

Bruce Beach Cottagers' Association

Minutes for the Annual General Meeting

Date: Saturday, August 3, 2013

Location: Bruce Beach Club House

1.0 Welcome and Introduction of Guest Speakers – (Bruce McKelvey)

1.1 Bruce McKelvey, President of the Bruce Beach Cottagers Association (BBCA) welcomed all the members in attendance and introduced the Board of Directors. He thanked the BBCA Councilors for their contribution in ensuring the Board is aware of any initiatives and concerns in their area. Bruce introduced the guest speakers, Mitch Twolan, Mayor Huron Kinloss, Jack Campbell, Chair, Pine River Watershed Initiative Network (PRWIN) Jennifer White, Home Hardware, and Greg McClelland, Kincardine Hospital Fund raising Committee. Other guests were Wilf Gamble, Deputy Mayor and Lillian Abbot, Councillor Huron Kinloss

2.0 In Memoriam – (Don Cass) In addition Kay Oliver (Walter) cottage 5A

3.0 Guest Speakers – (Bruce McKelvey)

3.1 Mitch Twolan, Mayor Huron Kinloss Township discussed the process the township is following to have the township host the Nuclear Waste Disposal site for high level nuclear waste spent fuel rods. They are in the 3rd step of the process and Huron Kinloss is one of 22 sites being considered for this project. He asked everyone to be open and learn about the project. A committee (Nuclear Disposal Community Liaison Committee) has been set up to ensure open communications with the community. The next meeting is this Tuesday August 8, 2013 and everyone is invited to attend. An office has been set up on main street and is open to the public for information sharing with specialists available to answer questions.

A member asked the benefits to the township vs. the risks of contamination of the township and the Great Lakes. The Mayor responded that economic benefits were not know at this time but the township is involved to become knowledgeable as even if the location is not here, the nuclear waste will be transported through the township and they want to ensure a safe environment. The Mayor committed to some type of referendum on this issue before the project could be located in the township. Again the Mayor emphasized the importance of becoming educated and the township can opt out at any time. A BBCA member recommended viewing the website of SOS, www.saveoursaugeenshores.org.

The other major project the township council has been working on is the installation of natural gas for Huron Kinloss and Kincardine townships. Union Gas has completed a scope of work with an estimated cost of \$97 million. A consultant was hired to ensure the costs were appropriate and these costs have been confirmed. The 3 townships have set up a Board of Directors to form a Natural Gas company that will raise the capital and direct the implementation of this project. The installation of natural gas will be optional to Bruce Beach but a decision will need to be made overtime. The cost of this project will not be paid by property taxes.

The Mayor was asked to explain the reason for the township 6% - 8% increase in revenues each year when inflation is running at 1 ½ - 2%. The Mayor responded that funding from the provincial government has been reduced by \$400,000 in the past 2 years and OPP funding has increased by 8 ½ %, these items are not in the councilors control. He indicated a comparison is done each year to the mill rate in other townships and Huron Kinloss is one of the lowest rates. This year, the MPAC assessments for waterfront property have stayed reasonably level but the real estate value of farmland has increased dramatically. However, the farmers now have a lower tax rate under provincial law, so the township is supplementing the taxes on farm land (65% of the property taxes comes from the seasonal property thus they are supplement the farmland).

3.2 Jack Campbell, Chair of Pine River Watershed Initiative Network (PRWIN) updated the membership on the different projects they have implemented over the past few years. They have planted 200,000 trees, installed 20 km of fencing and developed stream crossings for cattle. They have set up a wetland park outside Ripley for the school children and provide busing to this location. This year, they received a \$90,000 grant from the federal government to install water retention ponds for farm runoff. They will create berms to stop the water flooding off the fields and also catch the top soil to be returned to the field.

On August 24th a tour has been arranged for the BBCA membership to view several of the projects PRWIN has implemented. A BBQ will follow. Jack encouraged everyone to come. He thanked the BBCA for their financial support over the years.

3.3 Jennifer White from Home Hardware set up a display of ECO friendly products and encouraged everyone to use these bio degradable products available in recyclable containers. The product she recommended was the Natura Products. She personally has tested them and some do not work as fast as other products but in the end, they work well. She was available after the meeting to discuss different products.

3.4 Gregg McClelland and Jack Nancekivell were introduced to the audience, Gregg is the past Chair of the Kincardine Hospital fund raising Committee and Jack is the present Chair. They thanked the BBCA for the \$16,000 donations to the hospital over a number of years. During the summer season, 40% of the emergency patients are from the seasonal residents.

They have employed a full time surgeon at the hospital and upgraded the surgery diagnostic equipment by \$200,000.

The redevelopment of the hospital is still feasible at a cost of \$50 million of which \$15 million must come from fund raising. This will retrofit the building and allow for a reorganization of the location of several medical units to ensure patient privacy and more efficient patient flow. Again they thanked the BBCA for their support.

4.0 Report of the Treasurer – (Melanie Clark)

Melanie distributed the current Income Statement which includes 2012 Budget and Actual and 2013 Budget and Forecasted Actual Expenses. (See attachment 1). There are 25 cottages with fees outstanding and this information has been given to the Councilors in each area for collection.

She circulated a pamphlet on the Community Living Project in Kincardine. A onetime donation of \$1,000 is recommended this project.

Melanie explained the 2012 budget was not approved. **Motion 01-03-08-13** to approve the 2012 and 2013 budget, moved by Melanie Clark and seconded by Laurie Hamilton.

Question: Why is the board not spending the \$1500.00 for Communication and Policy Development? This amount is for possible surveys if required but not expected to be spent this year only.

Question: Is the donation to the Community Living Project an ongoing commitment? It is a onetime donation. **Carried**

On behalf of the BBCA membership, Melanie thanked Janice Gibson, former Treasurer, for her 7 years in that position.

5.0 Approval 2012 Annual General Meeting Minutes – (Susan Davidson)

The minutes of the last Annual General Meeting August 4, 2012 were distributed with the 2013 Yearbook and at this meeting. **Motion 02-03-08-13** Susan Davidson presented a motion that the minutes be approved, Francis Stewart seconded the motion. **Carried**

6.0 Executive Reports

6.1 President – (Bruce McKelvey) Bruce thanked McCosh Grove and the Golf Club for giving us the use of the clubhouse for the BBCA meeting and BBQ. We will have the opportunity today, to discuss recreational, environmental and economic issues that are important to our Community and future generations. To handle the many issues efficiently, responsibility has been divided between David Grant and himself.

Bruce updated the group on the meeting last year with Mayor Twolan of Huron Kinloss to discuss the results of the Beach Management survey conducted by ERIN Research. Bruce and David had 10 issues to discuss which included 5 operational and 5 strategic or long term such as fines for removal of grass, discussions with the agriculture community on nutrients flowing into the lake, the management of the beach policies and the level of lake water etc. They used the draft of Ontario Great Lakes Strategy document as the basis of the broader discussion on beach and water quality

Bruce and David also met several times with the Director of Facilities and Recreation, who seemed concerned mainly with the removal of grass from the beach and vehicles on the beach. The BBKA appreciates the cleaning of algae from the beach but want more discussion of the root causes for the algae and slurry problems from nutrient and bacteria runoff from the municipal storm sewer ditches and the tiled fields. Also, we want the township to have consideration for the historical recreational activities of residences represented by the family pictures sent to them. It was agreed that discussions on these issues would continue.

Bruce met with the Executive of the Pine River Watershed Initiative and is very impressed with their projects. Besides planting trees along rivers to reduce the flow of nutrients into the water and creating passages for animals to avoid refuge in the water, they are now considering developing berms on farms to create ponds to contain the nutrient rich runoff. (This is similar to the activities of the Scott Farm near Belgrave). They have recently received a grant from the federal government of \$90,000 to initiate these holding ponds. The President of PRWIN has organized a tour for BBKA members to see their different project. This is planned for August 24, 10:00 – noon with a BBQ to follow.

There have been changes to the provincial Liberal government's policies on the issue of Wind Turbines in Ontario. The provincial budget has been reduced from 9 to 6 billion. The affected communities are being given a "say" in locating the turbines in their area. However, it is not clear where the projects being installed under the previous plans will be located. Some signed contracts are being bought and sold like a monopoly game. There is still a nominal risk of wind turbines being installed in the Lake. Lisa Thompson MPP for Huron Bruce is very supportive of our position on wind turbines.

An important long term issue for us to discuss is registration to vote in the township municipal elections. In 2010, the voter turnout was only 34.5% of the eligible voters (2,420 people). To ensure we are being heard in the political process of the township, everyone needs to register to vote including spouses. Guidelines on the process were included in the BBKA Yearbook. Next year (2014) is the municipal election and we expect to have electronic voting to make it possible for everyone to vote.

Susan Davidson has researched our liability insurance coverage and organized a meeting with Miller Insurance who is the broker on the policy. After a comprehensive meeting with Doug Storey, our broker, we feel confident the current coverage is appropriate. She is also working with members of the BBCA Executive to create a Continuity plan for the BBCA business processes. We encourage those involved to support Susan in this endeavor.

6.2 Vice Presidents – (David Grant) David indicated everything is on track for the BBQ and the tickets are sold out. Tickets will not be available at the door. He thanked Anne Pottier, Heather Ingham and Karen Stief for their hard work in organizing the BBQ each year. The liquor license has been acquired which now includes an interview before being issued. Security is in place etc. There will be special entertainment for the children and again this year there will be live entertainment with the Mid Life Crises Band.

David discussed the project Our Future Huron Kinloss and the planning committees that have been put in place. These committees are planning on a horizon of 5-10 years for the Township. He is participating on the Environmental Committee for this project as they are concerned with water quality, nutrients from water runoff, water levels and algae. They are now working on a report identifying the current conditions in Huron Kinloss and will prepare a draft action plan.

David is also a member of the Nuclear Disposal Community Liaison Committee. The mandate of this committee is to ensure full discussion with the residence of Huron Kinloss on the pros and cons of having the high level nuclear disposal site located in their community. This is potentially a twenty year project and could create employment in Huron Kinloss for 60 years. The committee has met once.

6.3 Communications Director – (Ross Klopp) Ross reported having 411 email contacts and encouraged everyone to continue sending their revised email addresses.

6.4 Yearbook Coordinator – (Peter Newson) Peter has successfully published the Yearbook for 8 years and would like a volunteer to work with him for the next few years to have backup for the function. Any volunteers are welcome. BBCA members are reminded that all information available in the Yearbook, except personal information is available on the website, www.brucebeach.ca .

6.5 Golf Club – Jim Pennington/Bruce Eaton Over the past few years, there has been significant improvement to the golf course, improvement in the browns, new tees installed, new signs for each tee. This year there were 25 people at the work bee and next year they will be building a new shed at the top of the hill. Trees will be planted at the 8th hole and 1, 8, 9 tees will be improves. Much thanks to the members, volunteers and donators to the golf club.

6.6 Games Day – Mike Buchanan Games day is scheduled for August 10, 2013 for children between the ages of 6-12 and is expected to be a great success as last year.

6.7 Church Committee – George Sled The church continues after more than a century to worship in the Touts Grove at 4 p.m. Sundays. The service is lead by local and Bruce Beach ministers and offers a wide range of music in the service. Excess funds are being used to repair the Stephen Tout pulpit.

6.8 Sports Day – Laurie Hughes A special thanks to Brian MacEachern for his time spent volunteering for this event and welcome Mike and Kelly Buchanan this year. There were 49 participants between the ages of 8-16. Fun was had by all.

7.0 Other Business – (Bruce McKelvey) David Fallis proposed a motion to have the BBCA Executive prepare a survey to be completed by the BBCA Members to solicit their opinion of having a high level nuclear waste disposal site in Huron Kinloss and near the Great Lakes Basin. He also recommended questions to be included in the survey. Christopher Davidson recommended the survey be conducted by a professional research organization to ensure the questions asked were unbiased. There was significant discussion from the floor and members were also encouraged to attend the different meetings on both the pro's and cons of having this site in the township. **Motion 03-03-08-13:** David Fallis moved the BBCA Executive to survey the BBCA membership using a third party research firm and solicit their opinion of having a high level nuclear disposal site located in Huron Kinloss Township or the Great Lakes Basin and the results of the survey to be reported to the BBCA membership by June 2014. Cost of the survey to be consistent with the BBCA budget. Seconded: Margaret Post **Carried**