



Draft Minutes – 2024 Annual Meeting
Tuesday, March 19, 2024
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

*(The Minutes were approved by the KLCOA Board of Directors at their meeting on April 16, 2024
They are to be approved by the Membership at the Members' Spring Meeting on May 18, 2024)*

Note: The slide deck, which provides details of all the presentations for the meeting can be found [here](#).

1. **Call to Order & Determination of Quorum** – Deb Wratschko

KLCOA's By-laws set quorum for the Annual Meeting as a minimum of 25 members present and entitled to vote. Over 55 members logged into the meeting. This included the following Board Members: Scott Durie, Deb Wratschko, Grant DeMarsh, Jim Prince, Joan Middleton, Jacquie Geall, Gino Ariano, Dean Anton, Frances Duiker, Brian Evans, Larry Harris, Brenda Lobraico, and Tina Fagg.

Co-President Wratschko provided some technical information on how the meeting would operate and introduced those who were working behind the scenes managing the software. The meeting was being recorded. She advised that the slide deck would be posted on the KLCOA website shortly. She noted that questions will be held until the end of the presentation, but participants were free to load up their questions in the Q&A section on the webinar software. Four polls would be administered and only one vote per cottage will be allowed.

Next, Co-President Wratschko read the Land Acknowledgement.

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

M: Joan Middleton

S: Jacquie Geall

Motion approved.

Thirty-four voters in favour of the motion. Zero were opposed.

3. **Motion to accept the Minutes of fall 2023 Annual Meeting, as posted on the website.**

M: Jim Prince

S: Scott Durie

Motion approved.

Thirty-seven voters in favour of the motion. Zero were opposed.

4. **Introduction of the KLCOA Board of Directors**

Co-President Wratschko presented a slide with the names and photos of the Board of Directors, noting that they have an 18- month term.

5. **Annual Meeting Date Change for ONCA Compliance**

Co-President Scott Durie reviewed the changes to the Annual Meeting format made to ensure that KLCOA is compliant with the Ontario Not for Profit Corporations Act (ONCA). This meeting



will focus mostly on the financials. Every second year, board elections will be held, then next being in spring 2025. He emphasized that this does not replace the usual spring meeting, which will now be referred to as a special meeting. It will be held on Saturday May 18th and it will include guest speakers, and upcoming plans for the summer.

6. **Increasing revenues for Future Budgets**

Co-President Durie advised that membership numbers are strong with 477 members currently signed up. Annual stickers will be available at the Marina starting on the May long weekend. Next, he reviewed the \$10 increase in fees for 2024. This was approved in 2023. At the same time, the Board is looking at ways to increase the sponsorship revenue to ensure we have sufficient funds for a growing list of programs. A new sponsorship program will be introduced at the spring meeting.

He advised that it is a best practice to have a reserve fund equivalent to one year's operating expenses in place for emergencies and unexpected events. We are very close to reaching that level.

Next, Co-President Durie provided some background on KLCOA's budgeting philosophy, which is zero based. In some years, there will be a surplus and others a deficit. Over time, this should balance out. There is a small surplus in 2023, and we will be making a transfer to our reserve funds; a small deficit is anticipated for 2024. The 2023 Actuals were approved by the KLCOA Board in January 2024, and the 2024 Budget was approved in February.

7. **Treasurer's Report**

The 2023 financials ([click here](#)) and 2024 budget ([click here](#)) can be accessed by clicking on the links.

Treasurer, Grant DeMarsh reviewed the 2023 actual results. Revenue was approximately \$35K, a new record for the organization. Expenditures were \$28K. He reviewed the major line items and noted that program costs have varied from year to year because of Covid restrictions and fire bans. He advised that from a balance sheet perspective, the organization is in very good shape.

Regarding the 2024 budget, programs make up 57% of the budget, with membership costs being 43% of the budget. Fireworks is the biggest single expense at \$8K allocated for 2024.

Regarding a question on U-Links, Grant advised that they undertake KLCOA's water quality testing program as well as some research studies on the lake. A second question was regarding the traditional rights of way (TROW) program. Grant responded that signage is being developed, as well as continued research on the locations of the TROWs, and developing an education program for members. Its important to preserve the rights of way for future generations.

A couple of questions were raised about looking at alternatives to fireworks because of cost and the potential negative environmental impacts. The response indicated that KLCOA Board has a



committee currently looking at these issues. There are many moving parts to putting on a display, and it will continue to be reviewed. Unfortunately, now the cost of fireworks alternatives is significant.

Motion to approve accept the 2023 financials and the 2024 budget as presented.

M: Gino Ariano

S: Dean Anton

Motion approved.

Thirty-seven voters were in favour of the motion. Four were opposed.

Next Co-President Durie presented the background and rationale for waiving the audit and review in. He noted that because KLCOA was not a public benefit corporation, has revenues of less than \$100K, and had significant oversight from the Treasurer and the Board, waiving an audit is a major cost savings.

Motion to waive the financial audit and review engagement for the 2023 and 2024 financials.

M: Jacquie Geall

S: Joan Middleton

Motion approved.

Thirty-nine voters were in favour of the motion. Two were opposed.

8. 2024 Calendar of Events

Co-President Wratschko gave a brief overview of events for the summer. Details will be forwarded in Eblasts and can be found at KLCOA.org. She highlighted the Spring Special Meeting (May 19, 2024) the Children's Water Festival, (July 13) and a Friday night "sneak-peek" for Art on the Dock (July 19).

9. 2024 Programs and Initiatives

Next, Co-President Wratschko highlighted some of the major programs and initiatives. She provided background on the Connectivity Committee, and reported that Bell was now installing Fibe cable to property owners. She thanked specifically Tony Lepine who has been on the Committee since the beginning and Tayce Wakefield for working with Bell to get us to the point we are today.

10. What's On our Radar-

Co-President Wratschko provided a summary of programs and initiatives that the Board is focusing on over the coming months. These include improved cell and internet service, septic inspections, shoreline protection, invasive species, safe boating and boating regulations, fireworks, and short-term cottage rentals.



Finally, she thanked KLCOA's major sponsors, including Minden and Haliburton Home Hardware, Kennisis Lake Marina, Parker Pad and Printing, Superior Propane, and Viper Marketing. Members are encouraged to support these businesses.

8. **Members' Questions and Answers.**

Note: Questions were submitted via the Q&A function on the webinar.

Question: What steps are being taken to retrieve the ATV that went through the ice a couple of weeks ago?

Response: We are trying to establish the owner of the ATV. It is the owner's responsibility to remove it, and if they don't, the cost of removal will be charged to the owner. If anyone has a lead on who owns it, please contact Jim Prince.

Question: Is there anything in budget to cover more speed monitoring signs, especially at the start of County Road 7?

Response: This is a township responsibility. Our Roads representative, Larry Harris can bring it up with Dysart.

Questions regarding Fireworks: There were two questions and a comment regarding fireworks- Do we know how many people go to fireworks? Fireworks are a tradition on the Lake. Do we know what the cost is for alternatives.

Response: The fireworks committee is investigating alternatives, and they start at \$20K. We will have more information by the spring meeting. Some members say it's a tradition, while others are concerned about noise and environmental effects. It was noted that in the 2021 survey, 67% of members who responded said that fireworks were important or very important. It may be time to do further consultation on this topic. It's a complex topic. There are also regulations new in place which may impact if/where fireworks can be deployed.

At the meeting's conclusion, Co-President Wratschko thanked everyone for attending. The meeting was adjourned at 7:47 pm.

Signed by: Sheelagh Lawrance, KLCOA Recording Secretary