

# POINT CLARK BEACH ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

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The Point Clark Beach Association Annual Meeting was held on Saturday August 16<sup>th</sup> 2014 at the Point Clark Community Centre. The meeting was called to order at 9:30AM. Executive and Directors in attendance were: Don Thorpe, Gib McIlwrath, Kathleen Bauer, Dorothy Bauman, Janet Cress, Ron Culp, Pat Jones, Carole Enright, Bill Bowers, Karen Uggenti and Bruno Uggenti.

## Presentation of 2013 Minutes

The 2013 minutes were presented by Dorothy Bauman. Motion to accept the minutes as presented by John Lassel, seconded by Gib McIlwrath, all in favour and carried. We received a Thank You card from the Huron Shores Lions Club in recognition of our donation in support of the Canada Day fireworks. Linda Barr, the winner of last month's 50/50 draw, generously donated her winnings back to the Beach Association.

## Financial Report

The financial report 2013-2014 was presented by Kathleen Bauer. It should be noted that we had expenses and advertising for two Directories in this statement. Due to Ron Culp's diligence in ensuring receipts and expenses are handed in in a timely manner we are now back on track. Our Memorial Bench Project is complete and one bench can be found in Blue Park while the second bench is at the public beach. Motion by Ron Culp to accept the financial report as presented, seconded by Karen Uggenti, all in favour and carried.

## Auditor's Report

Martina Aisenpreis presented her report as our auditor. She was pleased to see the Beach Association getting into the better business practice of paying bills in the fiscal year in which they have been incurred since this falls in line with cash based systems. Martina complimented our treasurer Kathleen Bauer on the excellent job she is doing at keeping all records up to date and organized. Motion to accept the Auditor's report as presented by Carole Enright, seconded by Bill Bowers, all in favour and carried. Don Thorpe also mentioned we will no longer incur the expense of renting a sound system since we have purchased one at a substantial savings.

## Beach Patrol Report

Paddy Hedley was not available to present his report but he patrolled 195 properties this past winter and it was a difficult and long winter season. The Patrol is up for tender and after advertising for the

position Janet received 30 tenders and 10 quotes. Quotes came in at rates ranging from \$13000 to \$4000. The lowest figures are the ones that we can afford.

## **Membership Report**

Janet Cress presented the Membership report. We started the year with 216 members and to date 107 members have paid for next year. Janet has email addresses for 195 members.

## **Pine River Watershed Report**

The PRWIN report was presented by Phyllis Leighton. Phyllis has been our representative for the last year. In 2008 PRWIN became a charitable organization. Through donations and the aid of volunteer organizations PRWIN has continued its efforts to protect the environment, improve water quality and provide education on environmental issues. Saturday August 23<sup>rd</sup> 2014 is PRWIN Appreciation Day. A bus tour will leave from the McLarty Environmental Study Area and will showcase new projects currently underway. John Lassel told us he was on last year's tour and found it informative and entertaining. More information about PRWIN and its projects can be found on their website: [www.pineriverwatershed.ca](http://www.pineriverwatershed.ca)

Don Thorpe presented Phyllis with a donation cheque.

## **Point Clark Beautification**

Bruno Uggenti has done some research and has learned that the Point Clark Boat Club has a license agreement rather than a lease. This license agreement allows them to use and maintain the launch. The club is also allowed to charge a fee (\$15.00 to the public) for the use of their launch. We do not want this license agreement cancelled but are hoping for a joint effort for beautification. The Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation has agreed that the existing harbour design causes accumulation of sediment. The harbour must also be dredged and that material accumulates and has an unpleasant odor. It was also noted however that the sediment accumulation has enabled the walkway on the far side of the claw. We are not a large tourist destination but we all want to be proud of our beach area. Bruno proposes that he and Don Thorpe meet with the Officers of the Boat Club Corporation. A letter could then be drafted to the Township. The third step would involve contacting the Province. Financing of any improvements would need to be researched. The Federal government, Saugeen Conservation Authority and native groups would also need to be contacted. Bruno is looking for an endorsement to begin the process. The Royal Bank and TD both offer some funding for projects such as this.

Bruno asked for a motion to meet with the Boat Club and draft a letter to the Township. A motion was made by George Faust to proceed with this, seconded by John Lassel. It was proposed that the motion be amended to separate the meeting and the drafting of a letter and to form a committee as well. We also have a private boat club on Pine River. Should they be involved? The Point Clark Boat Club has a conflict about the claw design at the harbour within its own ranks. The storm drains also run into the harbour. That is a change made by Huron-Kinloss five or six years ago. Opinions vary on the best solution to the problems at the harbour. It has been suggested that the opening should face south instead of north or that if the southern pipe was lowered the water flow would be restored within the harbour

structure itself. A motion was made by George Faust that a group of Point Clark Beach Association members meet with the Point Clark Boat Club Officers to discuss the Beautification, seconded by John Lassel and carried. The original motion and seconding of the same was made by these same two members. As a worst case scenario perhaps the various governments and other interested parties would mandate the closure of the harbour. The Federal Government has also been handing the responsibility for some lighthouses over to local and municipal governments. That has not happened here yet. Any change to the harbour is certain to involve multiple levels of government.

## **FOCA Membership**

FOCA is a great source of information applicable to cottagers. Their website: [www.foca.on.ca](http://www.foca.on.ca) is user friendly and easy to navigate. They have a seat on the Ontario Energy Board and represent cottage property owners when Hydro rates are being discussed. It costs \$4.00 per household to join FOCA. Most FOCA members are small lake organizations. Septic inspections are being promoted by FOCA and our association was recognized for being the initiator of this program. FOCA will provide legal advice but will not provide legal representation. FOCA does sessions on Cottage Inheritance but it is so popular it needs to be booked well in advance. They also have Ambassadors who will speak at Association meetings. We will try to get someone for next August's meeting. FOCA's E-lert newsletter is also a great source of information. Belonging to FOCA allows us to not be a stand-alone organization and often there is strength in numbers. There is a link to FOCA on our website if anyone wishes to learn more.

## **By-Laws**

The Point Clark Beach Association was incorporated in 1946. A set of by-laws has been drafted to deal with voting privileges, election of officers and meeting dates, etc. A copy of the proposed by-laws will be emailed to members and next August we will vote on the by-laws.

## **Social Activity**

John Lassel told us the Free Libraries are ready to go. Ron Culp has graciously offered to have a Library at the Lighthouse Store location and John is hopeful Mitch Twolan will allow the second to be located at the real estate office. The libraries will be a year round endeavour and books can be donated into them at any time.

John is looking at the possibility of having a barbecue next year as a way of growing our Association. It would be open to everyone although we would ask that members give us an idea of how many people they are bringing via email. Perhaps if we asked our local representatives to attend it could be a vehicle for people to meet their local politicians. Anyone interested in helping should see John after the meeting.

John also suggested that improvement to our website would be valuable since more information would be available to users.

2016 is the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our Association so we would welcome suggestions for the celebration of this milestone.

## New Business

Don Thorpe received a Beach Etiquette article from the Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation. A copy of this is available on their website: [www.lakehuron.ca](http://www.lakehuron.ca) We will post it in our sign board at the harbour.

The fireworks by-law allows fireworks on Victoria Day and Canada Day weekends. Most complaints probably involve the crackers that only make noise without the visual enjoyment of standard fireworks.

We discussed a dues increase. The donations we currently make are important to us. Presently the patrol costs \$24.00. Membership in FOCA costs another \$4.00 and our donations are \$5.00. These costs per household add up to \$33.00 and our dues when paid by September 1<sup>st</sup> are \$30.00. Ron Culp has done a great job of keeping the Directory costs equal to advertising revenue. It was proposed we raise our dues to \$40.00 which would increase to \$50.00 after September 1<sup>st</sup>. Dues received after that date would increase to \$60.00. Memberships received after September have a severe impact on the organization of the patrol. Bruno Uggenti made a motion to increase our dues to \$60.00 with an early bird fee of only \$40.00. Don Thorpe amended the motion to specify the cut-off date for the early bird rate be the August meeting. September 15<sup>th</sup> rates would increase to \$50.00 and later payments would push the cost to \$60.00. Pat Jones amended the August meeting to be named as the Annual Meeting. This was further amended to the specific date of August 31<sup>st</sup>. A motion was made by Doug Leighton to raise the dues to \$60.00, with an early bird rate of \$40.00 if paid by August 31<sup>st</sup>, seconded by Paul Reitzel and carried.

Janet Cress will be resigning as Membership Director so we will be looking for someone to fill that position.

It was suggested recycling bins be located at the public beach. Don Thorpe will approach Mike Fair to learn if the recycle collection route could be changed to include this. A member suggested people keep an eye on their firewood since she has had a substantial amount disappear. This should be reported to the OPP since it is theft. We were also reminded that daytime thefts are up so keep those front doors locked if you are enjoying your back deck. The Lighthouse Corn Roast and Car Show are on this afternoon. Next year there are plans to include a cardboard boat race in the festivities.

Next year's meetings will be held on the second Saturday of the month. The dates are: July 11<sup>th</sup> and August 8<sup>th</sup> 2015.

OPP rates for policing are changing and we may see tax increases as a result. Huron-Kinloss voted against the proposed increase.

Don Thorpe suggested everyone should be aware of events happening in this area either through paper delivery to their homes or on-line newspapers. The Kincardine Times is on-line and also offers a Calendar of Events so residents can become involved in local activities.

It would appear that there will be no Mayoral Race so there probably will not be any candidates debate held in Huron-Kinloss.

The 50/50 draw was won by Janet Cress.

A motion was made by John Lassel to adjourn the Annual Meeting, seconded by Bruno Uggenti, all in favour and carried.