

## **Fox Lake Association Incorporated Annual General Meeting Minutes JULY 16, 2016**

**Host:** Bob Shepley, 372 East Fox Lake Road      **Start time -** 10:00 am

- 1) President Tom Gillette welcomed everyone and reviewed the agenda for the meeting. Everyone introduced themselves and stated where on the Lake they lived (East, West, North) It was agreed to adopt the agenda, with no additions.
- 2) 2015 AGM minutes were reviewed. **Motion to Adopt as written by Ellen Fox , 2<sup>nd</sup> Lynda Watson. Passed.**
- 3) **PRESIDENT'S REPORT - TOM GILLETTE**
  - a) **North End Severance and Rezoning Request** - In the Spring Newsletter we informed everyone that the decision by the OMB in September of last year that denied the Severance and Zoning request was again appealed to the OMB by the Applicant. The decision from last year was voided as the OMB felt that there were errors in law by the OMB adjudicator in that decision. Another date has been set for August 30 and 31 to re-hear the appeal. The Association will continue to stay involved in this issue and Robin Yule to provide an update later in the meeting.
  - b) **Camp Winnebago Wake Boat** – In June a letter was sent by the Association to Ilyse, the owner, reminding the camp of the members' concerns on the operation of the boat particularly in the narrow channel between the island and the western shore. No response back yet.
  - c) **Lake Plan Integration into Town Plan** – work continues on integrating The Lake Plan into the official Huntsville Town Plan. A report will follow later in the meeting by Judy Maxwell.
  - d) **Events** - The Fox Lake Association will be running three events beginning with today's Annual General Meeting. As always, the Association will be running the Annual Fox Lake Regatta which will be early this year on July 30<sup>th</sup>. For anyone who may have noticed we had the wrong date in the Fall Newsletter for this event. Finally, we will be holding our annual Corn Roast on the Saturday of the Labour Day weekend (September 3<sup>rd</sup>) and will couple that with our FLA fund raising auction as we did last year. We outlined specific details for all of these events with times and locations outlined later in the Spring Newsletter. These events provide an opportunity for all the neighbours on the lake to get together, get reacquainted and have some fun.

## **4) TREASURER'S REPORT - JIM MCMAHON**

A copy of the statement is attached. FLA has \$12,222 in cash and short term investments. Major expenses were for social functions, insurance, FOCA membership, and legal fees associated with the 2015 OMB hearing. Going forward \$5000 has been reserved for the cost of the Lake Plan for integration in to the Town of Huntsville plan. Additionally, we will likely need to expend some funds to engage expert support for the upcoming OMB hearing. At this point we are in a good financial position. **Motion made to accept report by Jim Watson, seconded by Don Shepley and passed.**

## 5) CONFIRMATION OF DIRECTORS

Slate of directors now stands as: Tom Gillette, Christa Casselman-Sharp, Jim Crawford, Bill Knight, Tony Maxwell, Paul Moores, and Ellen Fox. **Officers** are Kate McMahon, David White, Mary Smirniw, Judith Maxwell, Jim McMahon (Treasurer), Robin Yule (past president) and Alix Yule. New secretary is still needed. **Motion made to confirm current slate of directors, seconded and passed.**

## 6) OMB HEARING UPDATE – ROBIN YULE

Robin Yule provided the following update:

- Informed by the Town on June 28<sup>th</sup> that they do not intend to participate in the second OMB hearing. The Town has reached out to the Applicant and suggested they attempt to negotiate a solution.
- Have scheduled a meeting with the Town's Planning Director (Kirsten Maxwell) for July 26<sup>th</sup> to express our concern with the decision and try to persuade them to reconsider.
- If the Town will not participate the FLA plans to request Party status to make the case for why it is opposed to the Rezoning and Severance request.
- FLA will likely need to again spend funds for legal and planning advice and will need to collect funds to cover the costs of this expertise.
- David Blanchard suggested we check with FOCA to see if others have dealt with similar issues.
- Don Shepley wondered if we could approach MNR for environmental assessment.

There were a number of questions from the members around the hearing process and probable outcomes. Members expressed disappointment in the Town's decision not to participate. The membership was supportive of the FLA remaining involved in this issue and there were no objections to the Association to becoming a party in the second hearing.

## 7) LAKE PLAN IMPLEMENTATION REPORT - JUDY MAXWELL

The following update was presented to the members:

- The Town of Huntsville is deep into its review of the Official Plan which governs land use across the municipality – in urban, rural, and waterfront communities (like Fox Lake) as well as the settlements (like Utterson and Port Sydney). The existing plan is 10 years old.
- The Review began in October with a visioning exercise where participants were invited to identify how they see the Town in 20 years
- Based on that vision, goals and objectives for Environmental Sustainability, Social Sustainability and Economic Sustainability were established and then approved by Council in February.

- The revised Official Plan will also include the text approved by the Fox Lake Association in July, 2015, setting out its priorities for development of the Lake. No response from the Town yet on our submission.
- Our text focuses on issues the pattern of shoreline development, conservation, the Fox-Vernon portage, and monitoring the health of the lake. These same issues are highlighted in the Town's vision, so, in theory, we are on the same page.
- The next steps in the Official Plan Review require the Town to get down to specifics. The consultants are now working on several background papers and they will be the subject of more public consultation events which could be convened in late summer.
- We will continue to keep the membership updated on progress as this unfolds.

## **8) LAKE STEWARD REPORT – DAVID WHITE**

Last winter the lake did not ice over until Jan 4<sup>th</sup> and the ice out date was April 22<sup>nd</sup>. All reports relative to water quality are on the web site including University of Waterloo testing results, Benthic monitoring results, lake levels and so on. Again this year the BENTHIC MONITORING sampling will be done at Jim McMahon's on Friday August 20, 2016. Volunteers to count the bugs in the water samples ...needed.

## **9) MEMBERSHIP - MARY SMIRNIW**

FLA membership continues to fluctuate, this year particularly because of the number of properties that have changed hands although several newcomers have enthusiastically come aboard. One thing that remains constant is the low numbers of members from West Fox Lake Rd. David White and I personally delivered hard copies of the June Newsletter and AGM data to all properties on the West and East side for whom we do not have contact information or email. Currently we are working on a new database that is easier to add and edit members contact information, all I need is every ones input on any changes.

Input from the community as to what items they would like see in the newsletter and on the website would be most appreciated.

## **10) CAMP UPDATES**

Neither Romuva or Winnebago was able to attend the meeting. Romuva again this year has the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters (OFAH) at the camp throughout the month of July. As in previous years, Scout camp and Family camp will be the last two weeks of August. Camp Romuva is a FLA member in good standing.

Winnebago gave no reply.

## **11) WINNEBAGOE WAKE BOAT DISCUSSION – TOM GILLETE**

President of FLA sent a letter reminding the camp of issues from the past two summer seasons and yet again requesting responsible boat operation particularly through the west channel. A significant discussion ensued on the camps boating behaviour so far this season. Lake residents once again raised issues regarding the permanent damage caused by the Winnebago wake and ski boats with special concern for the shoreline damage caused to the west side shore and the safety of small children playing on the beach. There was discussion on what remedies could be taken to deal with the problem including enforcing federal boating statutes regulating speed through narrow channels.

## **12) OTHER business**

We talked about the size of the sand bar at the mouth of the river, which presents a boating safety hazard at the mouth of the Buck River. The Association will continue to encourage safe boating by the members in the vicinity of the sand bar via newsletters and other communications.

**NEXT AGM ...JULY 15, 2017 located at JIM WATSON'S, EAST FOX LAKE RD.**

Motion to adjourn made by Tony Maxwell with thanks to all attending, and to our host, Bob Shepley.  
Meeting adjourned at 11:45 am.