



Minutes - KLCOA Spring Meeting
9:00 am, Saturday, May 16, 2015
Seminar Building - Haliburton Forest
(Approved at KLCOA Fall AGM - Sat Sept 5, 2015)

1. **Welcome** - Tony Lepine

2. **Remarks by Reeve Murray Fearrey** - Reeve Fearrey shared the good news that West Shore Road will be resurfaced this year. The surface will be ground up, gravel added where required and a slurry seal applied. A slurry seal will also be applied to much of Little Kennisis Rd. (There was widespread applause from the audience in appreciation of these announcements.) Timing will depend on availability of work crews once tendering and contracts are completed. Portions of County Rd 7 (Kennisis Lake Rd) will be resurfaced and the bad corner at Coleman Lake is being taken out (work is currently underway). Reeve Fearrey said that almost half of Dysart's road budget is being spent on the Kennisis Lake area.

Dysart has been working hard on budget issues since the beginning of the year. Unfortunately, the province is proceeding with the changes to OPP billing proposed last year. The higher costs are being phased in over 3 years. Reeve Fearrey noted that OPP policing costs are 40% higher in Ontario than in the rest of the country. In addition, last year Dysart experienced 100 year storm conditions requiring \$500,000 to be spent to address washouts. As this was not budgeted, it required that Dysart dip into the reserves.

Dysart will put money back into reserves and clear off debt. Property taxes are comprised primarily of education, county and municipal costs. While the education bill from the province went down, the levy from the county has gone up 4%. We should expect to see a net increase of 2.4% on our tax bills - or \$12.40 for every \$100,000 in assessed value. This was as good as could be managed - and Dysart is in good fiscal shape. Dysart has also purchased new equipment that will last for the life of this Council and as long as 12-14 years. It borrowed money at 2.5% to make these purchases and charges itself rent each year for use to repay the loan.

Reeve Fearrey also reminded everyone to ensure that their CO detectors are in good working order and replace them where necessary.

Remarks by Ward 4 Councillor Susan Norcross - Ms. Norcross mentioned that the focus of Council's work this year has been on the budget issues.

She mentioned two Committees of Council on which she serves (along with other Councillors, ratepayers, etc.): The Economic Development Committee (EDC) and the Environment and Energy Conservation Committee (EECC).



Proper care and control of septics and maintaining natural shorelines are priorities of the EECC. The MNR location on Head Lake has been chosen to be replanted as a CHA (Council of Haliburton Associations) replanting natural shorelines demonstration project. She mentioned the high level of usage at Dysart landfill facilities and reminded the group how important it is to recycle. She encouraged the group to visit the repurposing contest on the Dysart website and to enter to win.

<http://www.dysartetal.ca/waste-management/2014-repurposing-contest-has-begun/>

She mentioned that LED lighting will be installed in Haliburton town with a 3 year payback. She encouraged members to visit the Dysart video gallery to see videos on energy conservation and environmental topics, including "Conserve" featuring a Kennisis Lake cottager. <http://www.dysartetal.ca/videos/>

Councillor Norcross said that the Economic Development committee had its first session in March and is planning another session at the Curling Club in June, which will be advertised. She encouraged interested parties to participate. The focus of this Committee is on developing a methodical approach to creating economic activity and jobs.

In response to questions from the audience, she said that composting at landfills is not feasible at this time. The Haliburton Swimming Pool committee is still active and can be found on-line, but the swimming pool is not proceeding at this time. She took the issue of unequal distribution of voters by ward and possible redistribution under advisement - Ward 4 has 4000 voters compared to 1500 in Ward 1, with Ward 2 having even more voters than Ward 4.

3. **Confirmation of Quorum, Approval of Agenda & Approval of Minutes of Fall 2014 Annual General Meeting**

Deb Wratschko confirmed that we had quorum.

Motion to approve the Agenda

M: Duncan McCallum

S: Terry O'Connor

All in Favour

Motion to approve the Minutes of the Fall 2014 Annual General Meeting

M: Chris Riddle

S: Gary Pike

All in Favour

4. **Local Business Updates**

Peter Schleifenbaum, Haliburton Forest & Wildlife Reserve

Mr. Schleifenbaum mentioned the Forest Festival upcoming in August and Research Day which is held on the Friday prior to the May long weekend, where the results of various



research projects involving U of T and other researchers are presented. Topics range from squirrels and mice to the emerald ash borer. The public is welcome to attend.

He mentioned that 3 wolf pups have been born this year and the pack is now at the optimal level of 8 members.

In answer to questions from the audience, he said that the beech bark disease which is similar to Dutch Elm disease is coming. The Forest is salvaging all beech trees over 20 cm. There is hope that some small trees may survive and may have an immunity. He expects the wave to be through the area in 5 years.

The Forest still has plans for the longest zip line in the world but is not proceeding with it this year.

ATV riders are welcome to use the snowmobile trails in winter, but the Forest's experience with ATV riders has been so negative that they only allow people renting property in the Forest to use ATV's at other times of year.

Of 18 honey bee hives, only 4 survived the harsh winter.

Mr. Schleifenbaum said that he had advised Summit yesterday (Fri May 15, 2015) that he would not accept the proposed 40 meter monopine tower, [located 250 metres from residences but which does not require a flashing red light] because it will not provide cell coverage for the entire Haliburton Forest area. He said he needs 100% area coverage for safety for his workers, contractors and visitors. He said that only the originally proposed 60 metre steel lattice structure [in the same location, requiring a flashing red light] originally proposed is acceptable to him. He said if he accepted the proposed compromise 40 metre monopine solution, he would never be able to get approval for a higher tower in the future.

He encouraged members to visit the Haliburton Forest webpage and Facebook page for more information.

Tony Lepine thanked Mr. Schleifenbaum for again allowing KLCOA to use the Seminar Building for this meeting.

Mr. Doug Mahood of Kennisis Lake Marina did not attend the meeting to speak to the members.

5. **Presentations by Board Members on KLCOA Activities for the Coming Year**
Please see separate file for charts used by Board Members for summary of items presented.

Following his presentation on Lake Levels and Dam Remediation, Chris Riddle was asked if a public right of way had been included to allow access from West Shore Drive to Kennisis Lake Road i.e. over the dam or across the Kennisis River. Chris noted that this



was not within the mandate of Parks Canada but was an issue that might have been addressed by the Municipality when opening up the West Shore. Unfortunately the Municipality did not provide for public access to the dam from West Shore Drive when that was an option. Subsequently there have been suggestions that a bridge or some other means of crossing the Kennisis River downstream of the dam might be possible. However the KLCOA is unaware of any current plans in this regard.

Mr. Riddle said that at a meeting of the Coalition for Equitable Water Flow with the Trent-Severn Waterway (TSW), plans for the upcoming Pan Am games were discussed. The TSW will have an extra crew at the hydro dam south of Horseshoe Lake and will meter the flow of water to enable the white water events. They have said that there should be no net difference within any 24 hour period and Kennisis Lake water levels should not be affected. The TSW has improved their historically poor communication in recent months and Mr. Riddle encouraged members to look at their Twitter feeds and Facebook page.

Mr. Riddle mentioned that as his property is up for sale, he may need a volunteer to take over the water level and related issues. Interested volunteers should contact him.

A member said that there may be changes to fireworks regulations. Tony Lepine said that we have a certified pyrotechnician who volunteers to do our fireworks. He will ensure that the volunteer is aware of and compliant with any new requirements.

President Lepine noted that this year is an election year for the KLCOA Board of Directors. While he noted that members can be nominated at the Fall Annual General Meeting (with a seconder required), he would appreciate it if interested parties could let the KLCOA know in advance so that ballots could be prepared in advance if necessary.

6. Q & A and Input from Members

A member asked for an update on the Kennisis Lake Marina - will it be operating this year? Board members said that it is indeed up and running and the store is fully stocked.

Through a show of hands, many members expressed interest in having enhanced cell phone coverage on the lake. It was suggested that the KLCOA executive should meet with the various parties (cell phone companies, Summit, Dysart et al, Industry Canada, Haliburton Forest) to find a way to have improved coverage. President Tony Lepine noted that the KLCOA welcomed enhanced cell coverage consistent with the Lake Plan principles, which include the "Viewscape" issues.

A member asked about the Haliburton Forest work on "bio-char". Mr. Schleifenbaum said that this is an approach that shows promise for sequestering carbon in the soil and holding water and nutrients resulting in a 20-30% increase in tree growth. He would be willing to put on a presentation on this topic if there was general interest.



7. **Motion to Adjourn**
M: K. Rodd