps
- c) Septic operation and maintenance; kick start with an approved bacterial formulation if you don't use the septic all the time
Have it pumped every 3 to 5 years; check baffle. Concrete tanks erode over time—new plastic tanks are better; see the 10 minute video: Poop Talk video on the CHA website (www.cohpoa.org) We have some for sale here to-day.
- d) Buffer zone—the waste breaks down but not the nutrients; need a buffer zone between the septic bed and the water;
Use plantings native to the area, as they have roots longer than grass. Local vendors will advise of the types of plants available to use as buffer
- e) Water levels—see the map on our website—we are up to the max again
- f) Tree bylaw—a tree with a 4" diameter at the 4 foot level in the area up to 100 feet back from water cannot be removed without complying with the Tree Bylaw.
- g) Fish population
- h) Invasive species—spiny water flea—we have that; also firewood from other places has resulted in bringing a few bugs which are now attacking trees.

OTHER

--power boating causes erosion, especially when the water is so high, so obey the speed limits

Phosphorus Level—was 4.8 and now 4 in Piccadilly Bay; Pelaw is going in a different direction

Question: Are we doing anything about boat etiquette—question re chasing Canada Geese? Answer: see the CHA website for help with this issue.

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| | | Thanks from Steve who next invited Mike Johnson to speak. |
| 11 | Lake Plan Progress, cont'd | <p>Mike Johnson spoke about Citizen Science on Redstone, Little Redstone and Pelaw Lakes. Federal government is abdicating most of the responsibility for lake quality. Ontario and Manitoba are working on phosphates and mercury and some nano--; Ontario is reducing people working in MNR in Ontario and in Haliburton. We are trying to promote activity with MOE and MNR</p> <p><u>Shoreline assessment</u>—the purpose is to try to educate property owners on use of good shoreline management. Here on our lakes we have had a 1% opt out. Owners will receive assessments in early 2015 of only their own property via an envelope in the mail and entry into a computer of a number. Twenty percent of Redstone and Little Red remain to be completed over next 2 weeks. We will send out an assessment of our lakes as well. We are working with 14 students from Trent University. They are of the view that we have great shoreline.</p> <p>Mike reviewed his slides on benthic research and phosphate sampling which are being undertaken to educate everyone on the necessity of managing our phosphates.</p> <p><u>Haliburton Gold—Egg gathering</u> There are 30 to 40 spawning beds on Redstone;. Last year MNR found bass, ling and only Haliburton gold; did find some pickerel. They grew the eggs which hatched in mid December. The fry are now growing and will be used to stock lakes in Haliburton.</p> <p>Mike then reviewed his slide on page 60 which listed what the lake stewards are doing—see this slide in the AGM 2014 presentation on the RLCA website.</p> <p>Questions . re monitoring shoreline alterations—2 specific items were discussed; Mike agreed to post a picture on the website of Eurasian Milfoil; also particulars of the tree bylaw as we need to educate contractors and let them know they need permission from the county to cut trees that exceed the exemption size.</p> <p>Steve thanked Mike</p> |

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| 12 | <p>Peter Schleifenbaum Owner of Haliburton Forest & Wildlife Reserve Ltd. (Forest)</p> | <p>Steve next introduced Peter and after his presentation, Steve and Harvey thanked Peter and gave him a token of our appreciation—yet another brown bag containing Haliburton beer.</p> <p>Peter noted that most of the water in Redstone comes from the Forest, which is at the top of the Algonquin dome. A lot of it is higher at 600 m. Some of the water from Forest goes to Ottawa area, some to Muskoka and some to Redstone. We should therefore have an interest in what is going on in the Forest;</p> <p>The Forest—multi use—privately owned --9000 acres in size. Different seasons, different uses—camping, mountain biking, snow events, wolf centre and canopy tour. He is a professional forester—this one is a sustainable forest. This one was the first one certified by the FSC. Now in North America there are only 5 or 6 at the highest level and this one is in that category. Lakes, wildlife, forests, recreation. There is a research camp in the park from U of T—looking at various items from small mammals and amphibians to tree growth. Lots of old growth forest never harvested. They are also working on climate change. Pat Wadell owned the forest for 30 years before and he kept great records. For example, there is very little snow at March break now and there used to be lots. Moose populations are collapsing south of us—they cannot regulate their body temperature. Peter expects the moose populations to start to collapse here because of the heat.</p> <p>A US company has been collecting data on some of the lakes in the Forest for many years and knows what is happening in those lakes. The biggest threat is the arrival of exotics – small mouth and large mouth bass, rock bass and spiny water fleas. They have also worked with researchers at MNR—focus on Haliburton Gold Lake Trout, the purest strain in the Forest. Peter believes the fish are under stress.</p> <p>Trees are under stress due to climate change and the arrival of exotic pests that are killing the trees. Gypsy moth came and went and did not destroy. Beech bark disease has arrived and we will probably lose them within the next 3 to 5 years. Like the dutch elm disease—takes about 5 years from infection to death; next one coming is the emerald ash bore—</p> |
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eradicating all the ash in Ontario. That one is in Muskoka and Ottawa Valley now, but expect it to hit here very soon. Asian longhorn beetle—under control in Toronto and then it went to other side of Mississauga and in Chicago where not in control. They are working on it in Mississauga. Hemlock disease has just jumped the St. Lawrence river and it has a 90 % mortality rate and should be here by 20 years. Diseases affecting the pine from the west will take 20 to 30 years to be here. Now the spruce beetle is in Halifax and in 15 to 20 years it will be here.

We give these organisms a ride—like transporting fire wood. Or bring cheap plants from other countries and plant here when we do not know what is in them. There is an oak wilt fungus from California—don't know how it is spread, but know they are dying. Buy plants from local centres and firewood from locals—do not import; There are Tuesday evening seminars here at the Forest that educate the public. Check the website; Forest actively involved in harvesting trees and logging. Wood is truly the only sustainable resource that we can continue to have if we manage it properly. Sustainable economic activity. Also interested in the bee population and the mushroom cultures. They produce the only forest honey in north America. The bees focus on small sucking insects who eat substances from the leaves. This produces a much darker, more tart honey and has a different flavour. They are domestic bees and they are the ultimate pollinator. There are 30 species of wild bees as well and they are researching to see how the wild bees interact with the domestic ones. The neonicotinoids are killing the bees and other pollinators. Qu re earthworms: ATVs bringing a lot of stuff such as earthworms or their larvae which do not belong here. In Toronto leaf litter is very important and earthworms will use up the leaf litter and then plants will come to the barren soil. Doing research to see where these worms are coming from—the fishermen are bringing them or leaving them.

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| 13 | Elections | <p>Harvey mentioned that the newsletter costs about \$15.00 to produce a hard copy, so we have been scaling down on printing costs. We have some hard copies for sale at \$10 at the entrance to the meeting room.</p> <p>Harvey re-affirmed the members of the board who are willing to stay on and he asked for volunteers to join at board level. There were no volunteers.</p> <p>Here is the slate of directors and beside each name an indication of the officer or other position the person is prepared to undertake:</p> <p><u>Directors who would also be officers:</u> Bob Cole--President Sec/Corp Sec—Barbara LeVasseur Harvey Bates --Past President</p> <p><u>Directors with special functions:</u> Mike Johnson and Bob Cole—Lake Stewards and Lake Plan Co-ordinators Mary Lou Ciancone—Newsletter Co-Editor Lee Hayward—Newsletter Co-Editor, Dedicated Angler Dave Douglas—Strategic Development Lindy Smith—Membership Co-ordinator Steve Danko—AGM Co-ordinator</p> <p>Note that no one has volunteered to be Vice President or Treasurer at this time and Anne Bates has agreed to continue to be responsible for advertising in the Newsletter.</p> <p>Call for vote on the slate of Directors was made The slate of directors as proposed was elected by a unanimous vote of all members</p> <p>Thanks from Bob to Harvey for his great work in pulling this board together</p> |
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| 14 | Closing remarks | <p>Before closing the meeting, Steve gave special thanks to Bill Burden (West Guilford Shopping Centre) for providing the food for the lunch to follow the meeting.</p> <p>The Draw for the wine kit was won by # 0017497-- donated by the Beer and Wine store in Minden won by Pat Bremner, Little Redstone;</p> <p>The meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.—A lunch was ready for everyone to enjoy.</p> |
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