



## Draft - Minutes – 2016 Spring Meeting

Saturday, May 21, 2016 9:00 am

Haliburton Forest & Wildlife Reserve

(To be approved by the Membership at the AGM – September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2016)

1. **Call to Order** – Tayce Wakefield

KLCOA's By-laws set quorum for the Annual General Meeting as a minimum of more than half of the Board Members eligible to vote. David Austin, Cam Douglas Tina Fagg, Sheelagh Lawrance, Tony Lepine, Joan Middleton, John Middleton, Terry O'Connor, Janis Parker, Jim Prince, John Smith and Tayce Wakefield were present so quorum was confirmed.

President Wakefield introduced all the Board members and their associated responsibilities and KLCOA activities.

2. **Motion to Approve Agenda for the Meeting**

M: J. Pinkney

S: J. Smith

All in Favour

4. **Motion to Approve Minutes of 2015 AGM** (September 5, 2016) as posted on the website.

M: T. O'Connor

S: J. Parker

All in Favour

5. **Property Security Overview** – OPP Officers (Introduction by John Middleton)

John Middleton provided a brief background, noting that security information had been included in the membership package dropped at all properties in recent weeks. The contents had been put together with the assistance of the OPP in Minden. Mr. Middleton introduced Officer Timothy Negus and Auxiliary Officer Mark Jones.

Officer Negus began his presentation advising that the public should direct calls to the OPP Call Centre (1-888-310-1122) with emergencies or issues. In regard to protecting property, he advised that items in the cottage should be engraved with car licence numbers, and that all serial numbers/VINs should be recorded. Auxiliary Officer Jones described the Safeguard Ontario program, where officers will come to homes/cottages following a break-in, to advise how to safeguard the property for the future, as repeat break-ins are common. An attempted



break-in would also be an appropriate time to request such a review. He added that unfortunately the OPP does not have the resources to offer the service to everyone.

In response to a member's question, Officer Negus reported the break-ins in the Kennisis Lake area were down, but it is generally cyclical. Another member asked whether or not alarm systems were effective. Officer Negus responded that perpetrators will look for crime of opportunity, so alarms will notify neighbours of an issue. In regard to a question about calling 911 with VOIP, he noted that it was important to get all the necessary information (detailed address, etc.) when calling. Finally, a member asked about gating driveways. Officer Negus responded that this makes it difficult for emergency services to enter and may indicate that there is no one at home when closed.

Mr. Middleton thanked the Officers for their presentation.

6. **TSW Dam Update** – Jewel Cunningham, Director, Ontario Waterways Unit, Parks Canada (Introduction by Chris Riddle)

*See separate file for slides used by Mr. Riddle and the Trent Severn Waterway.*

Chris Riddle began the presentation by reviewing the water levels reporting that spring levels were the highest since 1910 by one centimetre. In addition, with the significant rain fall in March 2016, ice damage had been reported. He requested that members pass along information regarding ice damage to him and it would be compiled and forward to the TSW.

Jewel Cunningham provided a slide presentation of the recently completed Kennisis Dam. She noted that its life expectancy is estimated at 80 years. She reported that there was still some work to be done on site mitigation, as well as replacing the boat launch and rollers. She reported that some seepage had occurred near the diversion, and there were some small cracks, but this was being looked at and there were no structural concerns. Ms. Cunningham thanked the community for their patience and support during the construction period.

In response to several questions regarding water levels and placement/removals of logs in the dam, Ms. Cunningham responded that there had been no changes in how the new dam had been operating and that it was a delicate balance between water movement and ice.

Mr. Riddle thanks Ms. Cunningham and her two staff for the presentation.

7. **Kennisis Lakes Water Quality Presentation** – Dana Cruikshank, MoE (Introduction by Cam Douglas)

*Dana coordinates provincial water quality testing for our two lakes and will review the status of our water quality and will highlight what cottagers should be doing to protect water quality.*

Mr. Cruikshank began his presentation describing Lake Trout lakes. Only 1% of lakes in Ontario support lake trout. They are very susceptible to habitat change and are considered a natural heritage feature. Water samples are tested from these lakes about every six years by the Ministry of the Environment. Mr. Cruikshank then proceeded through a series of detailed slides



comparing individual water quality indicators on Kennis Lake, and the averages for Haliburton and Hastings counties. He reported that 6 sampling sites (2 on Little Kennis and 4 on Kennis Lake) had been tested, and because of some changes in results, the tests would be run again in the summer. Specifically, nitrogen levels were higher on Little Kennis, possibly a sign of some potential sewage programs, and ammonia levels had also increased. He noted that there had been several similar changes on other lakes tested last summer, so there may be an equipment calibration issue. He said that most parameters had not changed and retesting would confirm the validity of the results.

He then proceeded to review ways to maintain high water quality levels. The replacement of old septic systems was highlighted and most systems last only 20-25 years. He reminded members that property values are directly linked to high water quality. In addition, setbacks with vegetation, minimal or no use of fertilizers and pumping out septic systems were also important.

In response to a question, Mr. Cruikshank encouraged KLCOA to undertake regular testing and monitoring of water quality using private labs, in addition to government monitoring. Ms. Wakefield thanked Mr. Cruikshank for his presentation and reiterated that KLCOA need to take on this important work ourselves.

#### 9. **Treasurer's Presentation**

*Please see separate file for the slides used in this presentation.*

Following Mr. Austin's review of the slides, he introduced a motion to increase the 2016 membership fees by \$5, from \$30 to \$35. He advised that a detailed background package had been circulated in the May 5<sup>th</sup> eBlast. Mr. Austin noted that the membership fee had not been increased since 2005, and KLCOA had added a significant number of programs and value to the membership package. In spite of a significant increase in advertising and sponsorships through the work of Board members Tina Fagg and Janis Parker, these could not be counted on in perpetuity. In addition, it was important to build up a reserve for the future .

**Motion:** That the KLCOA membership fee for 2016 be increased by \$5 to \$35 (and \$40 for payments received after July 1<sup>st</sup>).

A member asked if it were possible to do a 5-year membership payment. Mr. Austin indicated that at the present time, it would be too difficult from a record-keeping perspective.

M: T. O'Connor

S: T. Lepine

Motion carried (122 in favour, 3 opposed)



**10. Septic Presentation – John Smith & Terry O’Connor**

Terry O’Connor began the presentation, advising that there are approximately 940 septic systems on the lake and septic health is directly linked to the Kennisis Lake water quality. The septic information material that was provided in the membership kit is a very good reference for keeping your septic system healthy. John Smith noted that Eco Ethic Septic Treatment would provide supplemental bacteria. It was available at Abbey Gardens and everyone had received a coupon in their membership kit. A member asked if there were mandatory septic inspections. Mr. Smith advised that while some counties were considering it, inspections are not (yet) mandatory in this municipality. KLCOA recognizes that mandatory septic inspections can help to identify problems. In response to a question about which ply of toilet paper was better for a septic system, it was noted that 2-ply can be better because it broke down faster, but it depended upon the brand.

**11. Love Your Lake Shoreline Assessment – Jim Prince & Cam Douglas**

Jim Prince provided an overview of the Love Your Lake Shoreline Assessment. He advised that KLCOA is working with the Coalition of Haliburton Property Owners’ Associations (CHA) evaluating the natural state of the shorelines around our Lakes in May 2016. Shoreline Health is one of the key Stewardship focus areas of the KLCOA.

Two Trent University environmental science students will be assessing the shorelines of the two lakes in May, from the water. After the shoreline assessment is complete, each individual landowner will be given a comprehensive report about the state of their shoreline and what they can do to make their shoreline better if they choose to do so. He emphasized that there are no regulatory obligations to make any changes – this initiative is completely voluntary. All the information collected will be kept private. The only people who will know the results of the individual shoreline assessments will be the assessment team and that property owner. The KLCOA will receive an overall report, which will provide only a broad overview of the results. No names, addresses or details will be published or provided to the KLCOA. Mr. Prince indicated that information on how to access the individual property results should be mailed to property owners in Spring 2017.

**11. Local Business Updates**

As the meeting was running slightly late, Doug Mahood of Kennisis Lake Marina was unable to stay to speak to the members.

Peter Schleifenbaum of the Haliburton Forest and Wildlife Reserve began his remarks noting that the good water quality in Kennisis Lake is due in a large part because of the Haliburton Forest and its strict environmental controls. He indicated that because of heavy rains in previous years, the Forest had lost a number of culverts and bridges and these had been replaced with larger ones, so that water can flow through.



He said he was dismayed by the amount of garbage littering the sides of the roads in the community, advised that his staff would not collect it anymore and urged people not to litter or dump their garbage.

He expressed concern about the trespassing in the Forest with motorized vehicles and advised that charges would be laid in the future.

Mr. Schleifenbaum provided an update on the Wolf Centre, and announced that six pups had been born. Two of the pups had not survived and two would be going to a centre in Vienna. The remaining two would join the pack for a total of 10 wolves.

Next Mr. Schleifenbaum advised that the Forest Festival had been cancelled for 2016. He provided a lengthy synopsis of the dispute between the Forest and the Municipality that had gone to Court, resulting in the inability to use some of the facilities for the Forest Festival. He hoped that the Festival would return in the future.

He completed his report indicating that the opportunity for a new cell tower was gone at this time.

Ms. Wakefield thanked Mr. Schleifenbaum for his update and for the use of the Seminar Room for the KLCOA meetings.

#### 12. **Q & A and Discussion from the Floor**

A member advised that there would be a clean-up of litter around the dump.

A member inquired about whether or not the dump was closing. Ms. Wakefield advised that the municipality was doing a long-term study and staff were currently costing out the options. KLCOA had expressed concern and is monitoring the issue.

#### 13. **Draw for AOTD Object**

As a preview to this summer's Art on The Dock (AOTD) event, John Middleton, KLCOA Director and AOTD exhibitor donated a platter for a draw at the meeting. Barry Wilhelm of Little Kennisis Lake was the winner.

#### 14. **Motion to Adjourn**

M: J. Maissan

S: J. Smith