

**Fox Lake Association
Annual General Meeting
July 8. 2022**

1. **Welcome.** President Alix Yule was unable to attend the meeting. VP Cindy Taylor chaired and welcomed those in attendance. (about 30 present)
2. **Agenda.** Moved by Lynda Watson seconded by Tom Gillette that the proposed agenda be adopted. (passed)
3. **Camp Winnebago.** Ari Grossman was in attendance to update camp activities and address questions. He reported that the camp was quite full with about 350 children serviced by 150 staff. Of interest, they have 60 international staff this year. Ari recognized the importance of the lake community and the need to work together to address lake resident and camp concerns. New this year- canoe program on the Fox Tail. Waterfront hours 10-12 and 2-5:30.
Drivers of boats are aged 17-20. (younger been trained). Ari said that if there are issues with driving, please call the camp and he would address them. Also noted that lake boaters need to respect camp boats and travel path. On occasion boaters have created issues for ski/wake boat's normal path down middle of lake causing them to go close to shore or around island. Ellen Fox asked about the possibility of an open house for lake residents to visit the camp. Ari would attempt to set up a date after the final day of camp on Aug 17.
4. **AGM 2022 Minutes.** Moved by Robin Yule seconded by Judy Maxwell that AGM 2022 minutes be accepted. **passed**
5. **President's report** presented by past president Tom Gillette.
Activities since the July 2022 AGM
 - a. The Annual Regatta was held July 30th in its usual format after two years of modified regattas due to COVID restrictions. Thanks to Cindy Taylor for coordinating, Sandy McLennan for hosting horseshoes Bob Shepley for hosting the afternoon waterfront events and the many volunteers who helped out.
 - b. The Annual Corn Roast, Fall Fair and Auction were held September 3rd. Thanks to Jim Watson for coordinating, Sandy McLennan for hosting, Peter Hubbard for being our auctioneer and to all the people who donated items for the auction.
 - c. A Fox Lake Propane Buyers Group was formed and now has 15 members. Thanks to Kevin Harris for organizing the group and taking on the role of coordinator.
 - d. Our Lake Steward, David White, conducted water testing activities and will report on these later in the meeting.
 - e. The Board made two deputations to the Town of Huntsville Planning Council, one in opposition to a proposed boat launch near the wetland in the north end and one in support of the

proposed Bell Telecommunications Tower at Hoodstown Shores. The Town has given concurrence to the Bell application and we anticipate that construction will go ahead this fall.

f. The Board initiated a “name the island” contest and is asking for suggestions for the three Crown islands in Fox Lake. You can e-mail your suggestions to Alix at alixyule@hotmail.com, or drop them in the “name the island” box available here at the AGM, and at the Regatta and at the Corn Roast.

g. The FLA is a member of the Federation of Ontario Cottagers Association and the Muskoka Watershed Council and attended meetings and passed on communication materials from these groups to members.

h. FLA board and executive members maintain the FLA website and facebook page and sent out our annual Fall and Spring newsletters.

Update on FLA Board & Executive

The FLA Board, according to our constitution, must have between three and seven members, all of whom must be members of the FLA. The Board can appoint officers and committees as needed to conduct FLA business and activities. I extend my sincere appreciation to the board members and executive officers as they all take on these roles in a volunteer capacity.

This year, two Board members resigned and I know you will join me in thanking them for their significant contributions. They are Bill Knight and Christa Casselman-Sharp. Christa has agreed to stay on the Executive as an Environment Officer. We will be having an election during this AGM to elect two new members to the Board.

The current Board members and Executive Officers were introduced:

Board Members are:

Alix Yule – President

Tom Gillette – Past President

Cindy Taylor – Vice President and Treasurer and Facebook Administrator

Jim Harper

Colin Randall

The Executive Officers are:

Jim Watson – Secretary

David White – Lake Steward

Robin Yule – Membership Officer

Katie McMahon – Newsletter Coordinator

Kevin Harris – Propane Buying Group Coordinator

Ellen Fox – Website Administrator

Christa Casselman-Sharp – Environment Officer

Issues brought forward by members

Members and residents continue to voice their issues and concerns to the FLA Board and Executive members. Most of the concerns this year are similar to previous years and we again ask everyone's cooperation in protecting the natural environment around the lake and respecting their neighbours.

- a. Spraying for bugs - Even products claimed to be "natural" kill all bugs, including the good ones such as bees. Please avoid spraying for bugs
- b. Boat wakes – big wakes cause a lot of erosion, dock damage and havoc for SUPs, kayaks & canoes. Please respect the no wake zones in both rivers and between Snake (south) island and shore and keep wake boats and personal watercraft in the middle of the lake far from shore and swimmers.
- c. Short-term renters – Please ensure anyone using or renting your property is aware of the no-wake zones, noise and fireworks by-laws, the fire risk rating, the garbage disposal and pick up routines etc.
- d. Lighting – bright solar lights and security lights on all night affect 'dark skies' and people's sleep. Please turn off lights when not needed and ensure outdoor lighting is "down-shaded".

1. **Treasurer Report.** Cindy Taylor reported a present balance \$14,727. Direct deposit is appreciated for \$40 membership fees. Cindy encouraged conversation with lake neighbours about the importance of lake membership. Moved by Robin Yule seconded Pau Moores that treasurer's report be adopted. **passed**

6. **Nominations of FLA Directors.** Tayfun Uzun and Cam McIver were nominated as FLA directors and they agreed to stand. Moved by Sharon Lillico seconded by Leslie van der Meer that Tayfun Uzun and Cam McIver be accepted as directors. **passed**

7. **Membership** -Robin Yule thanked Jim Harper for recruiting Tayfun Uzun and Cam McIver. Membership in 2022 was 66. Membership presently about 50.

8. **Lake Steward-** David White reported on lake data. Ice in date was Dec 13, ice out was April 16. Phosphorus low, secchi disc (water clarity) 1.9 m average 2 m. meters. Water samples were obtained in May and submitted to the Lake Partner Program for 2023. Friends of Muskoka Watershed Council data suggests the increase of blue green algae incidences since 2006 in many Muskoka lakes most likely due to a variety of factors including more awareness, more monitoring, outdated septic systems, lower calcium levels, amount of wind, road runoff.

Benthic Monitoring to take place Aug 18, 10pm at the Fox residence. A good opportunity for participation from our youth and to get credit for volunteer hours.

9. **Regatta.** Theme this year is Christmas in August. Date is Saturday August 5. Coordinator i Sue Finbow and location is Finbow and adjacent beaches on East side. Horseshoes at Blanchard's 504 East Fox Lake. Accolades to Sandy McLennan for opening up his property for horse-shoes and Corn Roast for many years. His presence on the lake will be missed. Sandy will be moving to London ON area.

10. **Corn Roast.** Saturday Sept 2 at Camp Romuva 4-7 pm. Coordinator and volunteers needed.

11. **Fox Lake History Project.** Christine Castle heads this project with assistance from Ellen Fox, Gabrielle Andersen, Teresa Tremblay, and Robin Yule. She stated that the purpose is to share and document human and natural history of Fox Lake area for the benefit of present and future residents. She encouraged individuals to send her personal stories, photos, experiences, personal history, indigenous history. The history is taking shape as a number of entries on a website or blog. If you have a topic that you would like to write about and add to the blog, please let Chris know (christine.castle@gmail.com). Comments, corrections and additions are welcome as the entire blog is considered a living document that can be changed and improved as time goes by. If you have not already done so, check out the current version at <https://foxlakehistoryproject.wordpress.com/>

12. **Other Business**

a) **Propane Buying Group-** A new officer has joined the FLA Executive team. We welcome Kevin Harris as Coordinator of a new Propane Buyers Group. Arrangements have been made to join with the Woodland Heights Propane Buying Group to negotiate an advantageous annual price for propane from Superior Propane. Joining this group is entirely voluntary and will be open to any member of the FLA. If interest in joining contact Kevin at kevinharris35@gmail.com.

b) **Life time Membership-** Leslie Van der Meer expressed appreciation for the designation of life time members for Jack and herself. Jack and Leslie were given that designation due to their great work in writing the Lake Plan (2009) for Fox Lake. Gord and Elaine Jackson are our other life time designates for their work on the Lake Plan and significant involvement in the association while residents of Fox Lake.

c) **Fox Lake Facebook-** Reminder to post photos, stories to the Fox Lake Facebook page.

1. **AGM 2024.** David and Sharon will host again. Thank you. Date July 13 at 10 am.

Adjournment – Moved to adjourn AGM 2023 by Robin Yule, seconded by Paul Moores