

SDLCA Annual General Meeting – Saturday July 30, 2016 at the Irondale Community Centre

Kevin Mansfield welcomed approximately 45 members to the meeting.

Doug Rodger noted that the minutes of the previous AGM of Aug. 1, 2015 had been made available for members to read on the website and that several copies were available if anyone needed to see them. He then asked for a motion to accept the minutes if there were no questions. Esther Atkin moved that the minutes be accepted with Keith Cowan seconding the motion. All were in favour.....Carried.

President's Update

Kevin Mansfield noted as the “song remained the same” so would the direction the Executive would maintain in the coming year. This year would be the 50th anniversary of the SDLCA and that at the end of the meeting Sydney Clark would do a presentation of pictures of Salerno Lake from the past and a few stories to go with them followed by a celebratory anniversary cake. He asked the membership if there was anyone interested in taking on the role of President or joining the Executive or if anyone knew of someone who was interested. As no name was put forward he said he would continue with Doug Rodger sharing the role as acting President for the coming year. He stated that Keith Cowan was stepping down and asked if there was a member interested in contributing as a part of the Executive. Kay Armitage volunteered and was nominated and added to the slate of proposed officers to be elected.

Nomination and Election of Officers

Kevin called for nominations for the election of officers.

Name	Roles
* Doug Rodger	Past President
* Margaret Clayton	Vice-President & SDLCA's CHA representative (also the CHA Secretary), and in charge of the Lake Plan Study and CHA Shoreline Re-Naturalization Initiative
* Kevin Mansfield	Treasurer and Acting President
* Bill Holding	Secretary
* Jacqueline Proud	Membership Secretary, e-LakeUpdates and Website, Apparels, Dock Packages
* Sydney Clark	Past President
* Brian White	Lake Steward and Environmental Director
* Rob Stimers	Web and Technology Chair
* Rob Stuart	BBQ and Canoe Race
* Kay Armatage	Community Events

Doug Rodger moved that the names nominated for election to be accepted and Sydney Clark seconded. All were in favour.....carried.

Financial Report Update

Kevin reported that 2015 was the last year with the June 30th year end and the first with the Dec. 31st year end closing. Going forward in 2016 and future years matching up yearly revenues with expenses as they occur would be an easier task. He noted that the current process of 2 year renewals creates a “bubble” of revenues in some years rather than the steady stream that would be experienced with only a one year renewal. Apparel was a highlight with \$4,000 in added revenue and \$3,000 in costs approximately. The Concert on the Lake cost \$400 but the Shoreline Workshop cost of \$480 was a one-time non-recurring cost. The new fiscal yearend showed revenues of \$7.9K and disbursements of \$9.2K for a loss of \$1,265. Overall the SDLCA has good liquidity with \$5.16K in assets.

Motion to accept the Financial Report made by Marianne Cassin and seconded by Barbara Gordon. All were in favour.....carried.

Membership Report and Website

Jacqueline Proud reported that membership is up from 109 in 2013 and 120 in 2014 to 124 in 2015. Efforts to reach out to lapsed members from prior years have been effective resulting in more paid members. The increase in new paid members over the last 3 years has shown that tools such as the “Dock Package” have created awareness among new owners resulting in new memberships. The two year renewals continue to be popular and those online have increased from 45% in 2014 to 57% in 2015. Of the 220 properties on the lake we are aiming to have 120 as members or 54%. FOCA survey results (size) show that 47% of Lake Associations have fewer than 50 members, 23% have 50 to 100, 24% have 100-199 (SDLCA is larger than 70% of them), 2.7% have 200 to 399 and 2.7% have greater than 400. Other results show that 16% of Associations have less than 20% of owners as members, 34% have a 20-49% as members, 30% have 50-76% as members and 20% have 77% or more as members.

The website has experienced 30,000 hits since May 2014 and now has 7 paid advertisers. More updates and e-blasts are done during the busy summer months. Registered users have climbed from 212 in 2014 to 265 in 2016 with an open rate of 59%. Jacqueline asked the membership for more pictures from the past to post and expressed a desire to keep the younger generation updated and involved.

Rob Stuart explained how the boat launch came to exist on the lake and the role of the SDLCA in getting it to happen. He said that the web page that explained what the SDLCA has done for you should be updated to reflect this story.

Kay Armatage proposed the Membership Report be accepted and seconded by Sydney Clark. All were in favour.....carried.

Environmental and Water Quality Testing Report –Bill Holding

Although there were no new Invasive species to report, Doug Rodger indicated that there was some evidence of zebra mussels trying but failing to form a foothold in the lake in the past. Others such as Milfoil have been in the lake for some time. He noted that during the spring when the water was close to 4 degrees C. the water can turnover in the lake increasing water turbidity.

2015 has been a transitional year with Wendy Kidd stepping down and Brian White to take over later this year.

Bill reported that the water results were good. As part of the Lake Partner Program volunteers take samples from over 550 lakes to be tested for total phosphorus and calcium. Each Spring 2 samples are taken from both the North and South ends of Salerno Lake and sent for testing. Water clarity testing (Secchi Disc tests) are also done from May through to Oct/Nov once to twice per month. The total phosphorus concentration (TP) is used to infer a lakes capacity for algal growth. It is a necessary nutrient for zooplankton which is a building block in the lakes food chain. Too much will result in algal blooms. Salerno is a mesotrophic lake with TP that could range from 10 to 20 parts per billion in a litre of water and range from the low end (10) to clear and unproductive with little algal growth to the high end (20) with algal blooms. Salerno has ranged from close to a TP of above 15 in 2013, TP of close to 10 in 2014 and back above TP of 15 in 2015. So you would expect the shore line habitat to be diverse in this changing habitat. Interestingly White Lake(less than 10) and Fortescue Lake(less than 8) both flowing into Salerno have a lower TP count and would have a slightly dilutive effect. Calcium levels are good in Salerno at about 25 to 26 noting that 1.5 parts per billion per litre is considered the minimum for life to thrive, used in growing shells, bones, cartilage etc. Secchi Disk (water clarity) testing results of greater than 4 metres is good with Salerno's closer to 5 metres. This testing is done in conjunction with TP testing to verify changes if any. Keith Cowan made a motion to accept the Environment report and seconded by Kevin Pepper. All in favour.....carried.

Loon Report – Kevin Pepper

Kevin reported that there were 7 loons on the lake with sightings of up to 12 some mornings and was very excited that 2 chicks had survived this year. He witnessed the parents mating near the island and the nesting area was in the marsh at the south end of the lake. On June 8 he noticed a loon successfully fighting off a Muskie attack on one of the chicks but it was a near thing. Other dangers to the chicks were large boat waves washing them away from the parents. A healthy lake is needed to support Loons as 4 of them can consume a half ton of fish in a season.

Three pair of Herons were spotted on the lake as well as Mergansers (with chicks) and Whippoorwills. Doug thought that children might be interested in getting involved with species identification.

49th Annual Canoe Race Preparations Report & Barbeque

Keith Cowan said the Children's Race will start at 11am and will cost \$5 per boat and is more for the fun and participation.

Rob Stuart said the 49th Race will be held for the third year on the Lake as the river is still unsafe. Registration will start at 12 with the junior kayakers off first at 1 PM cost would be \$20 per boat. John Leonard has the paddles ready. The BBQ, Games (3pm) and Awards (4:30pm) would be held between 2:30 -6pm at the Irondale Community Centre. Next year would be the 50th anniversary for the Canoe Race and he was planning on different shirts to mark it. The three area's to be Marshalled were by Keith Cowan's dock, Sydney at the narrows and Rob at the Island. Doug mentioned that his son Dougal had paddled down the river last week and had encountered one jamb he had to portage around. The river was 5 to 6 feet higher in the spring and was over the road at the bridge. George Simmons declared that the river will be cleared by next year.

Concert on the Lake

The 2015 Concert on the Lake operated at a loss due to the additional cost of renting a sound system. The 2016 Concert was relocated to the Irondale Church due to rain. The loss of \$500 was due to a poor turnout and general lack of support. Those who did attend were well entertained by Julian Fauth and Bill Heffernan. Several people even came from Fortescue and White Lake to attend. Doug feels going forward next year he would offer a slate of up to three choices of Artists sometime in late April promoting with an e-blast. He would ask people to commit and buy tickets with a May 31st proposed deadline. If he could sell 50 tickets at \$10 each he could then go ahead and book the Artist with less risk.

Shoreline Improvement Initiative (CHA) - Margaret Clayton

Margaret explained that the CHA was formed in 2009 and was created to give one voice for all Cottage owners of Haliburton County on issues with the main focus on Septic Systems and Shorelines. The goal is to improve Lakes water quality for tourism and recreation. In 2014 Salerno Lake conducted a Shoreline Survey finding that it was just under the 75% natural state required to keep a lake in a healthy state. She also noted that since the new bylaw in 2012 trees within the 100 foot lake buffer could not be cut down without permission. In September the SDLCA through the CHA sponsored by the Haliburton Fish Hatcheries will submit applications for 4 properties to receive funding for shoreline re-naturalization of \$1,100 to 1,700. The grant will fund part of the project and will include hiring a consultant to assess the damage and how to restore the shoreline with vegetation and establish a healthy root structure to minimize erosion. The properties are expected to have the work completed within one year of receiving the grant. All four properties will likely be approved and receive their grants over the next two years and be completed in that time frame.

Cottage Sharing- Cottage Succession Seminar Sunday August 21st – Bill Holding

Bill noted that for the up-coming FOCA sponsored Cottage Succession Seminar at the Irondale Community Centre only 10 people had signed up. He had talked with a few members present who plan to attend but had not yet signed up encouraging them to do so as we needed at least 40 to make it worthwhile. The event was well communicated through the Dock Package and Web Site with several e-blast reminders. He explained that Peter Lillico an Estate Planning Lawyer would likely focus less on tax planning and more on family relationship issues to develop a Cottage Sharing Agreement.

Other

Apparel Fall Offering –Jacqueline - warmer clothes such as sweatpants and long sleeve shirts in grey and navy blue to be offered, coffee mugs with Salerno photos also available.

A motion to increase SDLCA Fees to \$35/year and \$65/2 years starting in 2018 was made by Barbara Gordon seconded by Sydney Clark. All in favour.....carried.

Doug Rodger talked about building a lake e-mail database working with the various Road Associations to update it faster as lake properties turnover through sales.

Kay thanked those who rescued her boat this spring from the water.

Up Coming Bark Lake Fundraising Concerts

Stompin Tom Concert in Wilberforce next Saturday

Samantha Martin Concert at the Irondale Church later in August

Ryan Van Lieshout “ “ “ “ Sept. 24th

Municipality Update – Cecil Ryall

Work on the Irondale Bridge is ahead of schedule and should be open by September 2, 2016. Highlands East is still working on the details with Minden Hills to set up the Irondale Community Centre as an Emergency Centre eligible for funding. The Municipalities (with the MNR on board) are working on setting up a Water Trail from Bart Lake to Furnas Falls. The Bart Lake to Tory Hill portion is now open. Cecil offered the possibility of jump starting the lower section first by recruiting volunteers to expedite the process.

Highlands East is looking at writing and enforcing a new bylaw on Septic Inspections and is soliciting input from Lake Associations. Possibilities would be once with a building permit, every time it changes ownership, if it is rented.

SDLCA's 50th Anniversary Presentation – Sydney Clark

Sydney's slide show of pictures showed a Salerno Lake from a by gone era of buildings of log or rough boards and lakes and rivers filled with logs headed for the Saw Mills. She explained that in the logging heyday the everchanging winds made the Lake a devil to navigate, hence its original name Devil's Lake. The SDLCA was formed 50 years ago and in the following year the first annual Canoe Race took place with 10 people racing. She then introduced Betty Whithim and Marriane Cassion to share some stories of early Salerno Lake.

Betty Whithim said that her family cottage was one of the first on the Lake in 1931. It was situated close to the Lodge where she learned to swim. Fred Griffen of the Lodge would hold weekly dance and swimming events which the locals would come to watch with the proceeds going to the War Effort. Summers at their cottage would be filled with the activities of 9 kids sleeping 3 to a bed. Her Mother rented a cow for the Summer and when she advertized for help it read – must be able to milk a cow and cook on a woodstove. Lake fish back in those days consisted of bass, perch, sunfish and catfish. Drinking water was collected in a rainbarrel or from a spring on James Bay.

Marriane Cassion's father was one of the founders of the SDLCA, John Thompson in 1966. The only phone in the area was at the Irondale general store. The SDLCA was formed to have a one unified voice dealing with Bell, better road maintenace and lake levels. As other Lakes had regattas the SDLCA decided to hold an Annual Canoe Race Event with the proceeds going to the association. As a boat launch did not exist the Race was held on the River. John Thompson also got the MNR to develop half logs for the dams to manage the water levels better. The first telephones came to the Lake in 1986 when a Bell Executive bought a cottage.

**Motion to adjourn proposed by Rob Stimers and seconded by Flo Morris. All were in
favour.....carried.**

Meeting ended at 12 pm.

DRAFT