

**Minutes of the Spring General Meeting
of the Kennisis Lake Cottage Owners' Association (KLCOA)
held at the Seminar Room of the Haliburton Forest in the Haliburton Highlands
on Saturday May 22, 2010 at 9:30am**

1. Welcome

President Bill Wiggins called the meeting to order at 9:30am and welcomed everyone to the Spring 2010 Members' Meeting. Mr. Wiggins reported that a quorum was met since more than thirty members were present, and asked for a motion to approve the agenda.

Motion: THAT the Agenda for the 2010 Spring General Meeting be approved as presented.

Proposed: Tony Lepine
Seconded: Duncan McCallum
Carried: Unanimous

2. Approval of the 2009 Annual General Meeting Minutes

Mr. McCallum asked for a motion to approve the 2009 Spring and Annual General Meeting Minutes.

Motion: THAT the 2009 Spring and Annual General Meeting minutes be approved as presented.

Proposed: Tim Tibbs
Seconded: Keith Rodd
Carried: Unanimous

3. President's Remarks

Mr. Wiggins introduced the board members and Committee chairpersons and outlined the rules of conduct for the meeting.

Board Reports

4. Treasurer's Report (9:35 a.m.)

Treasurer Tony Lepine reported that KLCOA received \$26,650 and expended \$26,184 in calendar 2009, making this the first year in quite some time that the Association has generated a positive cash flow. Mr. Lepine reported that the Association currently has total cash on hand of \$8,157, allocated as follows: \$4,293 to the Lake Plan Committee, \$3,508 to the Lands Committee, and \$356 to the General Fund. Mr. Lepine spoke to the budget for this calendar year, which is based in large part on the 2009 results, and noted that he expects receipts to equal expenditures of \$23,416.

An audience member asked what steps have been taken to reduce the property tax on Island C. Mr. Lepine reported that requests for reconsideration of the property taxes assessed on all four properties have been submitted.

5. Membership Report (9:48 a.m.)

Membership Director Cathie Heppell reported that approximately 50% of last year's renewal forms had been sent out by e-mail, with very poor results. Ms. Heppell said that, as a result, all renewal letters this

year were sent by regular mail. Of the 550 renewal letters mailed out, approximately 325 have been returned so far, which is a better response rate than in the past. Ms. Heppell reported that a new order for end-of-driveway membership signs will have to be placed, as the existing stock is running low, and requested that anyone requiring a replacement sign wait until the new order has been received so that the remaining signs can be reserved for new members who do not have a sign at all.

In response to queries from some members who had received an Open for Business magazine at their home address, Ms. Heppell reported that the Association's mailing list is kept strictly private and was not the source for the unsolicited mailing. Gloria Carnochan said that the mailing addresses were likely obtained from the property tax rolls by an area realtor.

Ms. Heppell said that she has received requests from members to change their e-mail addresses in the Association's database. Ms. Heppell advised everyone that members can do this themselves by accessing the KLCOA-Update area on our website (www.klcoa.org). Ms. Heppell ended her report by saying that she will not be standing for re-election at the fall Annual Meeting, and invited anyone interested in taking over as her replacement to contact her. Ms. Heppell said that she can familiarize her replacement with the duties and responsibilities of the position over the summer.

6. Community Awareness (9:57 a.m.)

John Cunerty presented an update on the number of break-ins and collisions that had occurred over the winter, saying that the OPP encourages all residents to report suspicious activities as soon as they occur. Mr. Cunerty reported that Dysart has legalized the road use of ATV's, and advised all residents to be aware of these vehicles on the cottage roads. Mr. Cunerty reminded everyone that boat licenses are now mandatory and that an automatic \$250 fine will be levied on anyone operating a watercraft without one. Mr. Cunerty said that he has been asked to re-iterate to the membership that those residents with fast boats are fully committed to the safety of all cottagers. In closing, Mr. Cunerty asked that everyone work together to respect their neighbours by paying attention to noise and safety issues in all areas of cottage life, not just on the water.

7. Roads (10:02 a.m.)

Gary Benson reported that Janice Parker has told him the county has committed to repaving the 4.5 km north of Kennisis Rd to Watts Rd, and 5.8 km of road on the north and south ends of Watts Rd. Mr. Benson said he is pleased with the allocation of repair funds from Dysart for this year. Mr. Benson said he and Messrs. Whitaker, McCallister and Musinka will drive all the lake roads in July to do an inspection.

Mr. Keith Rodd pointed out that a sign is down on Watts Rd past the first bridge.

8. KLCOA Regatta (10:05 a.m.)

Tony Lepine reported that the Annual Regatta will be held on Saturday, July 31 with a rain date of Sunday August 1. Mr. Lepine said that, as in the past, there is need for as many volunteers as possible to help with this event, and asked anyone interested to contact Stephanie Clark.

9. Regattas (10:06 a.m.)

Jim Prince reported that last year's Sailing Regatta had seen 15 boats competing. This year's event will be held on Sunday August 1, with a 1:00 start, in Bullfrog Bay. Association members were asked to contact Jim at 754-1065 or check the marina for more information.

10. Lake Levels (10:07 a.m.)

Chris Riddle reported that the lake level is currently near the historic low for this date based on data for the last twenty years, and that, given the forecast of a dry spring and hot summer, evaporation from the Kawartha Lakes is anticipated to exacerbate the problem. Dr. Riddle referred Association members to the Coalition for Equitable Waterflow website www.cewf.ca, which provides a link to Trent Severn Waterway (TSW) charts of water levels in the area which are updated daily. Dr. Riddle said that this link is also accessible from the www.kennisis.ca website which contains updates specific to Kennisis Lake.

Dr. Riddle said that the Coalition for Equitable Waterflow, of which he is Co-Chair, has been actively working on a strategy to encourage the TSW to take a more conservation minded approach to the way it manages the water in the watershed. He will also be stressing this in his new role as a member of the TSW's Water Management Advisory Council

Dr. Riddle read the following resolution that had been adopted by the KLCOA Board and asked for a show of hands to informally gauge the degree of Member support.

Whereas the KLCOA believes that the TSW's approach to water management needs to place greater emphasis on water conservation, it is resolved that the TSW be encouraged to:

- 1. discontinue the practice of drawing water from the reservoir lakes in summer that is not needed for canal operations; and*
- 2. raise the 'winter-set' level at the Kennisis Dam by two logs (24").*

In discussion, two members expressed concerns regarding possible adverse consequences of higher water levels on fish spawning beds, ice damage, and beach fronts. After further discussion, a second showing of hands was requested for the following two-part resolution, still in the context of water conservation:

- a. That TSW be encouraged to discontinue the practice of drawing water from the reservoir lakes in summer that is not needed for canal operations; and*
- b. That the TSW be encouraged to consider raising the winter-set level at the Kennisis Dam by one or two logs.*

The membership expressed unanimous support for the first part of the motion, and near unanimous support for the second part with three votes against.

10. Fish Stocks (10:33 a.m.)

Gary Benson reported on the three projects to improve water quality in the lakes for native fish planned for this summer:

- a. fish netting to obtain genetic species origin for lake and speckled trout;
- b. Kennisis Lake Poster to be posted on the website (rough copy was available at the display table)
- c. Spawning bed evaluations to be held in September and October. Mr. Benson asked for six volunteers and back-up volunteers and two to three boats – anyone interested should provide their name, address and home and cottage phone numbers to Mr. Benson.

Mr. Benson thanked all the fishermen who have been sending their diaries in to the Ministry. Preliminary results show that the stock in the lake has not declined significantly from where it was ten to fifteen years ago.

11. Lake Steward (10:36 a.m.)

Mr. Graham Beach introduced himself, saying he sees his role to be acting as liaison between cottagers and the various government ministries on issues that affect the overall quality and sustainability of the lakes. Mr. Beach said that he encourages a four season approach the lake wellness.

Mr. Beach reminded everyone to communicate with their neighbours and others prior to commencing any dock or shoreline work to ensure that it meets the standards before the work gets underway.

Mr. Beach reported that the tree planting program introduced last fall has been a huge success, with over 2,000 trees having been planted around the lake. Mr. Beach emphasized that he has to pre-order for next spring and reminded members to e-mail him their orders before February 28, 2011 at graham_beach@hotmail.com.

A member asked about the status of the law suit brought by the DFO against a cottager who had violated environmental protection laws when building. Mr. Wiggins said that the outcome of this case could be as much as \$45,000 (the amount of the penalty imposed by the original judgement) or zero (if the appeal is successful), and that it is impossible to predict the outcome with any accuracy at this time.

12. CHPOA/WRAFT/CAPTR/FOCA

Duncan McCallum provided an overview of the services provided by CHPOA (Coalition of Haliburton Property Owners Associations), WRAFT (Waterfront Residential Association for Fair Taxes), CAPTR (Collation after Property Tax Reform), and FOCA (Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations).

Committee Reports

13. Fishing/Rock Bass Tournament (10:50 a.m.)

Mr. Keith Rodd reported that last year's tournament had been a success, with a total of 179 pounds of rock bass caught. Mr. Rodd said that the "family fish free" weekend is Saturday July 10th, and asked everyone to gather at the little Kennisis Bridge park. Mr. Rodd confirmed that you do not need a fishing license to participate.

Mr. Rodd said that this will be his last year organizing the tournament, and asked for volunteers to step forward and take over the role for next year.

14. Fireworks (10:59 a.m.)

Graham Beach reported that this year's firework display has been scheduled for Saturday July 3, with a rain date of Saturday Aug 1.

15. Land Management (11:00 a.m.)

Mr. Jeff Pinkney reported that the Norah's Island Management Committee has \$53,400 in cash on hand, having earned \$1,623 in interest income and disbursed \$1,018 in the year. Mr. Pinkney reported that finalization of the recognition plaque is awaiting a statement of direction from donors required by the Haliburton Highlands Lands Trust. A mock-up should be ready for display at the Regatta. Mr. Pinkney thanked everyone for taking such good care of the island.

With regard to the abandoned docks in Bullfrog Bay, Mr. Pinkney reported that he and Lesley Lepine have put notes on the ten remaining docks and asked the owners to identify themselves.

A member pointed out that there are now three docks in Soap Pond. Dr. Riddle said he may know who the owner is and will speak to them.

Break in Committee Reports

16. Haliburton Forest (11:05 a.m.)

Mr. Peter Schleifenbaum reported on the new format adopted by the Forest Festival, and referred members to literature on display at the Forest office. Mr. Schleifenbaum said that the saw mill is now in full production, and will be open for tours in the near future. Mr. Schleifenbaum advised the meeting that the Forest has taken over the premises leased to the Yamaha dealer on Kennisis Lake Road 7 across from the entrance to the Forest, and turned them into a wood shop open through the week and on Saturdays. Mr. Schleifenbaum encouraged all woodworkers to come in and browse.

Mr. Wiggins once again thanked Mr. Schleifenbaum for his continued generosity in making the Forest's facilities available to the Association for its spring and fall meeting.

Committee Reports Cont'd

17. Lake Plan Update (11:12 a.m.)

Mr. Jim Prince gave an update with regard to the initiatives identified by the Lake Plan. Mr. Prince thanked all the board members who have contributed to moving these initiatives forward, and asked for volunteers

to serve on the KCLOA Lands Committee, which has been charged with addressing the issue of alternate ownership models for the lands currently owned by the Association in trust for its members.

Mr. Gord McKinnon mentioned that he has prepared a history of the lakes and surrounding area which he would be happy to make available to the Association for its archival project.

18. Swimming (11:25 a.m.)

Ms. Stephanie Clarke reported that swimming lessons will once again be offered Monday through Friday (including holidays) between July 5 and August 13 at the marina. Registration forms will be mailed out with these minutes and the annual stickers, and will also be available on-line and at the marina KLCOA display.

19. Newsletter (11:27 a.m.)

Mr. Wiggins introduced Ms. Tina Fagg, a retired teacher and twenty year lake resident who has kindly offered to oversee publication of the quarterly KLCOA newsletter.

20. Approval of Board and Committee Reports

Mr. Duncan McCallum moved that all board and committee reports presented to the meeting be accepted and approved. Mr. Jeff Pinkney seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

21. Healthy Septic Systems (11:27 a.m.)

Mr. Prince introduced Mr. Rob Davis, the lakes' Shoreline Advisor in 2008 and owner of EcoEthic Inc., who gave an information session on warning signs of a poorly functioning septic tank and proper septic tank maintenance.

22. Adjournment (12:13 p.m.)

Mr. Wiggins reminded everyone that the fall Annual Meeting will be held on September 4. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:13 p.m.