

## Annual General Meeting

## MINUTES

**Sunday, July 21, 2024**

## 12:00 Noon – Lunch

## 1:00 P.M. Meeting

## Glendower Hall

**Acting Chair: Larry Arpaia**

**Members in attendance: 47**

## Proxies: 5

**Total Attendance including guests: 65**

- 1. Introduction** Larry Arpaia welcomed members to the Annual General Meeting and reminded us of our mission statement to preserve the quality of the environment around the greater Bobs and Crow Lakes area for present and future generations.

Larry led us in a moment of silence for the victims of the boating accident on Buck Bay on the long May weekend, **Juliette Coté, Riley Orr and Kaila Bearman.**

## 2. Greetings from elected officials

Mayor Ron Vandewell, South Frontenac Council

Steve Pegrum, Councillor

Adam Turcotte, Councillor

Questions were raised about septic inspection and AirBnB regulation.

### 3. Presentations

## OPP on Boating Safety: Don Kirk, OPP Marine

Fire safety: Duane Meeks: SSFR Platoon Chief

#### 4. Approval of Agenda

**Moved by Derek Cook**

## Seconded by Bill St. Arnaud

## 5. Approval of minutes of Annual General Meeting, July 23rd, 2023

**Moved by Kathy Yach**

**Seconded by Diane Stevens**

- 6. Financial Report** Carson Jen reported that we had a good year financially with an income of \$2105. The association is in good financial health. He emphasized that our activities are not constrained by money but more by volunteers. Carson made a plea for an accountant to take over the treasurer's job. Some of money saved during COVID now being invested into services. We are still looking for a president. We welcome new volunteers.

## 7. Committee Reports

**Fisheries Report:** Dan Kano, Chair of the Fisheries Committee, expressed appreciation for the many volunteers who assist the committee with the spring walleye count, enhancement efforts, and reaching out to our conservation authorities.

**Spring walleye count.** The association does an annual spawn count, monitoring four creeks around the lake. It was a three week early spawning period due to weather. The count was up from last year. He pointed out that our lakes are not deemed a naturally sustaining lake for walleye. However, they have been working with MNRF to enhance the walleye fishery. We only have one creek that is productive. This fall, we will hopefully, be able to stock some fingerlings. Only 20% of fry are likely to survive.

**Fish Creek bridge.** There is construction pending and the fishery committee is being consulted. There have been delays and the permit has expired. They will be a 30-day notice once the new permit application is submitted and there will likely be a townhall meeting. The township is optimistic that there will be some construction this year but it may get pushed until next year.

**Future projects.** The fishing committee is working on a possible pan fish derby for next summer. Crappy has a big impact on the walleye population.

They have considered a master class on how to catch some species of fish.

**Poaching.** Some residents have encountered poaching activity. The fisheries committee notify the Conservation Authorities. There is a hot line number available at 1-888-310-1122. Please do not approach poachers directly but call the hot line or a director of the association.

**Water safety:** Dick Johnston reported that he has been working with Don Kirk of the OPP and will continue to work with him going forward. Dick gave a shout out to volunteers who get the buoys out. He mentioned that Norris Bay needs some attention. We need a volunteer there.

**Membership:** Rick Prudil reported that we had 270 members last year and we have the same number this year. At one point we had a high of 305. During COVID we dropped to about 240 and it is creeping back up. Our systems in place for paying dues are working well. The ability to pay by Pay Pal and etransfer is accounting for about 90% of our membership fees with balance being checking and cash.

**Frontenac Frolic:** August 3, 2024 – Byron Turner reported that the Foundation is mainly interested water quality, fisheries and boating safety – buoy markers. Boating cards and the binders are funded by the Foundation. Also, we have funded a lot of re-habilitation for the walleye. Gord Thompson was very much responsible for that program. The main fund raiser is the Frontenac Frolic on August 3rd. There will be a petting zoo, reptile display, a silent auction, antique cars, bake sale. Please bring items to contribute to the bake table. We have a pop-up flea market again. They still have spots for 2 more vendors. Information is in the latest edition of Lake Views. The big event is the cow flop bingo with 1600 squares.

**Water Quality** Bonnie and Jeff Carabott submitted the following report which was read by Larry Arpaia.

The GBCLA participates in the Ontario Lake Partner Program (LPP). We would like to thank the team of 11 volunteer water quality testers. The 2023 Secchi disk (visual clarity) and Total Phosphorus (nutrient levels) both meet or exceed Provincial Water Quality Objectives for all test sites in both lakes. See the newsletter for details.

The RVCA also performs testing, including E.coli. All sites meet or exceed Provincial standards.

Zebra mussels are well established in several bays, and at least observed in all. Boats, fishing gear, and other recreational equipment should always be cleaned and inspected before entering another water body to minimize the spread of invasive species. Drain water from the motor, live well, bilge and transom wells while on land.

Once again thank you to all the volunteers. We will keep you up to date on test results in the GBCLA newsletter.

**Development Advisory Committee** Lynn Watson reported that, In response to the re-zoning application for the property at 162 Campground Lane on Long Bay, an ad hoc committee of the board was established. With little lead time we were able to prepare a presentation outlining our concerns about the proposed development to the South Frontenac Council on February 6<sup>th</sup>. The text of our comments to Council was distributed to our membership through an Elert. We received wide support from our members who sent many letters to our elected representatives outlining their concerns about the scope of this proposed development. Through the spring, we continued to send out Elerts with further information. We, also, broadened our reach by developing a list of contacts on the lane associations who would forward our Elerts to their membership.

In the process, we were able to meet several times with the cottagers on Lackey Lane who also prepared excellent presentations and letters to council. As well, Dick Johnston, made a presentation to the Tay Valley Township to alert them to aspects of the development proposal which might affect them, especially transportation and water quality and water safety issues.

Currently, the application for rezoning the former campground on Long Bay is on hold, waiting for the submission of a revised transportation report by Caivan Developments. We are confident that we will get notification from our councillors as soon as the application is complete. Once that is done, the planning department will prepare a recommendation that will go to Council for a vote. We will keep our members informed about any new developments by Elerts.

Recognizing that Bobs and Crow are exceptional lakes near to large population centres, we know that we are likely to experience increased pressure for development going forward. Therefore, the board has established this standing committee to monitor more closely development on our lakes and called it The Development Advisory Committee. Going forward, we trust that this committee will enable us to respond more efficiently to large commercial development proposals on the lakes. Carson Jen, Dick Johnston, Rick Prudil and Lynn Watson are the board members who sit on this committee.

## 8. **Nominations for Board of Directors – 2024-25**

### ***To be elected***

#### **Executive Committee**

- **President: vacant**
- Treasurer: Carson Jen
- Secretary: Lynn Watson

#### **Board Members**

- Past President: Larry Arpaia
- Communications: Christine Obbema

- Fisheries: Dan Kano
- Water Quality: Bonnie Carabott
- Membership: Rick Prudil
- Marine Safety: Dick Johnston
- Cottage Safety: Kathy Yach
- **Wildlife: Vacant**

## **Community Representatives**

### ***To be appointed by the Board***

- Crow Lake Representatives: Jean & Cindy Faucher
- Crow Lake Gatekeeper: Mike Byrnes

**Moved by: Peter Thorp-Levitt**

**Seconded by: John Harvey**

**CARRIED**

**10. The meeting adjourned at 3:05.**