

SALERNO DEVIL'S LAKE COTTAGERS' ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
JULY 31, 2004

Sydney Clark, President of the SDLCA, welcomed approximately sixty members to the annual general meeting held at St. John's Church, Irondale starting at 10:05 a.m. Bette Witham was introduced as a secretarial substitute, for Susan Thompson, for the first half hour of the meeting.

Guest Speaker - John Crossen

John Crossen, of the Buckhorn Observatory, offers intimate evening lecture tours of the sky at his home just north of the Town of Buckhorn. John shared his love of astronomy through a slide show and talk that dealt with some spectacular cosmos displays, the necessary equipment to enhance viewing of the night skies and ways to reduce light pollution. Sydney thanked John with a donation to the Buckhorn library.

Previous AGM minutes

The minutes of the AGM held August 2, 2003 were circulated and Rob Stuart moved, Shari Akow seconded that they be approved. All were in favour.

Road Steward's Report - Norm Wheeler/Sydney Clark

Sydney read Norm's report as he was in absentia. The drainage pipe that the Township's snowplows damaged at Heart's Content Drive has been replaced. However there has been slow response to requests for gravel at Heart's Content Drive and the wash out between Eldanori Trail and Wiley's Lake Drive. For any other road concerns please contact Norm Wheeler. It was suggested that the membership be reminded by newsletter that it is wise to sound your horn on corners and drive with your radio off and window down. A motion to accept the report was made by Barbara Gordon, seconded by Marianne Cassin and all were in favour.

Financial report - Phil Woodard

A motion to accept this written report was made by Steve Davis, seconded by Lorne Buckingham and all were in favour.

Water testing

There was no water testing report although the lake has been participating in the Great Canadian Dip-In.

Environmental Report - Heather Stuart

Heather reported that the first year of the SDLCA environmental committee has been busy. A couple of weeks ago the second annual newsletter was delivered to all lake docks (members and non-members). Topics covered included: Septic and alternative cleaners, healthy shorelines, West Nile Virus, good things to know and upcoming events. Heather did attend the FOCA environmental meeting and heard several excellent speakers. There will again be an environmental booth at the Canoe Race and volunteers to supervise would be greatly appreciated. The new boathouses in Minden Hills meet the Townships requirements as the owners had permits (built within 10' of shore and had no direct impact on the water). John Leonard has completed two signs for us. One will be posted at the boat launch that suggests people NOT bathe and wash in the lake. Another slated for the island suggests people DO NOT allow their dogs to swim and for boats to cruise at least 30 M from shore as waves disturb the shoreline. Individuals were encouraged to join the committee. Kay Armatage motioned, Judy Stephens seconded and all were in favour to accept the report.

Elections

Sydney announced that the entire previous executive will stand for another term. However Sydney will take the role of past president. Doug Rodger was nominated for president by Kay Armatage and seconded by Ken Clark. Doug accepted the position and was acclaimed president.

Canoe Race - Rob Stuart

Rob and his team cleared the route yesterday and placed markers for each kilometer along the 10 K. route. He reported that the river is somewhat higher than the norm at this time of year. Canoes must be cautious of faster water where the lake creek joins the river. The start line will be close to the bridge bank and there will be people there available to assist the canoes and paddlers into the water. The finish line has been moved to a safer position due to a fallen tree at the falls. All canoers will sign a waiver and registration will be at noon, with the race beginning at 1 p.m. Canoes will set off in 1-minute intervals. In an effort to promote canoe race participation there will be a sign posted at the bridge next year. Sydney thanked Rob and crew for their commitment to the race!

BBQ

Doug has arranged with Kirk McDuff, of McD's butcher in Gooderham to supply our BBQ. There will be a variety of burgers, hotdogs and soft drinks. It is hoped that this will take the pressure off the executive to provide for this event.

Games

Susan Thompson has the supplies for the games and Barbara Gordon will be running them.

President's Report - Sydney Clark

Sydney thanked Do Clark and Pearl Simmons for providing the tea and coffee for the meeting; Ken Clark, Kevin Mansfield, Armando and David Cassin for their pyrotechnics display on Canada Day; and the past executive for their support. She recognized Dan Pappas for his long service on the executive and will present him with a plaque with lifetime membership. She highlighted her five years as President with these accomplishments: an updated constitution; facilitating 911 implementation; monitoring the official plans for Highlands East and Minden Hills (both now awaiting approval by the Ministry) and a new environmental committee to raise awareness on the lake. Sydney asked for the memberships' support for a taxation committee, which would work with FOCA's WRAFT. Waterfront Ratepayers After Fair Taxation is a coalition of concerned waterfront associations in Ontario that wish to keep cottage taxes at a reasonable rate. The taxation committee is looking for interested members that will meet 2-3 times a year.

Other business - Sydney Clark

- Due to high water there have been numerous reports of floating debris, i.e. old docks etc. Please, everyone collect this debris to prevent boating accidents and injuries.
- A large boat leaving the fireworks nearly swamped smaller boats. Be aware of your boat's wake.
- Bears are again an issue. Please report all sightings to the MNR hotline and remember that items such as an air horn and motion sensor lights are also deterrents.
- A blue paddle boat with white seats has been found and is resting at Dianne Jamieson's cottage in the east side of the south bay on the lake.
- Beamish/ Royel has paved the entrance to their quarry but at this time no asphalt plant application has been made to the Ministry.
- Please encourage all neighbours to join the SDLCA.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Barbara Gordon, seconded by Phil Woodard and ALL WERE IN FAVOUR (11:50 a.m.)