

1 MINUTES OF HORN LAKE 2009 ANNUAL MEETING

Saturday, July 11th, 2009 at the Byrnes' cottage – start time 10:20 am

Welcome by the president Jeff Miller. Thank you to the Byrne's for hosting our Annual General Meeting plus preparing the tea and coffee. There were 31 people present at this year's meeting including some new members.

The Minutes for the 2008 Annual General Meeting and the Financial Report for 2008-09 were reviewed. The bank balance as at June 26, 2009 is \$5318.21 - consisting of \$4228.21 General Funds + \$490.00 Donations + \$ 600.00 "Legal Fund". A motion to accept the report as presented was made by Norm Byrne, seconded by Harry Braun. Motion carried.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

WATER QUALITY – Bruce Pearson gave the report in Ken Page's absence this year. Horn Lake water quality is still very good with the PH level below many other lakes (4.3-4.4). Water clarity (5.5 m) is also good. There is no evidence of Zebra mussels so far. Frank Tod suggested we take readings in some other locations, since clarity is not as good in some areas. He would speak to Bruce after the meeting to have him pass the request along to Ken Page. Unfortunately some individual owners have reported that their water has tested "unpotable" due to high E-Coli readings. The biggest threat to the Lake is faulty septic systems. **Please ensure your septic system is pumped every five years and use phosphate free products in and around your cottage. NEVER fertilize your lawn or use weed control products with lake front properties**

FISHING – Dave Stewart Sr. commented on the fact that the Association has spent a lot of money on improving the fishing in Horn Lake. He reminded us that we had lobbied as an Association to close the lake to winter trout fishing and a **slot size is in effect on our lake** to improve stock. This had helped to increase the trout population. Now during the winter there are ice huts out on the lake and he believes some fishermen could be taking trout illegally. Even if following a "catch and release policy" trout brought up from deep water often die. In order to maintain a healthy trout population Dave made a motion that "The Association send a letter to the MNR requesting that the lake be closed to all winter fishing". Motion seconded by Frank Tod and carried. Jeff Miller (Pres.) will compose a letter and send it to the MNR. Dave Stewart Sr. on behalf of Birch Crest will also send in a letter.

FIRE EQUIPMENT - Richard Hiley advised us that the fire huts sustained no mice damage over the winter. They are ready to use in the event of a fire. He reminded us where the huts are located around the lake. The pumps are put out the May long weekend and brought in Thanksgiving weekend except for the pump at Birch Crest which is available year round. He also recommended that a replacement hut be built in the north dock area. He will be doing a demonstration at the Regatta again this year. This gives people a chance to try starting a pump and using a fire hose.

WEB SITE REPORT - John Hiley AKA "The Web Guy" said there are about 20-30 hits per week on our web site. He would like to receive more contributions from members to be posted on the site. Check out the new "Where on the lake?" photos.

HORN LAKE HANDBOOK – These handbooks have turned out to be a very large job and the cost of binders is a lot more than originally anticipated. We will try to have a sample available at the Regatta, if possible.

COUNCIL REPORT – Frank Tod (councillor) gave a brief report. The Magnetawan Fire Dept. was in order and some volunteer fire fighters are taking job related courses; the tax increase has been kept to 0.5%; finances for the municipality are fine and they received grants of \$1.8 million and \$600,000; there have been more controls put in place to help extend the life of the Chapman and Croft landfill sites and that a new dump site could cost \$3-\$4 million.

MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT – Jeff Miller had some maps showing the four-laning of Highway 11 and its impact on owners getting into their Horn Lake properties. The closing of the current roads is probably about 2-3 years away. The proposed opening is about 2012. The 3 new interchanges are to be safer for motorists getting off Hwy #11. The maps are also on the Horn Lake web site.

ANIMAL PROBLEMS – Some owners around the lake have seen black bears although no major issues were identified this year. Everyone should be careful not to do things to attract bears – DO NOT FEED BEARS ! Do not leave bird feeders out.

ECO- FRIENDLY PRODUCTS - Jeff Miller talked to the members about using eco-friendly products to help maintain our lake's water quality. This year we again held a free draw for several eco-friendly products such as dish soap, hand cleaner, septic treatment, general purpose cleaner, etc. that the Association purchased from Ecoethic Inc. Again, please ensure all products used in and around your cottage are **PHOSPHATE FREE**.

NEW BUSINESS:

BOATING – A REMINDER that as of September 15, 2009 ALL boat operators require a "PLEASURE CRAFT OPERATOR CARD".

ICE WATCH - Bruce Pearson told us about a program where you fill out a card advising when the ice comes in and when it goes out. Speak with him if you're interested in participating.

GUEST SPEAKER – UNDERSTANDING and MAINTAINING SEPTIC SYSTEMS – Denis Orendt was a speaker from Ontario Onsite Wastewater Association. Denis generously donated several hours of his time to attend our meeting, in return the Association donated \$100 toward OOWA's scholarship program. He spoke about "Septic Systems". It is a very interesting and important subject that affects all owners on our lake. He presented the subject with some humour, while passing along important facts and information. He had an excellent handout to accompany his presentation.

For Your Information:

- The most important effort each owner on Horn Lake can make is to ensure your septic system and outhouses are working properly. If you have an older system on the lake it should be thoroughly inspected by a professional.
- Patchy growth or soggy areas in the bed area indicate a problem

- Wash laundry in warm water not cold - the septic tank needs a warm temperature for the bacteria to work properly.
- Pump out every 3-5 years on average. Spring is best time.
- Cement tanks can break down after 20-25 years and should be inspected after a pump out.
- Never enter an empty septic tank!

For more information on Septic Systems: please visit the Ontario Onsite Wastewater Association website www.oowa.org for a list of qualified inspectors, engineers, and contractors along with other helpful information

THE REGATTA

Date - Saturday, August 1, 2009 (Rain date Sunday, August 2, 2009)
Time - 1:00 P.M.
Place - Birch Crest Resort

Flyers made up by Marilyn Pollitt.

Lifeguards to be arranged by Bev Stewart

Flyers will be hand delivered by volunteers – Marilyn Pollitt has a list

Birch Crest will supply wood for the fire to boil the corn.

VOLUNTEERS TO HELP SET UP AT 12:30 PM WOULD BE VERY WELCOME !!

EMCEE -----	Jeff Miller
DARTS -----	TBA
CANOE RACES -----	John Hiley & Cameron Copeland
KAYAK RACE -----	John Hiley & Cameron Copeland
HORSESHOES -----	TBA
TROPHIES, RIBBONS & CORN	Ron Pollitt
CHEF & HUSKERS -----	Jerome Freiburg and Volunteers
COFFEE, TEA, ETC. -----	Bev Stewart
MISCELLANEOUS -----	Marilyn Pollitt
KIDS GAMES -----	Elsbeth Copeland and helpers

NEXT YEAR'S MEETING - Saturday, July 10th, 2010 10:00 am.

Rain or Shine

At the Byrne's Cottage

Please bring along your own chairs and mugs

Meeting adjourned 12:20 pm.