

HORN LAKE AGM MINUTES 2023

July 15th, 2023

Meeting began at 10:05 am

ATTENDANCE 48

As this is not an election year, the current executive stands until 2024.

Meeting was opened by Chris Haist, President. He introduced the rest of the executive:

Tara Boyd, Vice President

Sharon Thomson, Treasurer

Lynn Pearson, Secretary

Chris welcomed all guests and new members.

A motion to approve the 2022 AGM minutes was made by Norm Byrne,

Seconded by Bill Kittmer

Reports:

Bruce Pearson (the water guy) updated us on Horn Lake health, and discussed ways to improve our lake:

1. Lake Statistics. Surface area is 1180 acres or approx. 1.84 sq miles, max depth is 114ft, average depth is 38 Feet. Calculation of surface area and average Depth = approx 14.6 billion gallons of water.
2. Phosphorus update.... Horn Lake's total phosphorus # is 6.6 ug/l (Micrograms per Liter) which is up from last year at 5.2 2021, and up from 4.8 in 2020. This measurement indicates that our phosphorus levels are still within the acceptable range. **Phosphorus is an important nutrient in lakes, however, too much phosphorus can lead to blue-green algal blooms and excessive plant growth that reduces oxygen levels in lakes.**

3. Chloride readings (aka salt). This lake doesn't have any meaningful data points. Readings have been .9 mg/L since collecting the data in 2015. **Chloride reads are important to monitor any increases due to Road Salt.**
4. Seichi Disc Reading: Clarity has remained stable over the last 4 years, ranging from a 5 meters clarity to 6.5 meters. Readings are conducted at 3 points:
 1. 200 yards west of Birch Crest.
 2. 200 yards from the north side of Rock Island.
 3. Most northerly part of Minkler's Bay.All reads have the same consistent readings in clarity.
5. Calcium Test Result... 2021 test resulted in a 1.5 mg/L read... (which has been a historical consistent reading). ***This is a problematic issue for this lake.*** Logging and acid rain have been the two major components to the reduction of calcium in our lake. **Calcium is a mineral that organisms require to survive. Low levels of calcium (< 1.5 mg/L) can cause problems for small planktonic crustaceans (zooplankton, crayfish) and affect the food chain.**

Solutions to improving calcium in our lakes:

- *Limit the use of gas-powered generators, lawnmowers, grass trimmers etc., all of which creates acid rain. **Go Electric where possible.**
- *If you have to cut down trees on your property, try to mulch, shred or use for firewood. Removing the tree from the lake area means less calcium returns to the soil, which means less calcium leaching into our lake.
- **Coffee grounds and crushed egg shells can also add Ca back into the soil. ****Do not dump directly into the lake.**

Bruce, Chris Haist and Harry Schlange attended a seminar at the Near North Environmental Centre. Discussion items included septic systems and invasive species. Information from this can be found by clicking on this link

[ALWA-Conference-Summary-June-10-23.pdf \(hornlake.ca\)](ALWA-Conference-Summary-June-10-23.pdf (hornlake.ca))

Discussion: Diane Gillis asked about shoreline health and the loon population. Anyone wishing to help gather sightings or other data to help with the survey provided by Birds Canada, can contact Diane at Diane.gillis5@gmail.com

Treasurer Report:

Sharon Thomson provided copies of the report for review. She remarked that membership is down this year. We wondered if this is due to the email notification issues.

*After the meeting, Sharon provided membership data from 2020 to present:

2023 49 (4 new)

2022 64 (3 new)

2021 72 (17 new)

2020 63 (unknown new)

Fire Hut update:

Carl Juergensen reported that all huts are being repaired. Much of the material was donated by people on the lake. Painted and reflective signs are to be installed. Attendees were reminded to watch the video on the Horn Lake website. Carl has provided all the information you need to use the pumps in case of emergency.

We are still looking for effective ways to get the word out to volunteers if there is a fire on the lake. **** ALWAYS CALL 911 FIRST****

President's Report:

*Update on the intersection of Rodeo Rd & N. Horn Lake Rd. The township has cleared brush to help with visibility, and warning signs will be posted. A stop sign will not be installed.

* Chris spoke briefly about water levels and how unprecedented downpours have increased the lake level this summer. He thanked Rick Wotherspoon for all the work he has done.

*Chris began the discussion that Christy Towers would like to lead the group of individuals wishing to proceed with this issue. This was not elaborated on, as members began asking other questions on this issue.

Dave Stewart addressed the executive requesting an update and why legal action had not been taken. Chris indicated that other engineer reports from Dale Bender had recently been given to the executive for review.

Christy Tower's message to the members:

"I am unable to make it to the AGM, but I would appreciate if you could mention that I am continuing the efforts to look into the high water levels. I would like to have emails or contact info for anyone interested in working together on this. Please feel free to give my email and phone number to anyone who gives theirs or expresses interest! (christytowers@hotmail.com, 905-317-6978). The next step is to have the geotechnical data re-done and the old data reviewed by the engineering company that produced it as the original report implies that the outlet culvert was angled toward the lake rather than away from it."

Some members present at the meeting indicated that they would still like to receive a legal opinion of how to proceed with the water levels. Lynn offered a signup sheet for those wishing to continue the conversation. ***These members are encouraged to contact Christy Towers.***

Dave Stewart

Ward Seymour

Darrell Jarvis

John Punter

*****UPDATE:**

The executive met Sunday evening July 16th, and after long discussion, have concluded that *the Horn Lake Association is not in a financial position to pursue litigation.* Individuals are encouraged to continue discussions/actions with Magnetawan as needed.

GUEST SPEAKER:

Jean Lemieux – Police Coordinator, Near North Crime Stoppers 1-800-222-TIPS
(nearnorthcrimestoppers.com)

Jean explained the history of Crime Stoppers and indicated that there is an 89% success rate on tips that lead to solving crimes.

He went into great detail as to how anonymity for those who call/text or email tips is protected. He also noted that **The Supreme Court of Canada ruled that Crime Stopper tips are not admissible in court, which further ensures protection for those providing tips.**

****Did you know?****

You can also contact Crime Stoppers and they will contact the appropriate authorities on your behalf if you see:

- Illegal dumping
 - Conservation concerns
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Boat Parade:

Big thanks to those who came out, decorated their docks and cheered the boats along the way!

This year's winners are:

Best Dressed Boat - Chris French & Family

Best Dressed Dock - Jennifer Noll & Family
Photos are posted on the website!

Other Discussion:

Tim Forler volunteered to do dock visits and help promote association membership.

Closing:

Chris thanked Paul Lindsay for hosting us again this year.

The 2024 AGM will be Saturday August 10th, 2024

Motion to adjourn:

John Punter

Seconded by Diane Gillis