

SDLCA AGM 2021 Minutes

Call to Order: A meeting of the Salerno Devil's Lake Cottagers Association was held on Zoom on Thursday, January 21, 2021. Attendance was not taken but 25 participants took part.

Motion: to adopt the 2019 minutes as corrected. Moved by Doug Rodger, Seconded by Bob Collins

Approved.

Guest speaker: Paul MacInnes, Chair, Coalition of Haliburton Property Owners (CHA). He spoke on shoreline health, blue-green algae, not to cut grass near shore, etc. Salerno lake is very healthy with a beautiful shoreline. Although he said that his presentation would be available online:

<https://www.cohpoa.org/shoreline-health/>, Salerno Lake is not currently on the list of lakes surveyed, but perhaps the website is not up to date, since the surveys end at 2016.

Ensuing discussion about lake health.

Question Doug Rodger: What should we do? Contact councillors? Write letters? Concerned re misinformation.

Alex Gervais: West side of lake is slated for deforestation. Are we allowed to plant trees without permit? Find answers on CHA website (link above).

Doug Rodger: there is a graduate thesis on our lake concerning phosphorus due to bulldozing, dynamiting and other extreme changes to the landscape. MacInnes added that phosphorus drifts to sediment at the bottom of lakes and can't be gotten out.

Kay Armatage: How do we find that dissertation? Was it York University? MA or PhD?

Marg Clayton: Although not on the CHA website, there was a Salerno report done in 2012 indicating that some shoreline has been lost. It is crucial that we maintain our natural shoreline.

Doug Rodger: re. Status of septic tank re-inspection program. In Highlands East end, we are at Level 1 (good); At Minden Hills end, level 3 (not so good) – should be upgraded.

Check Salerno Lake website: <https://www.sdlca.ca/teams/default.asp?u=SDLCA&s=htosports&p=custom&pagename=Our+Salerno+Lake>

Note: We clearly need by-laws about changes to landscape and new cottagers. In summer of 2020 there has been blasting!

Executive Update, Pres. Bill Holding: We lost a few members but gained 2. We always need more volunteers.

Motion re Nomination of 2021 officers: Marg Clayton moved, Doug Rodger seconded motion to re-elect current slate: Pres. Bill Holding; Past Pres. Doug Rodger; Treasurer Bob Collins; Membership Secretary Lynn Blake; Lake Steward Rob Brown; Editor Kay Armatage; Website Line Gervais; Communication Chair Michele Diano; Technology Chair & Youth Lake Race Rob Stimers; Canoe Race & BBQ Rob Stuart. Unanimously approved.

Financial Report, Treasurer Bob Collins: Our financial situation is excellent. We have \$6K in the bank due to paid memberships, merchandise sales, concert on the lake, canoe race & fireworks. Our membership is only 50% of cottagers on the lake, but that is still very good. We also take e-transfer for membership fees.

Motion to accept Financial Report: moved by John Currie, seconded by Doug Rodger. Unanimously approved.

Other Reports don't require votes.

Membership Lynn Blake: 89 paid; down 17%. Hope for more next year. Live AGM brought in payments. **Michele Diano** offers to send membership renewal stickers through the mail. **Question Line Gervais:** Is the sticker on the dock making a difference to membership? **Answer Lynn Blake:** No. **Doug Rodger:** Signs are good, but older signs are fading. We need to advertise!

Concert on the lake Doug Rodger: Free for members. Last year we didn't charge admission. The weather looked iffy & we didn't have the church as an alternative due to COVID social distancing, but nevertheless the concert turned out well with some paid admissions. No hint yet re summer 2021! Note: making the concert on the lake free to members helps to sell memberships, as it focuses on the advantages of membership. Lots of great feedback on that score. **Comment Bill Holding:** great appreciation to Doug!

Question John Currie: Any donations? **Bob Collins:** Yes, some donate. Will look into whether donations are tax deductible.

Website Line Gervais: First, shout out to **Jacqueline Proud**, who ran the website for many years. No current update re number of hits per month, but Kevin Winter's loon reports get lots.

Environmental Rob Brown: From clarity checks, the lake is quite healthy. We lost some shoreline at the North end. Don't know how to deal with new builds. We can report to Minister of the Environment, but that's quite severe. Septic inspections ongoing.

Open Discussion

Kay Armatage: shout out to **Kevin Pepper!**

Doug Rodger re government body that delineates logging sites: there seems to be a designated site near Chimo Dr. which could have a major impact. Doug will research their 5-year plan for next Executive mtg, as this is a concern. We have thought we are surrounded by Crown Land, but now not sure.

Marg Clayton: believe municipal lands in Highlands East provide for no clear-cutting – ie. Usually sustainable forest management

Conclusion of Meeting

Pres. Bill Holding noted the camaraderie and warmth of the meeting, which felt good to achieve especially in this COVID year

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn by Rob Stimers and seconded by Doug Rodger at 9:00 PM.