

Bruce Beach Cottagers' Association

Minutes for the Annual General Meeting

Date: Saturday August 4, 2012

Location: Bruce Beach Club House

1.0 Welcome and Introduction of Guests:

1.1 David Tiernan, President of the Bruce Beach Cottagers' Association (BBCA) welcomed all members in attendance and introduced the Guest Speakers and the Board of Directors. David emphasised the importance of working as a community on the key issues facing Bruce Beach; water and beach quality, wind turbines and nuclear waste disposal. The BBCCA Executive has met with Lisa Thompson MPP for Huron -- Bruce, and Ben Lobb, MP for Huron -- Bruce and Mitch Twolan, Mayor of Huron Kinloss to discuss these key issues. It is important for these officials to understand we pay approximately 70% of the tax base in the township but seem to be viewed as seasonal and less important than full time residents.

1.2 The issue of the site selection for the repository of spent fuel nuclear waste disposal is not on this year's agenda, rather, 2 separate meetings are organized to educate our members on the pros and cons of waste disposal located in the immediate area. Again, a survey will be distributed to the BBCCA members managed by ERIN Research to ensure the Executive is aware of our member's opinions on the water and beach quality and in the future, nuclear waste disposal.

2.0 In Memoriam (Don Cass)

3.0 Guest Speakers:

3.1 David introduced **Lisa Thompson**, MPP for Huron-- Bruce. Lisa indicated she had a clear understanding of the issues facing Bruce Beach. She has been a long time visitor and renter on the beach. She complimented our Association for their engagement and commitment to address the beach issues with the township and the province. She is committed to supporting us where ever possible.

Her party is opposed to the green energy policies of the provincial government. We now have excessive electrical power for the provincial requirements and the cost of green energy is 2-3 times the cost of other methods. Also, green energy must be backed up with other types of generation. The provincial government plans to deliver in total 10,700 megawatts of power through wind turbines over the next several years. This will require the installation of 9,000 wind turbines of which 1,800 will be along highway 21. She asked the federal government's Ministry of

Health, to complete a study of the impact on people's health living in close proximity to wind turbines. Health Canada has agreed to the study covering 2,000 impacted residences. Her party is opposed to any additional wind turbines being installed until this study has been completed. She is completely opposed to wind turbines in Lake Huron

- 3.2** David introduced **Mitch Twolan**, Mayor of Huron Kinloss Township acknowledging the collaboration between the township and the BBCA Executive, working together to solve mutual issues. Also in attendance were a number of Huron Kinloss Councillors.

There are 2 projects to select sites and create a repository for the disposal of nuclear waste. The 1st project has selected the site for the disposal of the low and intermediate nuclear waste. The site has gone through several steps in the review process and is now in the "joint review process". If the Bruce site is approved, the project will be completed in 2022.

Mitch indicated the Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) has made progress in the 9 step process for the 2nd project. They are considering a Canadian site for the disposal of spent fuel waste from the nuclear plants in Ontario. This project is in the beginning stages and is expected to be implemented in 2035. To date, Mitch encouraged everyone to become educated on the issues and be involved in the process. Mayor Twolan emphasized that the decision to locate the spent fuel site in Huron Kinloss will not be made by the Council but by the residences. When asked of the benefits and impact on real estate values, Mitch indicated this project would create 300 permanent jobs and significant construction jobs during the development phase. In his professional opinion real estate values would not be impacted by having this site in Huron Kinloss. Concern was expressed for the impact on the environment vs. the monetary gains. BBCA members were encouraged to become educated on the safety being proposed for the site and stay involved in the process.

Mitch indicated the township is working with three municipalities to bring natural gas from Owen Sound to Kincardine and Huron Kinloss. This will greatly reduce the cost of power for many businesses and create jobs. The three municipalities have decided to set up an LDC (Local Distribution Company) to support this initiative. The cost of the project is estimated at fewer than 100 million dollars. The tax payers of Huron Kinloss will not pay for this project.

Mitch discussed the water quality in Lake Huron. They are now cleaning the beach of dried algae twice a week. The township actively supports the Pine River Watershed Initiative (PRWSI) who is doing another study. Through water testing, the township identified 2 sites where phosphorus and nitrates are high; they have visited several farms in the area to identify the source of the phosphorus. Huron Kinloss has been very proactive with the provincial government agencies and

is expecting to receive a 1.9 million grant that will be allocated to improving water quality. Water quality is tested by the Health Department on a regular basis and the results are posted on the Huron Kinloss website.

Mayor Twolan is on the Board of an organization of Mayors with municipalities surrounding the Great Lakes. They are working jointly to develop legislation and practices to improve water quality in the Great Lakes. The Great Lakes Protection Act is proposed legislation that will support many of the activities to implement practices resulting in improved water quality for Lake Huron.

A member of the BBCA visited the Scott Farm near Belgrave with Bruce McKelvey, Vice President BBCA. This farm is a model in environmental practices. They have pooled the water that passes over their property that is municipal drainage. The member recommended this practice be used in Huron Kinloss if there is an issue with municipal drainage on farm land. Mitch indicated that the farmers in the area use a Nutrient Plan to ensure excess nutrients are not impacting water quality.

A member of the BBCA received a Notice of Violation/Warning from the Township of Huron Kinloss (See attachment 1). She questioned the reason for receipt of the notice, asking if there was a complaint. Mayor Twolan indicated there had been complaints about those who received these notices. The member indicated they have not removed any dunes from their beach so did not understand why anyone would complain. When asked if the By-law Officer knew the difference between an invasive species and a non invasive species, he indicated she did not.

Another member of the BBCA also received this notice. She went into the township office to understand why the notice was sent to her. They directed her enquiry to the By-law Officer, B Elliott. The member spoke to the officer who said she "Gave them out if it looked like there could be a violation. It was to make people aware. She didn't know if it was actually a violation ". The member strongly objected to being selected as an offender as there had never been dunes on her beach.

In response, Mayor Twolan indicated a desire to meet with the BBCA Executive to explore a better solution. He also discussed working with residents on the new tree cutting by-law and the work they will be doing to prevent the invasive beetle attacking the ash trees. And we should not touch the dunes. When the member asked her recourse to having the violation removed, Mayor Twolan told her to attend the next Council meeting on August 20th but as the agenda is set, she would need to attend the following meeting sometime in September.

Another BBCA member who received the same notice strongly recommended the township never again send out these types of notices if they expected to have good community relations with the residence of Bruce Beach.

David thanked Mayor Twolan for attending and listening to our issues. He indicated that he felt the township was being revisionary in their approach to the beach quality issues. Since 2000 there has been an incredible change in the beach now invaded with phragmites, tree and other weeds and the growth is caused by the phosphates and nitrates. The township tends to exclude the major issue impacting water and beach quality, being the runoff from the farms and municipal drainage. He indicated that BBCA members were quite offended by the Violation Notices and the letter recently sent from the Township (see attachment 2). He strongly recommended that the Mayor meet with the BBCA Executive to attempt to find a common ground on this issue.

3.3 Gregg McClelland representing the Kincardine Hospital fund raising committee thanked the BBCA members for their financial support. The hospital has an approved refurbishing plan to be implemented over 2-5 years. They now have a full time surgeon and are upgrading equipment on a continual basis. A member of the BBCA extended her thanks for the great emergency service many families have received over the years. During the summer, the hospital handles 40% more emergency visits.

3.4 Don Cass of the Pine River Watershed Initiative Network (PRWIN) gave an update on their activities. Mary Rose, the township's Administrator, now sits on the committee and through her; the township council has frequent updates on their projects. The organization has planted 35,000 trees this year and worked on a number of cattle crossings. They are working with a farmer in the area developing pooling for the farm runoff and creating a naturalized area for children. Projects are being funded by the federal government. His thanks for the financial support of the BBCA. More information is available on their website www.pineriverwatershed.ca.

4 Approval of the 2011 Annual General Meeting Minutes – Business arising from the Minutes (Susan Davidson, Secretary)

4.1 Motion to approve the minutes from the 2011 Annual General Meeting 01-04-08-12 moved by David Grant and seconded by Nan Grant **Carried**

4.2 Business arising from the minutes – none

5 Reports

5.1 President's Report – (David Tiernan) David thanked McCosh Grove for making the Clubhouse available to the BBCA for their Annual General Meeting. As mention in his opening remarks, the Executive is organizing two meeting on the issue of nuclear waste disposal. The first meeting is on

August 18, 2012 from 11.00 am to 1.00 pm at The Southampton Curling Club with Dr Gordon Edwards. Dr Edwards is a Consultant and will speak about Ontario's purposed solution for the management of nuclear waste. Ms Marie Wilson from NWMO (Nuclear Waste Management Organization) will make a presentation at the Ripley Community Centre on August 25, 2012 from 10.00 am to 12.00 noon. David encouraged everyone to attend and become educated on the proposed locations of the disposal site and the impact on the community and environment.

David discussed the letter sent to all BBCA members from Mike Fair, Director of Facilities and Recreation, Township of Huron Kinloss. He expressed his concern that the township is fining members for cleaning their beach, sending out warning notices of violation on the dunes but omits any reference to the major cause to the water and beach quality being farm and municipal runoff of phosphates and nitrates. He feels this is the "elephant in the room". Even information from the Centre for Coastal Conservation never refers to the impact of the agriculture issue on the invasive species on the beach. The research in draft completed by the University of Waterloo on water quality in Lake Huron lists farm and municipal run off as a cause of the water pollution as well as greater loadings coming from cottagers. Cottagers are being encouraged by the township to report on their neighbours if they remove vegetation from the beach. This is not the type of community we are at Bruce Beach. But if this does occur, reporting on your neighbour could really damage our community.

With these major issues facing Bruce Beach, David emphasised the importance of working together as a community to address the issues. To ensure the Executive has the members input and inclusion, we are preparing another survey to solicit member's feedback on water and beach quality. This method was effective with the wind turbine survey completed by ERIN Research, 90% in favour of the BBCA Executive's actions. We need to again ensure the BBCA Executive understands the direction of our member.

The Ontario government has put a hold on new wind turbine projects and any installation in the Great Lakes. However, any approved projects will be implemented; therefore, wind turbines are being installed from Grand Bend to the Bruce Peninsula. It is anticipated that 142 turbines will be installed between Godrich and Amberley east of Hwy 21 in the near future. In total, the government plans to install 9,000 turbines to produce 10,700 megawatts of power. As indicated in Lisa's presentation, the federal Ministry of Heath has announced a study on the heath issues reported by residents living in close proximity to a wind turbine. 2,000 residents will be involved in the study costing 1.8 million dollars. Lisa's party is strongly recommending a moratorium on the installation of wind turbines until the study is completed.

David thanked everyone for their support during the past 2 years, his term as President.

A member recommends the Township reduce the number of times they are cleaning the algae on the beach. This will be considered.

5.2 Vice-Presidents Report – (Bruce McKelvey) Bruce thanked Anne and the Pottier family, Heather Ingham, Karen Stief and all the other volunteers that have worked extremely hard to promote and organize this year's BBQ. Also a special thanks to Karen Gaudino who arranged with Creemore Brewery the donation of beer and to McCosh Grove for the use of the property. Last year, tables and chairs were introduced as well as wagon rides for children. The BBQ had a surplus of \$230.00 that was left in the reserve fund. The survey after the BBQ confirmed the need for the tables and chairs on an ongoing basis.

This year we are expecting 500 people to attend. A new venue will be launched, a band, lead by Ian Cook, a new cottager to Bruce Beach will play after dinner and the wagon ride for children will continue. The BBQ committee have an agreement with the township to donate some chairs in return for free access to tables and chairs for the BBQ each year.

Bruce discussed the importance of all cottage owners and spouses being registered to vote in the next municipal election. Members were reminded they could vote in any municipality where they owned a resident. There were instructions included in the 2012 Yearbook on how to register owners and spouses.

Bruce discussed the water quality study being completed by Dr. David Barton, Professor at the University of Waterloo. This was an in depth study conducted over several years on the quality of water in Lake Huron. The report is completed in draft reporting there are several causes for the algae in the water, not just agriculture. When the report is published, it will be sent to the BBQA members.

Bruce and Brian MacEachern visited the Scott farm located near Belgrave in July. This farm is a model of farm practices that are environmentally appropriate featuring pooling of farm and municipal runoff vs. allowing it to flow into streams. The Scott's and officials from the Maitland Valley Conservation Authority demonstrated how soil and water conservation efforts can enhance farm production and control fertilizer runoff. It is Bruce's hope that the township will embrace these initiatives and implement them in Huron Kinloss. Bruce encouraged others to visit this farm; another tour is planned for September 8th.

5.3 Treasurers Report – (Janice Gibson) the 2011 BBCA Actual and 2012 Budget Financial Statement was distributed to the BBCA members (see attachment 3). Janice reported 15% of cottages had not paid this year's dues. A new expense was discussed, \$1,500 for communication and policy development. There was discussion on the proposed donation to the Pine River Watershed Initiative Network and the amount was revised from \$1,000 to \$2,000

Motion 02-04-08-12 to donate \$5,000 to the Kincardine Hospital, moved by Steve Bryant and seconded by Keith MacDonald **Carried**

Motion 03-04-08-12 to donate \$2,000 to the Pine River Watershed Initiative Network moved by Laurie Hamilton and seconded by Ross Klopp **Carried**

5.4 Yearbook Coordinator – (Peter Newson) David Tiernan thanked Peter for all his efforts ensuring the Yearbook is distributed in an accurate and timely manner. Peter did not have any issues to report.

5.5 Communication Coordinator – (Ross Klopp) Ross thanked everyone for keeping their e-mail up to date. In total, he has 391 people receiving e-mails.

5.6 BBQ Committee – (Bruce McKelvey) Updated under the Vice President's Report

5.7 Golf Club – (David Mochi) David indicated the objective of the golf club was to increase revenues and reduce expenses. A new mower has been purchased and mowing costs reduced by 50%. With the assistance of Mike Fair from the township, trees have been removed from the hill below the 8th hole and low growing bushes will be planted. Al McKay from the Ainsdale Golf Course has assisted in improving the fairways and greens (browns). Key boxes have been improved on several holes. David encouraged new members to join. He presented a thank you certificate to Jim Pennington for all the work he has personally done on the golf course.

5.8 Junior Golf – no update available

5.9 Games Day – (Mike Buchanan) One hundred children were at Games Day with lots of volunteers

5.10 Church Committee – (George Sled) Average attendance last year was 23 people per service. Each guest minister received \$75 and Tommy Hughes received \$25 each Sunday for set up. Everyone is invited to join at 4:00 p.m. each Sunday to enjoy the service and great music. Donations of \$300 were sent to the Goderich Tornado Relief Fund, \$200 to the Canada Food Grains Bank, \$100 each to Knox College U of T and the Women's Shelter of Bruce County.

5.11 Sports Day - (Laurie Hughes) One hundred young people attended Sports Day with lots of helpers.

- 6 Nominations – (Keith MacDonald)** Nominations for President, Bruce McKelvey, Vice-President, David Grant, Secretary, Susan Davidson and Treasurer, Melanie Clark.

Motion: 04.04.08.12 to elect the above members to the designated positions, Jean Auchterlonie, seconded Don Cass **carried**

- 7 New/Other Business – (David Tiernan)** A member recommended a question in the survey that would describe the condition of the beach at their first memory.

- 8 Meeting Adjourned – (David Tiernan)** David adjourned the meeting.

TOWNSHIP OF
HURON-KINLOSS

NOTICE OF VIOLATION/WARNING

Attn: Resident/Offender

The Township has entered an agreement with the Ministry of Natural Resources to enforce posted regulations regarding prohibited activities on the beachfront (Section 28 Public Lands Act R.S.O. 1980). One of said posted prohibited regulations is Dune Alteration and/or Destruction.

The beaches and dunes are fragile systems and these policies aim to minimize negative impact on both. The removal of beach grasses falls under this regulation as the grasses stabilize the sand which creates a healthy dune to protect the beaches.

A balance must be struck between human activity and people's enjoyment of the beach, with the conservation of our beach-dune system, which aims to preserve the integrity of the beach for the benefit of future generations.

I would like to advise you that the beachfront adjacent to your property is under strict surveillance and several patrols will be administered to watch for offenders. Fines are imminent when violators are viewed, without warning.

Address:

#48

Per:

S. Elliott

Date:

June 7/12

Township of Huron-Kinloss



The Corporation of the Township of Huron-Kinloss

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21 Queen Street
Ripley, Ontario
N0G 2R0

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www.huronkinloss.com

July 18, 2012

Dear Resident:

As a resident who owns property along the Lake Huron Shoreline we wanted to provide you with some information regarding the natural process of the Beach Dune Ecosystem. We have also provided some additional information to answer some common questions regarding the shoreline.

To those residents that have allowed the natural Dune grass to create a dune in your area, we would like to say thank-you, the dunes look amazing. Together we can continue to work hard to protect the Huron-Kinloss Shoreline to ensure that the sands of Huron-Kinloss beaches remain on the beaches as Dunes and provide sand bars in the water for future generations to enjoy.

The information contained in the fact sheet has been collected from a variety of resources including Environment Canada, the Ministry of Natural Resources, and the Coastal Centre for Conservation. The Township of Huron-Kinloss, and the Coastal Centre for Conservation has many fact sheets available on-line at their respective websites. www.huronkinloss.com and www.lakehuron.ca

To report an incident of Dune Destruction, Dune grass removal, or motorized vehicles on the beach you may contact the By-Law Enforcement Officer at 519-395-3844.

If you have further questions, please do not hesitate to call Mike Fair at 519-395-2909.

Sincerely,

Mike Fair
Director of Facilities and Recreation
Township of Huron-Kinloss
519-395-2909