

# POINT CLARK BEACH ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

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The Point Clark Beach Association Annual Meeting was held on Saturday August 8<sup>th</sup> 2015 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, Bill Bowers, Mike Bayer and Ron Culp. Janet Cress and Pat Jones were unable to attend.

## **Presentation of 2014 Minutes**

The 2014 minutes were presented by Dorothy Bauman. Motion to accept the minutes by John Lassel, seconded by Karen Ugenti, carried.

Don Thorpe read a thankyou card received by the Association from the Huron Shores Lions Club acknowledging our donation towards the Canada Day fireworks.

## **Financial Report**

The Financial Report 2014-2015 was presented by Kathleen Bauer. The Beach Patrol and its expenses are an important service provided for any members who are absent for the winter season. Motion by Bob Burdett to accept the financial report as presented, seconded by Bruno Ugenti and carried.

## **Auditor's Report**

Martina Aisenpreis presented her report as our auditor. She expressed concern regarding the number of membership deposits made between September and November 2014. This process should get more streamlined to save our volunteer treasurer record keeping and banking duties. The early bird rate of \$40.00 paid by August 31 as opposed to the full rate of \$60.00 should help alleviate this problem. The Directory has paid for itself in the last fiscal year due to the excellent job Ron Culp has done gaining new advertisers while also retaining existing accounts. Motion to accept the Auditor's report as presented by Dave Barr, seconded by John Lassel and carried.

## **Beach Patrol**

Gib McIlwrath presented the Beach Patrol Report on behalf of Paddy Hedley. The past winter was quiet. Paddy is going into the second year of his two year contract. He checks that doors are locked on his first round which is also when he tags patrolled properties. He records visits in a log which he presents to us. After snow arrives he checks for footprints. The patrol works on a ten day cycle which commences on November 1 and ends on April 1. In the event of a storm Paddy makes an extra patrol. Paddy does not enter the cottages since that is not part of his contract with the beach association.

## **Membership Report**

Bill Bowers presented the membership report. We have 131 paid members as of August 1 and 67 members still owing dues payment at this date. A current email address is essential for ease of communication with our members. Bill is hoping to enter current information on membership applications so only changes need to be written.

## **Pine River Watershed Report**

The PRWIN report was presented by our representative Phyllis Leighton. The mandate of the organization is to facilitate clean water and a healthy watershed. PRWIN has been involved in tree planting, wind breaks, berm installation, cattle crossings, livestock exclusion fencing and wetlands creation. PRWIN is a valuable organization that aims to keep top soil and nutrients on the land. PRWIN is supported through donations and grants. A new sponsorship program has been implemented with various categories depending on a donor's comfort level. Trees are available through PRWIN and anyone interested should sign up. Phyllis is willing to continue as our representative. Don Thorpe presented Phyllis with our donation for PRWIN. The water quality has seen a measurable increase due to the higher water level and the programs sponsored by PRWIN. Best practices are being encouraged and a rapport is being established with our local farming community. Phyllis was asked if PRWIN deals with invasive species such as Hogweed, Dog Strangling Vine or Wild Mustard. The best recourse is to contact the Township so they can send an investigator. Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority is also very involved in maintaining the integrity of the watershed and can be contacted concerning noxious weeds. Phyllis was also asked if another tour of the finished and ongoing projects that PRWIN is involved in will be held. The tours will probably be held every two years.

## **Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation**

Geoff Peach was present at our meeting and addressed an unsigned flyer circulating in the area concerning the dredging of Clark's Creek. The primary concern of this flyer seems to be the vegetation that blocks easy access to the beach. Geoff suggested the possibility of rolling boardwalks which have proved effective in other areas. Last Sunday's storm pulled out some of this vegetation and the fall storms may pull out more. Some of the plants are native but some are invasive species which should definitely be removed. The phragmites should be handled by the Township but some of the others are easily pulled out. The Coastal Centre is willing to help co-ordinate this effort. Anyone interested should email Geoff. There has also been an interest expressed in the planting of dune grasses when conditions permit.

Dog droppings on the beach are also becoming a problem. At one point the beach area between the Lighthouse and Clark's Creek was dog free. The by-law may have to be reinstated by the Township if this continues to be an issue. The Township may also need to be approached concerning the placement of a garbage receptacle that could remain by the public beach year round to provide a container where dog droppings could be deposited. The Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation website has a wealth of information concerning invasive species with photos to help in identification.

Geoff was asked about Sunday's storm. A low pressure system over the lake creates a surge and then a sloshing effect. The lake bed is evident as the water pulls out from shore. This is known as a seiche. As the water sloshes out and then returns the effects become less pronounced with each successive action.

Geoff was asked what recourse cottagers have to remove the groynes in front of their properties. Since Federal (Oceans and Fisheries), Provincial (Ministry of Natural Resources), the Township and Native groups are all involved getting permission to remove the groynes is a definite challenge. Perhaps the best approach is the mention of the desire to restore the lake to its natural condition. Don Thorpe presented Geoff with our donation to the Coastal Centre.

## **PCBA By-Laws**

Carole Enright and Kathleen Bauer worked diligently to draw up a set of by-laws. They used the Non Profit Corporation Act as their guideline. They also studied available by-laws from other organizations. These initial by-laws may be changed as issues arise but at least this provides us with a starting point. Class B members consist of the Executive and Directors and Lifetime members. Presently we have 1 lifetime member. A lively discussion was held concerning one vote to one property. We have been fortunate up to this time to have had no contentious issues which require a need for secrecy or which pit one spouse against the other so the fact that we have always allowed co-owners to raise their hands in a vote will probably continue. A motion was made by Lee Hishon to adopt the By-Laws, seconded by Ron Culp and carried.

## **Election of Directors**

Janet Cress was unable to attend since she is recovering from knee surgery. Janet has been tireless in her work for this association. A motion was made to give Janet a Lifetime membership by Kathleen Bauer, seconded by Bob Burdett and carried.

Our roster of Executive and Directors is: Gib McIlwrath as President, Bill Bowers as Membership Director, Mike Bayer as Treasurer and Peter Gausden as Secretary. Ron Culp is willing to continue to be the driving force behind the Directory. Pat Jones and John Lassel will be Directors but we are looking for even more Directors if anyone else is interested. Nancy Powers and Martina Aisenpreis are willing to be Directors. A motion was made that nominations be closed by Lee Hishon, seconded by Karen Uggenti and carried.

## **New Business**

Lurgan Beach has approached us concerning the possibility of amalgamating their organization with ours. There are about 200 cottages in Lurgan Beach but the association has about 16 members. We will investigate the possibility but remain aware that they could pose a liability through higher beach patrol costs. Our definition of the boundaries of the Point Clark Beach Association would have to be changed in order to include Lurgan Beach.

Mike Bayer spoke about the petition he has made available concerning hunting at the lakeshore. The Township has no enforcement capability according to their solicitor. A motion was made for the PCBA to endorse the petition by Peter Gausden, seconded by George Faust and carried.

John Lassel is looking for volunteers to help with the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. It will probably be held in conjunction with the July meeting next year. Anyone interested should contact John.

Gib McIlwrath has been investigating liability insurance for the association. Separate Directors Insurance does not seem worthwhile since it only covers financial loss. Commercial General Liability is \$945 +8% for 3 Million and \$1275 + 8% for 5 Million. A motion was made to apply for \$3 Million Liability at a cost of \$1021 per year by Mike Vollmer, seconded by Don Thorpe and carried.

The 50/50 draw was won by Karen Ugenti who generously donated it back to the association.

Ron Culp reminded everyone of the Cornfest and Car show being held at the Lighthouse later today. The Friday night event was a great success and will probably be repeated next year. Ron asked if anyone has concerns about the placement of their photo in the Directory. Ron also asked members to patronize the advertisers in our Directory and to mention that their ad was noticed.

Meeting adjourned.