

MINUTES

Nine Mile Lake Cottagers' Association

31 July, 2011

The meeting was called to order by Bob Theisz at 1:20 p.m.

In attendance (sign-in sheet)

Bob Theisz, Shirley Pate/Klaas Vangraft, Douglas Curr, Doreen & Fred Hiltz, Paul & Jane Evans, Bill Willett

Approval of Minutes

The minutes were approved from the 1 August, 2010 meeting.

Treasurer's Report

The current bank balance is \$313.66

The account has earned \$.25 interest since and ING chequeing account was opened in March 2011.

The 2011/12 FOCA membership is now due and will be paid next week, \$75 plus \$2.50 per cottage member, plus \$50 for WRAFT for total of \$147 owing.

A red buoy was purchased at a cost of \$45.19. The buoy marks the safe crossing point at "the shallows".

Annual Association Fees

Members decided fees would be \$25 for the 2011/12 year, a decrease of \$5 per year from previous years.

Association Insurance

The majority of association members present did not think association insurance was necessary at this time, but we should continue to review annually. See 2010 AGM Minutes for rationale.

Campers on the Lake

Our association posted small signs on the popular camping sites on the lake encouraging campers to respect the environment when using the sites. The signs are signed with the Nine Mile Lake Cottagers' Association acronym, N.M.L.C.A.

Members described two incidents this year where campers were reported to local authorities. In the first incident a fisherman reported a camper to the township fire department (Brian Leduc, 705 342 5252) for having an excessively large camp fire during the time the province was considering a fire ban. The fire department responded to the complaint. In the second incident, a cottager reported campers to the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) for overfishing (705 746 4201). We have no information as to the outcome.

Fire Routes

McDougall Township is in the process of renaming it's 83 Fire routes to proper street names. Hence, Fire Road 207 is now Old Maple Trail. Reference, 2011-2014 Municipality of McDougall Council Statement of Priorities and Directions

Status of Fire route 207 (south end of Lake)

Doug Curr ([Cottage E](#)) volunteered to research the cost of renting a Bobcat earth mover and purchasing sufficient gravel to properly repair Fire Route 207, including the boat access cottagers parking area. Doug and several members of his family are licensed to operate a Bobcat. Once Doug has an idea of cost he will contact all of the parties who use Fire Route 207 and ask if they wish to share in the costs of the road repair.

A week prior to this AGM Dan Bernhardt was chatting with Mary West (Novick) ([Cottage L](#)) and she mentioned her family organizes an annual road cleanup for Fire route 207 on the August long weekend. The association members present were polled whether they were aware of the annual cleanup Mary was referring to; nobody was aware of the event. But, everyone agreed we should participate in the cleanup because we all benefit from any enhancements to the fire route. Doug Curr will find out more details of the event when he discusses the route repairs with other route stakeholders.

Also, Bill Willett wanted to remind cottagers that the boat access cottagers parking area was a private put-in and we should discourage non-cottagers from using the put-in. The public municipal beach is the put-in for the general public.

Status of Fire route 208 (east side of Lake)

Shirley Pate ([Cottage I](#)) gave a brief up date of the events affecting the cottagers who use Fire route 208. In the spring, a property owner at the start of the fire route erected a locked gate to the entrance of the route. The property owner demanded \$10,000 from each cottager to regain access to the route. The matter is before the courts. Shirley and her family have been using the lake boat access to access their cottage. The Pfenninger family ([Cottage M&N](#)) haven't been able to access their cottage at all this season because they don't have a boat.

Mining Claims Update

We have to assume the mining claims adjacent to Nile Mile Lake (east side) are still current. We will continue our current strategy of reporting endangered or threatened wildlife to the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) and continue to monitoring mining activity.

Endangered species seen on Nine Mile Lake:

None

Threatened species seen or assumed to be on Nine Mile Lake:

Massasauga Rattlesnake
Blanding's Turtle
Chimney Swift
Eastern Fox Snake
Eastern Hog-nosed Snake
Whip-poor-Will

Special Concern species seen or assumed to be on Mile Lake:

Northern Map Turtle
Milk Snake
Snapping Turtle
Eastern Ribbon Snake
Common Five-lined Skink, aka The Blue Tailed Skink

[Link to Species at Risk Reporting From \(MNR\)](#)

Nine Mile Lake Water Testing

Klaas VanGraft ([Cottage I](#)), as part of the FOCA Lake Stewardship Program, has been taking measurements of our lake's water quality and reporting the findings to the Lake Stewardship Network. The results are not in yet.

FOCA Update

FOCA has begun to send out monthly newsletters, they are encouraging members to subscribe to the service. Bob will send out the next FOCA email newsletter to all members and encourage people to subscribe directly to FOCA. FOCA will be hosting a fall conference. The conferences are normally held on a weekend in the Toronto area. Paul Evans has offered to attend on our associations behalf, our association will of course pay for Paul's registration fee. The FOCA webpage has a digital archives of past conferences and webinar services.

WRAFT Update

WRAFT merged with FOCA. As noted in the Treasurer's report, our association allocated an additional \$50 to their efforts.

Election of New President

Dan Bernhardt's ([Cottage F](#)) three year term has ended. Thanks go out to Dan for his hard work over his term.

Bob Theisz ([Cottage A](#)) relinquished his position as Secretary/Treasurer and accepted the position of President for a three year term.

Election of Vice President

Doug Hiltz ([Cottage B](#)) sent a letter to the executive explaining he had to step down from his position due to pressures from work. Doug had one year left remaining in his term.

Michael Moore ([Cottage E](#)) accepted the position of Vice President for a one year term

Election of Secretary/Treasurer

Bob Theisz stepped down as association Secretary/Treasurer to take on the role of association President.

Paul Evans ([Cottage D](#)) accepted the position as association Secretary/Treasurer for a two year term.

New Business

1. Two additional web sites we can use to report species at risk would be the Ontario Turtle Tally and Frog Watch Ontario, both sponsored by the Toronto Zoo. This might be a great activity for young children on the lake.
 - a. [Ontario Turtle Tally](#)
 - b. [Frog Watch Ontario](#)
2. Cottagers can apply for Civic Addresses, aka Fire Numbers, from the Municipal Fire Chief – Brian Leduc. Also, this [link](#) takes you to a notice from McDougall Township explaining changes to contacting local 911 services
3. One of the cottages on the lake had a visit from the local municipal Building Inspector. The inspector said a new by-law will require all new structures to have a building permit. New structures may include sheds. We suspect by-law 2011-43, which is currently in front of McDougall Council is the by-law in question. You can monitor the activities of council from the [municipal webpage](#).
4. Doug Curr ([Cottage E](#)) wanted association members to know that his sons are available to help if you have any heavy lifting required at your cottage. His boys are young and strong and are more than willing to help their neighbours. Simply contact Doug and he will arrange the help.
5. Paul Evans ([Cottage D](#)) suggest we set up a Cottage Watch system where we watch activities at each other's cottages to help protect against break-ins. Paul encouraged all members to share their contact information.

Next Meeting

Sunday August 5, 2012, at 1:00 p.m., Evans cottage ([Cottage D](#))

Motion to adjourn was made at 2:00 p.m. and was passed unanimously.

Cottage Links:

[Link to list and map of Nine Mile Lake Cottages \(Google Maps\)](#)

[Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Association \(FOCA\)](#)

[Waterfront Ratepayers After Fair Taxation \(WRAFT\)](#)

Government Links:

Local:

[Municipality of McDougall](#)

5 Barager Boulevard

R.R. #3

Parry Sound ON P2A 2W9

705-342-5252

Provincial:

Ministry of Natural Resources, Parry Sound Office

7 Bay St, Parry Sound ON P2A 1S4

705 746 4201

[Link to Species at Risk Reporting Form \(MNR\)](#)

Ontario Provincial Police

7 Bay St

Parry Sound ON P2A 1S4

705-746-4225