

MINUTES

**OTTER LAKE LANDOWNERS' ASSOCIATION
(OLLA)**

25th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

JULY 25, 2015

1. WELCOME:

President Randy Hodgins welcomed all to the 25th. annual general meeting, and he introduced the current executive.

Randy Hodgins	President
Carol Schaefer	Secretary
Marcia Maxwell	Director
Doug Franks	Web Master and Lake Steward
Ed Wilton	Membership Coordinator
Cam McKay	Treasurer
Bob Langstaff	Director
Frank Croft	Director
Dianne Taylor	Director
Phil Mayhew	Past President

2. PRESIDENT'S OPENING REMARKS:

Attendees were thanked for participating today.

It was noted we have a quorum.

Randy noted a representative of the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority (RVCA), Andrea Klymko and two township councilors, Arie Hoogenboom and Jeff Banks were in attendance. He thanked them for coming.

Reference was made to the successful family picnic held at Camp Otterdale in June. Several local businesses provided refreshments. Information was provided to the attendees on the current status of the Otter Lake Sustainable Lake Plan, which is to be presented to OLLA members today. All the work accomplished has been completed by volunteers.

The confidential Watershed Shoreline Survey began last week. Property owners will be provided with an assessment of their property shoreline and assistance will be provided if requested.

3. APPROVAL OF AGM MINUTES FOR 2014:

The minutes for 2014 are posted on our current web site www.otterlake.org As well, copies were sent with the notice for this meeting. A few copies were available for review as members

arrived at the meeting. As well, the minutes were displayed on an overhead before the onset of the meeting.

No errors or omissions were noted.

MOVED by Frank Croft **SECONDED** by Ken Maxwell that the AGM minutes for 2014 be approved as printed. **CARRIED**

4. TREASURER'S REPORT:

Our current bank balance is \$ 2,200

Our investment balance is \$ 8,179.05

Our expenses this past year were a bit over \$ 5,000. A large part of these expenses were due to the work done on our Lake Plan. We anticipate much of the Lake Plan expenses will come from our investment.

A draft of our Lake plan up to this point was provided to ALL lake residents, not to OLLA members only. Mailing expenses are high. As a result, we gained some new members and some prior members renewed as well.

A copy of the year end Treasurer's Report is attached to the official copy of these minutes.

5. CALL FOR ELECTION OF DIRECTORS:

Elaine Mackay led this portion of the agenda. She noted any current member of OLLA is eligible to run for office.

Elaine reviewed the areas monitored by OLLA:

- Monitor water quality
- Interface with government agencies as required.
- Organize information dissemination eg. Newsletter, Lake Steward's Report
- Organize various projects such as the Lake Plan, loon nests and tracking of loons

OLLA can have up to 10 directors. Each must be a current member of OLLA.

Directors are elected from the membership. In some cases, directors are appointed to fill vacancies and necessary. They are then confirmed (or not) at the following AGM.

Seven directors are required for a quorum.

The current directors were reviewed (as listed above).

Four directors have agreed to continue for another year. Three have completed their 3 year term and have agreed to run for office again.

Dianne Taylor will not seek reelection for personal reasons, and Frank Croft has resigned due to the distance problem (lives in British Columbia). As well, Cam McKay has decided not to seek reelection. This leaves 3 vacancies.

Randy Hodgins and Doug Franks were successfully reelected.

Volunteers to serve as directors were asked to allow their names to stand, and the following people agreed to offer their services:

- June Finless (Road O10)
- Shelley Dunlop (Road O12)
- Laurence Beaulieu (Road 05)

Each of the above was voted upon separately and all were approved.

A thank you was expressed to all for offering their time and service.

6. LAKE STEWARD'S REPORT:

Doug noted water levels were low in the spring and caused some concern. However, we received enough rain in late spring to alleviate any worries.

Water is tested regularly by both the Rideau Valley Conservation Association and our lake steward. Our water quality is incredibly good. Our phosphorous levels are the best in the area.

We are privileged to be able to borrow a sonar device allowing us to monitor the lake bottom.

Happily our loons are doing well. Four pairs produced 7 chicks. We really have no way of knowing if these chicks return to Otter Lake.

A survey called 'Love Your Lake' was distributed with a request from Doug to complete and to return this morning.

RVCA monitors our phosphorous levels and report we are in the normal range.

Doug was asked about invasive species – are there any concerns. His response is any invasive species, such as zebra mussels, are inevitable, but they run their course, and hopefully are stabilized.

However, there is great concern about contact with wild parsnip. It is prolific in the ditches along the highway and personal contact could have health consequences. Andrea offered to send some literature to OLLA and OLLA will pass along to members.

Randy noted the township has attempted to control this obnoxious weed by spraying. However, the provincial government has taken no action. The fear is it will spread into farmers' fields.

Karl noted it is lawful to spray this weed with Round Up on private property.

7. SUSTAINABLE LAKE PLAN:

Laurence provided slides for members viewing along with his presentation. A copy is attached to the file copy of the official minutes.

He noted once the latest report has been approved by OLLA members, it will be available for viewing on RVCA'S website. As well, copies will be delivered to individual members.

Laurence noted how very helpful RVCA has been in reviewing draft copies of the lake plan and in providing excellent feedback.

He referred to the successful OLLA picnic in June and the helpful feedback received from attendees.

Laurence introduced the volunteers who donated hundreds of hours to bring the lake plan to its present state, and he thanked them for their contributions.

The plan now is to form committees to address various action items identified in the plan.

Jeff Banks noted there may be funds available to assist from the township. Requests must be submitted by December 1st of this year.

Randy thanked all those involved with the Lake Plan. He noted members of the Real Estate community have advised him lakes with a lake plan are an asset when selling lake property.

8. 911 COMMITTEE UPDATE:

Karl Fiander reported on the current situation. Due to the amalgamation of 2 townships, there is some duplication of road numbers, resulting in some dangerous situations for emergency vehicles responding to calls. Councilor Hoogenboom is heading up a 911 committee to attempt to solve the problem.

An open meeting will be held August 13/15 in Portland Community Hall for a public discussion. Three options will be proposed. There are a total of 8 road number duplications on Otter Lake. Three options will be proposed. In order to implement any of them, a 75% consensus must be obtained. The 911 Committee would like the individual road committees to discuss the options. The options are:

1. All duplicate numbers are in South Elmsley and Bastard Burgess = change those affected roads only
2. Do nothing with residents consent
3. All sequential numbers be changed

The road duplication problem has been ongoing for a long, long time. Those with duplicate road numbers will be advised of the meeting by the township by mail.

9. OTHER BUSINESS:

- Marcia noted the Westport Review Mirror offers very interesting information to residents of the area, relevant to local landowners. Copies are available at the Lombardy Diner or the Portland store.
- Andrea (RVCA) offered to speak to interested people after the meeting. She will answer questions and provide information concerning the pamphlets she has on display.
- Randy thanked those directors resigning this year for their service. He urged those attending to consider filling the remaining vacancy on the OLLA committee.

10. ADJOURNMENT:

Moved by Ken Maxwell and seconded by Frank Croft that the meeting adjourn.