

Salerno Devil's Lake Cottagers' Association

Annual General Meeting, July 30th, 2011

Doug Rodger welcomed 43 members to the meeting which was held at the Irondale Community Centre.

Minutes: The minutes of the previous AGM on July 31st 2010 were reviewed. Rob Stimers, seconded by Marianne Cassin moved that the minutes be accepted. All were in favour.

Officers: Norm Wheeler resigned as road steward. Doug Rodger will send letter of thanks to Norm. Leonora Marriner, seconded by Esther Atkin nominated Wendy Kidd as Lake Steward. All were in favour. Doug explained the Lake Steward's manual and the Lake Steward's committee.

Financial/Membership: Kevin Mansfield explained the financial report. There is an 11% increase in revenues due to an increase in membership (105 presently, up from 91). Approximately 55% of cottages on the lake are members of the association. John Currie, seconded by Sydney Clarke moved that the financial report be accepted as read. All were in favour.

Concert on the lake: Doug Rodger explained the details of the concert on the lake August 6th 2011 featuring Katherine Wheatley. There will be a \$10 fee for adults. Children under 16 can enjoy the concert free of charge. The Irondale Community Centre will be the backup venue in the event of rain.

Eastern Ontario Regional Broadband Network: The goal of EORN is to have high speed internet available to everyone in Haliburton County by 2014. Bell is the main sponsor of this project. Cecil Ryan informed to group that high speed internet could be available to everyone in the county as early as 2013.

Mining claim on a county owned lot: Doug Rodger informed the group that the county has staked a mining claim on a county owned lot. The lot is on the north side of the lake adjacent to Sydney and Ken Clark's family property. Ken expressed concern that people were trespassing on his and his neighbour's lots to gain access to the lot owned by the county. Michael Bainbridge of Highlands East Rock Hounds explained that Haliburton is the first county to stake a mineral claim on a property. The county plans to develop the lot putting in parking and recreational trails. Local landowners will be consulted when the lot is developed.

Royel Paving: Doug reported that Pauline Knott brought it to his attention that Royel Paving has filed a new PTTW (permission to take water) application. It appears that Royel are not doing the regular monitoring that they should be doing so have applied for a new permit. It was generally felt that Royel Paving should be held accountable for their lack of testing and monitoring.

Irondale Historical Society (IHS): Carol Simmons, President of the Irondale Historical Society addressed the group. There are ten people representing seasonal and permanent residents on the board of the IHS. They are developing a mission statement and a website. In April of 2011 the Irondale Church was granted a historical designation. With that designation the church can't be destroyed or changed in any way. The IHS is attempting to purchase the church from the Anglican Diocese of Toronto.

Guest Speaker: Heather Ross, past president of Environment Haliburton addressed the group. Environment Haliburton is an Environmental Non-governmental Organization (ENGO) whose main purpose is advocacy and education. Heather discussed the subject of fireworks. She pointed out several issues regarding fireworks:

- the fine particulates they produce can cause breathing difficulties for anyone with asthma
- they produce toxic chemicals
- the noise they emit can cause auditory damage to humans and wildlife
- they terrify wildlife and domestic pets. Many animals including dogs are spooked and hit on roads fleeing the area of fireworks displays
- they cause loss of nesting birds

Heather had several suggestions:

- having a laser display rather than fireworks
- use compressed air rather than explosive displays and not using made in China displays
- ban the use of fireworks near water
- use green fireworks that emit significantly less chemicals

Heather also discussed a Dark Sky policy that reduces the impact of artificial lighting on wildlife. An example she used of how light affects wildlife is that firefly populations are down because artificial light hinders them in locating their mates. She suggested that lights should be pointed down and longer wavelength bulbs should be used. If a Lake Plan is developed a Dark Sky Policy should be adopted.

Environment Haliburton is endorsing septic inspections and hope that the province make it mandatory to have them done. Old inefficient systems leak phosphates into lakes. The main contributor to phosphate pollution is the use of fertilizers. Heather suggested that they should be banned. Heather addressed the issue of the Bark Lake quarry (Royel Paving). A new permit would change their monitoring requirements. She suggested that we should visit the "Environmental Registry" online to register our concerns. Esther Atkin suggested that a letter be developed that individuals could send to council with a link to "Environmental Registry".

Website and Logo: The website is up and running. Rob Stimers explained the details of the website and presented the new SDLCA logo. An online company such as Cafepress is being investigated. T-shirts etc. with the SDLCA logo could be purchased from them.

Canoe race, games and barbecue: Registration for the canoe race will begin at 12:00 tomorrow and the race will start at 1:00. Burgers, hotdogs and drinks will be available at 1:30. The games will start at 2:00.

Jennifer Legge is organizing the games. The award presentations will begin at 4:00.

Sydney Clark moved, seconded by Marriane Casson that the meeting be adjourned.