

FIMLA AGM 2016 Minutes

The 2016 Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Fourteen Island and Mink Lakes Association (FIMLA) took place at the home of Alan Boyce and Joyce Hodgins on Saturday, July 30, 2016 and was attended by 60-plus members and several invited guests.

1. Welcome – Gord Rodgers

FIMLA President Gord Rodgers called the meeting to order at 11:00 am. Gord expressed thanks to Joyce and Alan for hosting the meeting again in 2016.

Gord welcomed Mayor Ron Vandewal and local councilors Ross Sutherland and John McDougal. Gord expressed appreciation for their attendance at the AGM and the link between FIMLA and South Frontenac Township, including the annual lake association get together with the township in August.

New members Michael Organ and Michelle (Shelly) McWhirter were welcomed (moved to Deer Park Lane on the lake in 2016).

Gord thanked Alan and the newsletter team for their work on the spring 2016 FIMLA newsletter. Members can submit content to Gord or Alan for the 2017 newsletter. Copies of the 2016 newsletter were available at the meeting.

Gord thanked Peter Bedoukian for revamping the FIMLA website (FIMLA.ca), and put out a call to the membership for material or photos to add; the intent is to make the website an ongoing live project. The newsletter is under the 'Minutes' page of the website.

Thanks were given to Anne for organizing the food for the barbeque with the help of Susan Pine, who wasn't able to attend this year.

Gord noted that Brett Dark is retiring from the executive and expressed appreciation for all of Brett's work over the years as a stalwart member of FIMLA.

2. 2015 AGM Minutes – Gord Rodgers

A motion to accept the 2015 AGM Minutes as presented in the spring 2016 newsletter was moved by Joe Buckley, seconded by Geoff Rae, voted on and passed (Resolution 2016-1).

3. 2015 Financial Report and 2016 Proposed Budget – Chris Caswell

Chris Caswell presented an informative summary of the 2015 Financial Report as of December 31, 2015, and the 2016 Proposed Budget (attached). The balance as of December 31, 2015 was \$6,165.01. The estimated 2016 year-end balance is \$2,065.01 (minus \$4,000 reserve). Membership fee revenue was higher than expected in 2015; membership donations were acknowledged and appreciated. Website fees increase in 2016 since the website is switching to a new webhost with a three year contract.

There was some discussion about the \$4,000.00 reserve for potential future projects (e.g., repair of the dam); an additional levy would likely be proposed at such time as dam repair is required. Brett noted that based on past investigations, the dam is owned by landowners on either side and no government agency takes responsibility for it. Replacement costs were estimated five years ago at \$25,000 (rough estimate now is \$30,000 to \$35,000). It was originally a board and mortar dam built for logging purposes, and later cement capped on both sides. There are some cracks in the concrete cap, but currently there appears to be no imminent danger; if needed there could be interim repairs done with professional advice. Brett had prepared a Trillium grant application but was told it didn't qualify; we could look to partnerships (municipalities offered in-kind support). The woody debris clean-up in summer 2015 helped relieve stress on the dam; volunteers for that clean-up were thanked; that work could be done again as needed.

Resolution 2016-2

Be it resolved that the 2015 Financial Statement and 2016 Budget be accepted as presented at the July 30, 2016 Annual General Meeting.

Moved by: Curtis Armstrong
Seconded by: Anne Brown
Voted: Passed

4. Election of 2016-2018 FIMLA Executive – Gord Rodgers

There was a call in the 2015 newsletter for volunteers for representatives on the executive; Mary Rae agreed to stand for nomination as vice-president.

Resolution 2016-3

Be it resolved that the following candidates be accepted as executive members of FIMLA for the 2016-2018 calendar years:

President: Gord Rodgers
Vice-President: Mary Rae
(Past-President Anne Tucker)
Secretary: Susan Grigg
Treasurer: Chris Caswell
Lake Steward: Susan Pine
Feeder Lakes Representative: Peter Bedoukian
Communications: Alan Boyce

Moved by: Brett Dark
Seconded by: Grace Dalo
Voted: Passed

5. Water Quality Update – Brett Dark

Brett noted that water quality remains consistent in the lakes. Clarity increased (likely as a result of zebra mussels) and phosphorus is steady in 14 Island Lake. Early spring (May) is the best time to do the water samples. Secci dish readings are taken six times per year at two locations and averaged over the summer.

6. Loons and the Canadian Lakes Loon Survey – Mary Rae

Mary Rae is participating in Bird Studies Canada's citizen survey monitoring the breeding success of Common Loons, which started in 1981. The study measures the number of six-week old chicks. There are over 3000 participants on 4500 lakes across Canada. There are 250,000 pairs of loons in Canada (95 % of the world population); loons are long-lived and return to the same area each year. One chick every two years is enough to sustain the loon population. Loons are a good indicator of lake health; they are sensitive to mercury and acid rain (affects reproductive success). The survey is done at least three times in one year: June (breeding pairs), July (hatchlings) and August (fledglings). Bird Studies Canada prepared a report in 2013 for the years 1981 to 2012, indicating breeding success has decreased over time. Loons are more successful in lakes with less acidity; acid rain decreased fish and increases mercury availability, which is toxic to loons. Mary participated in the 2016 loon survey; at least one hatching this year in a nest west of Alan and Joyce's. Mary hasn't observed west and east ends of the lake. If anyone wants to participate and submit observations Mary is happy to submit on behalf of 14 Island Lake. Discussion about loon behavior observed on the lake followed and numbers seen over the years. The best way to confirm numbers is recording observation and submitting the information to the Canadian Lakes Loon Survey (<http://www.birdscanada.org/volunteer/clls/>).

7. Guest Speaker – Curtis and Brendan Monnier, Greenshield Pest Control

Curtis and Brendan Monnier presented on the services that Greenshield Pest Control provides to cottagers to address pest pressures. The company is based in Kingston and is locally owned and operated; they provide residential, cottage, commercial and industrial services. They have government licensed applicators and wildlife and bat technicians, with a 24/7 on-call emergency service. Insect pests include carpenter ants, spiders and wasps. Carpenter ants live in colonies; each colony could have thousands of ants. The winged ants are the reproductive females; the ants hibernate in nests in the winter. Carpenter ants don't eat wood; they construct their nest by hollowing out wood. They prefer moist, decayed wood (decks, porches, roofs, attics, trees). Carpenter ants are simple to detect, but often not noticed until they are well advanced. They can be managed by a cottage owner, but experts have different and more equipment to address them. Greenshield Pest Control uses the least amount of insect pesticide as possible. Treatment inside a home is fairly extensive; they also recommend treating exteriors and ongoing preventative treatment. Preventative treatment corrects moisture problems (roof leaks, plumbing leaks, branches that link to structure, clearing away rotting debris). It is recommended that firewood be stacked well away from a home. The company also provides services to control other insects and wildlife (e.g., mice) and invasive species such as wild parsnip. Pennsylvania wood cockroaches are in the area. Discussion and questions and answers followed. Tiny, fine sawdust is a sign of carpenter ants. You need to be concerned if you see ants inside the home, or crawling on the exterior structure (apply environmentally friendly product along exterior of windows and doors). Carpenter ants are the biggest black ants that you see; some are winged (scouts); they are not the ants with ant hills. They are often in trees around cottages. If you disturb a colony in a tree they will move to a new location. Gord thanked Curtis and Brendan for the talk and the information.

8. Q&A and Adjournment

Attendees were encouraged to fill in the question and answer sheet provided about what you would like your lake association to do, and hand it in.

The AGM was adjourned at 12:15 pm and the membership then enjoyed a barbeque and desserts and beverages by the lakeshore. The meat was purchased from Gilmour's on 38 on Highway 38 at Hartington.

Minutes prepared by Susan Grigg.