

# DRAFT

## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, JULY 31, 1999

The meeting was held at Smith's Landing, Saturday July, 31 1999 at 10.15 A M with President Mike Benson in the chair. There being about 100 people present, the president recognized that there was a quorum present for the conduct of the meeting.

Secretary Bill McPherson stated that the Minutes of the last general meeting of August 1, 1998 as circulated had been approved by the Board and he moved that they be adopted as circulated; seconded by Joyce Mackenzie and carried unanimously.

### Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Jim Reynolds thanked retiring treasurer Paul Lavelle for his services as treasurer over the past several years. Jim presented a summary report, as attached, comparing revenues over the last three years and this year's budget. He explained that the large expenses for Junior Loons in 1998 were due to purchase of tee shirts and their original silk screening and that the 1999 cost of maps was to replace our inventory. In answer to why LWCA has \$12,000 in cash reserve, it is in case of an emergency such as might arise from environmental activities. Our net equity is down from previous year largely because our membership is down by about 35. He noted that the Loon Call was generating some advertising revenue from its Service Directory.

### Membership

Current membership is 178, down about 35 from last year. Members were encouraged to approach non-member neighbours to join. It was suggested that a letter be drafted and circulated to all cottagers, summarizing the Associations activities and accenting the benefits to all cottagers from supporting it. Francis Chiddy noted that this has been done to some degree at least.

In response to a question, it was noted that we receive some contribution from residents of the trailer parks as Friends of the Lake but it is by no means 100%. It was suggested that we consider fund raising activities to supplement our revenue.

### Environmental Affairs

Paul Smith stated that the Board had decided to defer the hazardous waste removal program. It was going to cost about \$5000 and it was felt that the money would be better spent on water quality monitoring and the recycling program. For the time being, we will have to take our hazardous wastes home with us. For those who are physically unable to do so, neighbours should offer to help.

Paul then went on to explain that Lake Weslemkoon is a cold water lake and a lake trout habitat. Only six percent of Ontario's lakes are so classified. To protect them, MNR/MOE presently classes these lakes as wilderness area, imposing restrictions on the sale of crown lands and on logging activity. If the water quality were to deteriorate to where it would no longer support lake trout, we would lose our wilderness classification to the detriment of our status as prime cottage country. Hence it is most important for us to monitor our water quality and to be prepared to take action when necessary to maintain it. This is why the Board recommends giving priority to expenditures on water quality surveys and on educating our residents on pollution control measures.

Paul Smith reported that he had attended a meeting in Bancroft of representatives from organizations such as our own, logging and forestry interests, developers and MNR/MOE. The government representatives are there as technical advisors to members' programs as well as to oversee them.

Ruth Ferguson-Aulthouse summarized her draft of a Land Use By-law proposed for the township and published in the last Loon Call. Such a by-law is a necessary first step in controlling land use and thus in preventing pollution of the lake. The draft by-law included "grandfather clauses" permitting continuation of existing construction projects, thus giving the township "breathing room" to accommodate to new regulations.

Addington-Highlands township council has refused to consider it and the Board feels that a political approach will probably be necessary to get any action. Alternative approaches are being considered including going via MOE/MNR who have indicated some willingness to help. Addington-Highlands is one of the few municipalities in Ontario without a land use by-law. It was suggested that cottagers should write to the reeve and to councilors indicating their dissatisfaction with the above, the lack of garbage services and the condition of our roads. Cottagers should appeal their assessment at a cost of \$20 and expect a good chance of obtaining reductions, thus reducing revenue to the township.

During a general discussion on water quality, it was noted that while the water is safe for swimming, it is not recommended for drinking. Its quality is considered to be lower than it was 30 years ago. Deterioration probably began with the advent of electricity which brought with it washers and their run-off water loaded with nutrients. The current hot spots, as reported in the Loon Call, are in the south end of the lake and appear to be coming from the incoming stream. Investigation of this source will probably require Ministry action. It was recommended that all premises in a hot spot area be informed of such problems so that they understand the situation and can deal with it appropriately

It was suggested that a letter be sent to all cottagers informing them of these problems and what they can do about them: i.e. educating cottagers on the subject. The meeting voted unanimously in support of increased fees if required to continue the water quality monitoring program.

#### Roads and Logging

Alan Whyte tabled his report, as attached. He stated that up-to-date information can be obtained from the MNR office in Cloyne. A vote of appreciation was made to Alan for his past service in this portfolio as he takes over as president .

#### Lake Security

Terry O'Hearn noted that cottage inspections were made by Reg Smith in early November and late February. Reg found several small problems, which he rectified, and one break-in, which he reported. He will make simple "fixes" when appropriate and contact owners when more serious problems occur.

The 17 buoy lights on the lake are maintained by Ted Jennings and John Robinson at an annual cost of \$80 each.

#### Waste Management

Terry O'Hearn noted that garbage drop-off service at the marina cages is not intended for large objects such as stoves and is being abused by some people.

Mike Benson pointed out that 15% of our Association fees go for dock-side garbage pickup. If this service were eliminated, there would be more money for recycling services. By a show of hands the meeting voted almost unanimously in favour of such changes. Recycling services at Tanglewood are being discontinued because the township is removing the bins and replacing them with a segregated bin at the dump site. Cottagers will have to take their recyclables to the dump.

This probably means that these items will be included with the regular garbage thus increasing the deposits into the dumps, shortening their useful lives and ultimately increasing the costs of our garbage collection.

The Board proposes to negotiate a contract for pickup of recyclables at both ends of the lake, hopefully in co-operation with the township

### Fire Services

George Archibald reported that all available fire pumps had been serviced. Last year there were only two brush fires on the lake. He offered to co-ordinate any group purchase of fire pumps if interested persons would contact him.

### Junior Loons and Summer Activities

Mary Kate Rathbun reported that a boating course had been given earlier in the month at George Archibald's cottage. If there is sufficient interest, it will be repeated August 16 and 17. Effective September 15, 1999 anyone under 17 must have passed successfully a Coast Guard certified test to operate a power boat independently. Changes in boating regulations were published in the Loon Call and summary sheets were available at the meeting. Safe Boating guides books will be available at the marinas for pick up shortly.

The sailing regatta is scheduled for Sunday, August 1, at Peter Sandiford's cottage at 1.00 P M. The canoe races are scheduled for the following Saturday, August 7 and swimming races for August 14. If there is sufficient interest in an orienteering course, Mary Kate will try to organize one.

A successful dock sales day was organized by Herb Strasser on July 3.

### Nominating Committee Report

Francis Chiddy announced nominations for the board as follows:

Past Preident           Mike Benson

President                Alan Whyte

Treasurer              Jim Reynolds

Members agreeing to continue: George Archibald, Tim Barnes, Ruth Ferguson-Aulthouse,  
Paul Lavelle, Terry O'Hearn, Mary Kate Rathbun and Herb Strasser

New nominations agreeing to stand: Murray German, Christine Walker-Bird and Paul Lee

Nomination for secretary: Marcia Scrimgeour

All positions being filled and there being no nominations from the floor, the slate was acclaimed.

Francis remembered former members of the Lake who had died in the last year.

### Cockeyed Loons

Don Mackenzie inducted the following into the Mystic Order of the Cockeyed Loons:

Francis Chiddy, Bev Johnson and Freda Smith

The Board was requested to write a letter of appreciation to Glenn McConkey for printing the Loon Call in years past The meeting adjourned with thanks to Frank and Freda Smith for hosting the meeting and providing refreshments.

Bill McPherson,       Secretary