

**Nine Mile Lake Cottagers Association, Parry Sound District, Annual General Meeting  
Sunday, August 1, 2010**

**Present:** Shirley Pate, Klaas Vangraft, Jason & Rhonda Mayhew, Doug Curr, Doug & Grace Hiltz, Fred & Doreen Hiltz, Christie Hiltz, Dave McNab, Susan Heukrath, Judy Pfenninger, Debbie Clark, Bozena & Roman Jaeschke, Brad & Lynne Jolly

**Note:** Dan Bernhard (president), unfortunately, was unable to attend the meeting; Doug Hiltz (vice president) ran it.

There was a quorum.

**Previous meeting's minutes**

KVG moved to adopt last-year's minutes. BJ seconded it. Carried.

**Secretary/Treasurer's Report**

SP reported that last year's balance was \$69.22.

Current balance: \$227.93.

The Ohio campers donated US\$50 (CDN \$51.50) and donated again this year (\$50) – SP opened the envelope at the meeting. SP to write thank-you note.

FOCA membership is due: approximately \$104

KVG moved to accept the treasurer's report. FH seconded it. Carried.

**Insurance**

KVG looked into the need for the association to obtain insurance; after talking to FOCA, he reported that for a small group, there is really no need, as there is not liability risk. If the association really did want it, the rates would have to increase. "The best insurance for any association is to be careful."

Information was passed around at the meeting for people to peruse.

KVG wrote up small report, sent to DB in February 2010.

It was noted that the township is responsible if a road is a fire route.

DC suggested that a private property sign be put up at the start of Marion Drive at the landing – and at the docks.

FH and DH volunteered to put up signs.

All agreed that there was no need to acquire insurance at this time.

**Campers**

Roman asked about the status of campers, what was the maximum length allowable on a campsite.

Twenty-three days is the limit in Ontario.

KVG went to the Ministry of Natural Resources in Parry Sound in late July and showed them exactly where one large campsite is on our lake (the one with real furniture, etc.)

We had previously agreed to complain individually.

DH asked: should the complaint be formalized? Should it be done officially by the president of the Cottagers Association?

SP suggested complaining to the fire chief.

The complaint: monopolizing campsites, leaving a mess (furniture, structures, etc.).

Biggest concern: keeping it tidy and safe.

The area is a beautiful spot, ideal for hiking, but hard to do with residual mess there.

Recommendation:

DC sees the campers at the landing; he will speak to them.

KVG has already made personal complaint – he and SP will also speak to Brian Leduc, Fire Chief.

## **Issues from Prior Minutes**

### **Roadwork**

JM/RM looked into getting the road repaired (this is the road to the landing). Dean Adams the only company to respond to queries, willing to look and give report: they suggest that simply throwing more gravel on places that need it will just wash out with next rain – put in large gravel.

Quote: \$3,000 for the whole 1km stretch, from figure eight out.

Dean Adams also pointed out that it was really the township's responsibility, but that the township probably wouldn't take the proper steps to make sure the road didn't wash away in spots.

All cottagers affected by this roadwork/decision met after this association meeting to discuss.

### **Mining Claims**

SP – no news to report except new mining act in place: will not allow new claims south of the French River.

FOCA is still not satisfied with this.

Our situation is at a standstill: however, if the company doesn't pay for its rights periodically, they will lose them.

DC says that Michael Moore has been in touch with the federal government and has information to circulate.

We will wait to see if there's anything more to do: CH suggests keeping an eye on species of special concern and report any sightings (turtles, hognose snake, rattlesnake, skink); if you have documented these as well-established species, then the MNR can step in.

### **Water Testing**

KVG will try to do it for next year.

It's important to test – DH spoke to Hydro about what sprays they use: two different ones, one for near water and a different, stronger spray for areas not near a lake.

SH reported being up in early spring last year (2009) and saw a plane flying over the lake in front of their cottage and dropped a cloud of orange dust into the water. At the time she took down the number of the plane and went online, but couldn't find out anything.

A question as to whether this orange dust was mosquito repellent.

RM volunteered to look up the plane if SH still has the numbers – she will check if she does.

## **WRAFT**

KVG looked into this organization ([www.wraft.com](http://www.wraft.com)), which is a parallel group to FOCA, whose prime concern is to keep taxation fair for lake properties compared to other home owners.

Taxes have been raised all over the province, important to have a system that's fair.

Cost of joining: \$50

RM made motion to join; DH seconded it. Motion carried.

## **Election of New Secretary/Treasurer**

SP's last year as secretary/treasurer.

Bob Thiess (not present) wrote letter volunteering to join the Executive Committee, if position was available.

Elected.

DH thanked SP for restarting the cottagers association and for her three years of service. Standing ovation.

## **New Business**

### **Nine Mile Lake Road/Railway crossing**

FH noticed that railway spikes are sticking up on this crossing – a danger to car tires.

FH went into township office last year; didn't know if it was responsibility of CPR or CNR. He didn't hear.

Went back this year – will find out next week to find out what they plan to do.

KVG also noticed this at Kirkham Road; Hydro has to fix this.

Depending on what FH finds out Debbie suggested that Nordic ski club could follow up. She will mention to snow mobile club.

## **MNR regulations**

DH saw about 50 people on one island, amassing a large amount of fish. CH asked if someone can call conservation offices to report overfishing.

The Hiltzes to compile a list of numbers to call if there are concerns about overfishing and/or "land abuses."

Boating licenses now required: DM (Christie's husband) volunteered to email a list of things now necessary to equip a boat.

A reminder to all cottager association members: we get 10% off boating licenses as we are members of FOCA.

## **"Take the Plunge"**

DH reported that Dan (president) has a book called "Take the Plunge" from FOCA – he will tour the lake, asking who wants a copy, and order them. (See also below.)

## **Fee for Cottagers Association**

Because there is money leftover from last year, SP asked if fee should remain the same.

Here's what the money goes to:

\$50 to Wraft

\$100 to \$150 to FOCA [KVG suggested paying for one member to attend the FOCA meeting (\$45)

BJ suggested buying multiple copies of the book (\$10) and giving one to each paid member.

This needs to be followed up with Dan.

Nordic Ski Club donation? All agreed not to do it this year.

All agreed fee would remain at \$30.

KVG asked if we need to purchase a receipt book and give receipts for the fee.

End of minutes shows paid members; no receipt book necessary.

### **Sympathy Card**

DH brought sympathy card for the Ohio campers – Bonnie lost her father – for anyone who wants to sign.

### **New Member**

Because of the threat of the gate at the Taylors property off Kirkham Road, SP was investigating the cottagers association's right of way and discovered that many years ago, the cottagers association gave a letter of agreement that Robert can join the cottagers association.

Robert Hiuser is now a member of this cottagers association.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Nine Mile Lake Cottagers Association, Parry Sound District, will be on the Sunday of the August long weekend, at the Pates.

### **Meeting Adjourned.**

Paid members for 2010/2011

Fred and Doreen Hiltz, Jason & Rhonda Mayhew, Doug Curr, Susan Heukrath/Judy Pfenninger, Bozena & Roman Jaeschke, Shirley Pate & Klaas Vangraaf, Robert Hiuser, Grant Rowe