

Bruce Beach Cottager's Association

Minutes for the Annual General Meeting

Date: Saturday July 31, 2010

Location: Bruce Beach Club House (coffee and donuts provided by the Club House Restoration Committee)

1.0 Welcome and Introduction of Guests:

1.1 Keith MacDonald, President of the BBCA welcomed all members in attendance and introduced the Guest Speakers and the Board of Directors.

2.0 In Memoriam (Don Cass)

3.0 Guest Speakers:

3.1 Keith prefaced his introduction of Mitch Twolan, Mayor of Huron Kinloss Township, to make the BBCA members aware that the jurisdiction of the proposed Wind Turbines along Lake Range Road was under provincial authority not the townships. However, Mayor Twolan would attempt to address any question in this area. Councillors Lillian Abbot and James Hannah were also in attendance.

Brian MacEachern asked if the township would continue to eliminate the invasive plants along the beach and continue to remove large logs. The Mayor indicated the township is committed and has Geoff Peach preparing, with the assistance of Botanists, a plant log for the township that identifies the invasive plants. The township will continue to remove logs from the beach; members should contact the township and identify the area where the logs need removal.

Cottagers requested earlier and weekly recycling, this is being reviewed for more efficient scheduling with the company but the cost currently \$29.00 per household must be kept down. Weekly recycling is not available. It was recommended that the use of blue bags would assist in the recycling and a request to expand the items collected was put forward. Councillor Lillian Abbot indicated Styrofoam was too light and required too long to load, they are collecting plastics and are trying to expand allowing other items such as milk and juice containers. The issue is items that are not needed for recycling in the market. Green bins are being considered for the area.

Nan Grant commented on the new township signs located on the beach at the 6th 8th and 10th concession. They indicate that South Bruce Beach, (cottages on Gordon Street) is part of Lurgan Beach not Bruce Beach. This area has been part of Bruce Beach since 1937. Representation of the cottagers will attend the Wednesday Council meeting to discuss this further with the councillors. Keith noted these signs also listed private roads on Bruce Beach that should only be identified for emergency vehicles only.

Ken Taylor raised the issue of the proposed Wind Farm of 50 windmills to be located along Lake Range Road. Mayor Twolan indicated the township had spent a significant amount of money in 2004 to change the set back to 1,200 meters from roads and buildings. They were not successful. He will be meeting with the Ministry of the Environment, Energy and Agriculture face to face to discuss the set back issues. The Green Energy Act supersedes the township in these zoning issues and the township supports the concerns of the BBCA members. Mayor Twolan and the other Great Lake Mayors are trying to pass a resolution to prevent the installation of Wind Turbines in the Great Lakes. However, Councillor Anne Eddie and the Lake Huron Coastal Centre are working on a draft policy for Wind Turbines if they are located in Lake Huron. They are being proactive with the assistance of Geoff Peach to ensure they have information at hand should this become an issue. Mayor Twolan indicated this was a possibility and in the “works” Also, there has been consideration of installing Wind Turbines in Lake Erie and Lake Ontario. Point Clark has been identified as a potential site as the lake is very shallow in this area.

Ross Klopp recommended that BBCA members send their comments and issues to Carole Mitchell MPP for this region. It was suggested a template for response be sent to members; however Councillor Jim Hannah recommended an individually written letter would have greater impact.

Mayor Twolan was asked to discuss the process for voting in the next election. Final nominations are accepted by September 10th and a list of the official candidates will be on the township web site by September 13th. All residence of the township will receive an information letter the week of October 4th including candidate information and a pin number to be used when voting. Voting commences October 18th and ends October 25th voting centres are located at the Ripley and Lucknow Libraries. Revisions to the voting list should be sent to the municipal office. Everyone is encouraged to vote in this upcoming election.

3.2 Marie Wilson of the Nuclear Waste Management Organization, (NWMO) was introduced. She discussed the deep geologic repository proposal by Ontario Power Generation to build a bunker below ground to dispose of low and medium level waste from the nuclear power plants in Ontario. This will be located in the Kincardine area. They have completed a 4 year geology study for deposit of the nuclear waste and an engineering assessment is almost complete. The safety assessment is being finalized and an Environmental Impact Statement will be released in March 2011. There will be a 6 month period for public comment on the document. Sometime in 2012, a Joint Review Panel (set up by Federal Agencies) will schedule a public review process in Kincardine. Marie left education material and contact information for the BBCA members.

Keith MacDonald asked the size and depth of the site. The bunker will be 680 meters (2135 ft.) below ground. Currently, this waste is being stored above ground and will be moved to the below ground when the facility is completed. The low level waste is ashes from burned rags, mop heads, and clothing and the medium level waste is liners and filters for water containers. In 2004, Kincardine Council approved the go ahead for this plan. There will be no exposure to the lake.

David Fallis asked for clarification on current waste disposal. Is the current site full, is this why a new place is required? Marie indicated that the requirement was to have a more permanent storage plan for the long term, the current above ground sites are not full and if necessary could be built further. However, as the waste from 20 reactors will be stored here, a more permanent solution is required.

Ruth McLean asked if there was opposition to this project, Marie agreed there was from Green Peace, Great Lakes United and some US organizations.

3.3 John Schnarr, from the Kincardine Summer Music Festival encouraged people to attend on August 1st to 14th; information is available on the web site.

3.4 Greg McClelland from the Kincardine Hospital Foundation thanked the BBCA members for their ongoing support of foundation. They have recently purchased a Haematology machine for blood analysis and are planning to purchase a Bone Density machine with the current donations. They will continue raising money through a car ticket raffle and the October radio fund raiser.

3.5 Frances Stewart updated the members on the Paddy Walker House Exhibit. Last October, Graham Mahood asked Keith MacDonald if the BBCA would be interested in a display on the origins of vacationing in this area. Keith asked Frances Stewart, our historian, to coordinate the exhibit. On June 15th the exhibit "Gone to the Beach" was officially opened. On July 8th, Frances lead an evening of remberences emphasizing Bruce Beaches Ripley origins, the Ministers and sports activities.

3.6 Susan Yates Johnston thanked everyone for their donations to the restoration of the Club House. The initial estimated cost was \$102,000 for the renovation but final estimate was \$90,000. The foundation has been fixed and there is a new roof, washroom, kitchen with hot water for the first time, wiring and lighting, porches, floor, new locking system and the chimney repointed. This is a three year project with more to come. Thanks to David Wilson for his leadership, the committee members and McCosh Grove members for the building and land. More donations are needed for the next phase of the project. Improvement of the greens, larger surface with better drainage, improved stairways, etc. The Golf Club annual meeting is next Saturday August 7th at the Club House. Anne Wright indicated the goal for donations was \$150,000 having raised \$119,000 having spent \$81,000 on items listed above, \$17,000 for new appliances and \$30,000 for the golf course.

3.7 Don Cass, from the Pine River Watershed Initiative Network (PRWIN) updated the meeting on their activities. An assortment of members meets monthly to discuss future action plans. They have planted 125,000 trees, installed 5 cattle crossing over the river and fenced 5 Km along the river to keep cattle out. The group is mainly funded by Eco-Action and other donators. Don thanks the BBCA members for all their support. More information available on their web site.

www.pineriverwatershed.ca

4.0 Approval of the 2009 Annual General Meeting Minutes – Business arising from the Minutes (Frances Stewart, for Susan Davidson)

4.1 Motion to approve the minutes from the 2009 Annual General Meeting 01-31- 07-10 moved by Barry McPherson and seconded by Ross Klopp Carried

4.2 Business arising from the minutes – none

5.0 Reports

5.1 President's Report – (Keith MacDonald) Last year, the major issue addressed by the BBCA executives was the invasive weeds and vegetation restricting our ability to walk the beach. Keith approached the township and met with the councillor and representatives from the Ministry of Natural Resources. He proposed a 10-15 foot path along the shoreline be cleared of vegetation to facilitate members walking the beach.

Keith communicated with Mark Shoreman from the Ministry of Natural Resources requesting the removal of some vegetation along the shoreline. Shoreman and one of his staff travelled to the beach and met with Geoff Peach and responded that nothing could be done about the condition of the beach.

Keith MacDonald and Barry McPherson met with Carol Mitchell MPP for our area and took her on a tour of the beach. They went to; Light House Beach which was restricted from swimming last week, Cottages 45-50 to see how the beach used to look with no loss of sand, the 10th Concession where the water was covered in a slim cesspool, and walked south of the 10th Concession that was impassable as the vegetation was too thick to walk through. We are awaiting her response to the problem.

Geoff Peach, Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation, at the end of June brought a botanist to study the vegetation on the beach from Point Clarke, Pine River to the 6th concession. The botanist will catalogue all the vegetation on the beach and identify what is “good” and what is “bad”. This information will be given to the Township for distribution. Geoff admits there are major concerns with the condition of the beach.

Keith introduced the proposed amendment to the BBCA bylaws. These bylaws were last update in 1989 and in several areas out of date. Barry McPherson prepared the recommended Bylaw #8. This was prepared using bylaws recently approved at South Bruce Beach and Cameron Grove Cottagers’ Association. They reflect the current Bylaw #6 and the amendment located in 1989 minutes for the Annual General Meeting for Bylaw #7.

Motion 02-31-07-10 to repeal Bylaw #6 and Bylaw #7 and be replace with Bylaw #8 was moved by Barry McPherson and seconded by David Tiernan

After input from the BBCA members the following changes were agreed to by Keith MacDonald:

1. Under objectives would be “owners and guests” vs. “owners”
2. 2nd amendment under objectives “complementary” vs. “complimentary”
3. Number 5. Vacancies of the Board of Directors changed to “a person can be appointed only at the next general meeting”
4. Number 24. Quorum changed from “cottage owners and proxies” reworded “need 20 cottage owners present for a meeting and proxies”

Carried The revised Bylaw #8 will be posted on the Bruce Beach website
www.brucebeach.ca

Keith MacDonald opened the discussion on the proposed Wind Turbine Farm along Lake Range Road. He asked for a show of hands if the BBCA members wanted the BBCA to take a position on the Wind Turbine Farm issue. Ross Klopp is against the location of the proposed Wind Turbines. Bruce Corneil asked about health issues, he understands some people have been hospitalized; some residences cannot stay in homes and are experiencing sleep interruption and headaches (Medical Wind Syndrome). In Ontario, 100 people had to leave their homes due to health issues related to Wind Turbines.

Keith MacDonald asked the BBCA members to attend the meeting on August 10, 5:30 – 8:00 and the write to Carole Mitchell MPP expressing their concerns of the proposed Wind Turbine Farm. The new BBCA executive will need to decide whether to set up a Committee to monitor this situation or not.

David Fallis asked what the BBCA strategy would be, to keep the Wind Turbines just west of highway 21, rather than Lake Range Road? Keith indicated he did not know all the plans, however, the Premier has asked the Ministry of Health to ensure the Wind Turbines do not cause health issues and there is to be an environment assessment.

Bob Harvey and Mike Sapiro, residents on Lake Range Road have purchased 360 signs protesting against the new Wind Turbine Farm. The new Wind Turbines will be 80 feet higher than the current ones located outside Ripley. They feel it is a health issue and 550 meters is not enough space away from homes and buildings.

Bill Cunningham feels it is not just a health issue but a visual issue; next, they will be in Lake Huron.

5.2 Vice-Presidents Report – (David Tiernan) David reported that last year’s BBQ, attendance was down from the previous year to 362 people. This function is important to Bruce Beach as it brings everyone together for food and fun each year. It is important we welcome any new people on the beach who attend the BBQ and help them integrate into Bruce Beach. This venue is non profit while maintaining \$2000 float in the bank. Thanks to the Pottier family for organizing the event,

Creemore for the donation of beer and to McCosh Grove of the use of the property. And a special thanks to all the volunteers who put up fencing, run the bar and clean up the next day.

5.3 Treasurers Report – (Janice Gibson) The 2010 BBCA Financial Statement and Budget for 7 Months ending July 31, 2010 was available to the BBCA members (see attachment 1). Janice reported 31 cottages have not paid this year's dues and 6 are outstanding from 2009.

Motion 03-31-07-10 to accept the budget as presented, moved by Janice Gibson and seconded by George Auchterlonie **Carried**

Motion 04-31-07-10 to donate \$1,000 to the Pine River Watershed Initiative Network moved by Janice Gibson and seconded by Nan Grant **Carried**

5.4 Year Book Coordinator – (Peter Newson) Keith MacDonald thanked Peter for all his efforts ensuring the Year Book is distributed in an accurate and timely manner. Peter thanked Ann Pennock and family for their assistance. They have been the compiler of the book for 20 years.

5.5 Communication Coordinator – (Ross Klopp) Ross thanked everyone for keeping their e-mail up to date; he has very few return e-mails. In total, he has 333 people receiving e-mails this covers 261 cottages.

5.6 BBQ Committee – (David Tiernan) Updated under the Vice Presidents Report

5.7 Golf Club – (David Gregoris) Update under Golf Club Restoration

5.8 Junior Golf – (Karen Gaudino) There is a tournament on August 6th at the Bruce Beach Golf Club starting at 9:15 am, ages 6-16, entry fee \$5.00. All the junior golfers are encouraged to participate, brochures are available

5.9 Games Day – (Judy Jasperson) Judy was unable to attend the meeting, Frances Stewart gave an update. Games Day occurred on Saturday July 24th in the Tout's Grove church yard. Children ages 6-12 participated, fun for all. A thanks to Judy for her efforts.

5.10 Church Committee – (George Sled) Worship services have been held outdoors since 1894. Last Sunday a music service was organized by Beth MacRae. Everyone is invited to join at 4:00 p.m. each Sunday. Donations of \$300 each were sent to the Bruce County Women's Shelter, Canada Food Grains Bank and Knox College U of T. At the last service of the year, a special Memoriam for those lost in the past year will occur including a bag piper playing Amazing Grace.

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

5.12 Ski Day – (Ross Klopp) Next ski day at Osler Bluffs is Friday March 4th, everyone is welcome

6.0 Nominations – (Keith MacDonald) Motion 05-31-07-10 Keith MacDonald moved that David Tiernan become President, Bruce McKelvey become Vice-President, Susan Davidson remain as Secretary and Janice Gibson remain as Treasurer, seconded by Susan Yates Johnston **Carried**

7.0 New/Other Business – (Keith MacDonald) Jon Elcombe thanked Keith MacDonald and the other Executives for their commitment and efforts this year.

8.0 Meeting Adjourned – (Keith MacDonald) Motion 06-31-07-10 David Allen moved for the meeting to be adjourned, seconded by David Gibson **Carried**