

GBCLA AGM July 24, 2022

Larry Arpaia Chairperson

Welcome:

Larry Arpaia welcomed the membership to the 2022 AGM of GBCLA.

Noted that it's the first in-person AGM since 2019 due to Covid-19.

Despite the Pandemic, the Association has been working throughout, meeting virtually.

There's been roadwork in our three townships, and new cell towers.

There's been new development – some concerning, but overall townships & developers have been open & transparent.

The Association (Trish Chartrand & Lynn Watson) has revised the Bylaws governing our Association, which was a legal requirement and a huge job for them.

Approval of Minutes from GBCLA AGM (Virtual) 2021.

Motioned by John Marvin

Second by Diane Stevens

Passed unanimously

Approval of Agenda for this meeting (GBCLA AGM 2022)

Modification: Watershed person John (?) from Parks Canada cannot be at the AGM today. There will be an opportunity to visit the dam at Bolingbroke in the future.

Motion to approve agenda by Ben Stevens

Second by Diana Roser

Reports:

Joselyn Morley (Wildlife)

"Let's Get the Lead Out," programme to educate people on the dangers of lead fishing tackle to loons & other wildlife & environment. Also to collect lead fishing tackle, and educate people that there are alternatives.

Jim Macintosh (Fisheries)

There's been a significant decline of Walleye & Lake Trout in Bobs & Crows Lakes over the years

First gathering of data on Lake Trout in our lakes was in 1924

Investigations of spawning success in our lakes is just a snapshot in time: spawn often happens at 2-3 am, and lasts 15 minutes. Our surveys may or may not catch them.

We also don't know if spawning will lead to fish (lots can happen to fish spawn)

Spawning of foraging fish was noticed.

Fish spawn need 5 weeks of high oxygen water after spawning. This is affected by rising water levels in spring, and beaver activity upstream.

Working with RVCA (Rideau Valley Conservation Authority).

Fluctuating levels of oxygen mean we don't know if lake trout can be put in lake. In any case, it would be a few years away.

Trish Chartrand: Re Bylaws.

Reasons the Update was needed: The Ontario Not For Profit Corporation Act provide a legal requirement to update the Bylaws of The GBCLA,

They haven't been updated since 1987,

Our name has changed & previous bylaws referenced a non-existent GBCLA seal,

A virtual meeting amendment clause was needed because of Covid,

Board size was reduced (there had been a spot for 20 officers),

Removed the position of ex-officio of outside entities.

The changes were approved by the Board at the May meeting of the GBCLA. We need approval of the membership.

Motion to approve the updated Bylaws by Andrew Parker

Second by Gord Thompson

Approved unanimously

Kathy Yach: Cottage Safety Fair

Kathy Yach thanked those who presented information at the Safety Fair:

Paul Hanmore from Kingston Radon

Joselyn Morley for Let's Get the Lead Out Programme

Brandon Nothrop from South Frontenac Fire

Duane Meeks

Eric Kohlsmith from Rideau Valley Conservation Authority

Duncan McGregor from FTS Frontenac Technology Solutions

Donald Kirk from Sharbot Lake OPP Detachment

Larry Arpaia asked the members present if they liked the Safety Fair. What did they like about it? What problems did it present? What people would like to see in the future. People generally responded positively.

There were questions & discussions regarding Boaters Operation Card & possibility that it will need to be renewed every 5 years. Dick Johnson, Water Safety Director, addressed this – basically there's no change as of right now.

Questions & discussion regarding renewal of Boat Registration. Dick Johnson directed people to check the Transport Canada Website where all registration & re-registration can be done

Comments & discussion of increased OPP presence on Bobs & Crow Lakes. Larry noted that this is because of 4 deaths in 6 years, visiting cottagers. Discussion followed on fire extinguishers required for boats. Dick Johnson noted that for the purpose of OPP inspection & law, inflatable PFDs do not count unless they are being worn.

Questions regarding previous project to have & maintain fire pumps around the lake. There might be 3, but 2 working. ** Flagged as something for the Board to follow up on.

Carson Jen, Treasurer, Financial Report:.

Financial report to be included with minutes.

The GBCLA is very healthy financially. Membership stable 270 aprox. It's been higher. It's been lower

Thank the Foundation for their support for the replacement of the Osprey Pole in Mud Bay in front of Cedar Haven after it blew down in 2019. (First AGM since 2019, so first opportunity to officially thank them).

Bigger Concern than financial is the need for Volunteers for buoys, board, president (vacant), etc.

Motion to Approve Financial Statement by Ben Stevens

Second by Dick Johnson

Passed Unanimously

Slate of Officers for 2022-23:

Executive:

President: vacant

Treasurer: Carson Jen

Board Members:

Past President: Larry Arpaia

Communications: Trish Chartrand

Fisheries: Jim McIntosh

Water Quality: Bonnie Carabott

Membership: Rick Prudil

Marine Safety: Dick Johnston

Cottage Safety: Kathy Yach

Wildlife: Joselyn Morley

Community Representatives to be appointed by the Board:

Ex Officio Member of the Board: Bill St Arnaud

Crow Lake Representative: Jean & Cindy Faucher

Crow Lake Gatekeeper: Mike Byrnes

Larry Arpaia tried to nominate Carson Jen as president but Carson Jen declined.

Accept the Slate of Officers as presented:

Motioned by Byron Turner

Seconded by Andrew Parker

Discussion about Membership and need to attract members initiated by Larry Arpaia:

Need to attract new members to GBCLA. Rebuild membership

Membership down a bit in Covid

Possibly younger people on lake, who are working & don't have time to volunteer

Hopefully BioBlitz will attract people

Spread awareness of what Association does: such as buoys all done by volunteers

Andrew Parker: Bobs & Crow Lakes Foundation:

Fundraising, separate from Association

Charitable organisation, therefore tax receipt

Fundraisers include Frontenac Frolic (not this year) with Cow flop bingo, book sale, flea market

Provide Support for Environmental Initiatives: Projects that enhance the lake
Walleye spawning bed rehabilitation, shoreline survey, osprey pole, emergency water pumps
Work with RVCA to support Septic Repair, Shoreline naturalisation & erosion control

Closing Remarks: Larry Arpaia

Covid has meant a tough two years. Association has worked well together: there's a spirit of cooperation
In part because there's no president, so more collaboration & contribution.
Going forward: Association to keep in touch with townships (there's three townships), eyes to long-term
planning.