

Palmerston Lake Association
7th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

10 am JULY 20TH 2024

MINUTES

Please refer to attached PowerPoint Presentation for more details.

Number of attendees at AGM: approximately 65 people

PRESIDENT'S WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

1. Andrew Waywell PLA President, welcomed the membership and started the meeting by recognizing and thanking the Algonquin people. Andrew introduced board members, secretary treasurer and guests: Dwayne Robillard, Veronica Izaguirre (President and Treasurer of Palmerston North Shore Cottagers Association), Vern Haggarty, guest speaker (Mazinaw Lake Property Owner's Association) and Fred Fowler (Township Councillor)

MOTION: to approve Agenda for July 20, 2024 and the Minutes for 2023 AGM.

Moved by: Debrila Moogk; Seconded by Christina Sass-Kortsak; carried

2. **PRESIDENTS REPORT:** Report delivered by Andrew Waywell. *Refer to the PowerPoint presentation for detail regarding the President's Report*

Discussed Gravel Point Development.

Question: Doug Humphries "What is the status of the Lafolia lane access issue? Has it been resolved?" "What has the PLA done in this regard?" Response: PLA has reached out many times with discussions with the Roberts regarding lane access. It is still unresolved.

Question: "Has PLA considered drawing on support from Canonto Lake Association?" eg create a joint force. Response: "Great idea!"

Question: "Is there anything more aggressive that we can do?" Response: PLA's approach has been to keep in the loop on all the developments and with all stakeholders regarding this issue; PLA wants to have another public meeting at which time we would highlight scientific and anecdotal data that the Lake trout population is declining; fishing has gone downhill; fish netting program has resulted in more larger fish (fewer smaller fish) and the possibility that water quality is declining (possibly an outlier). Doug Humphries applauds efforts of PLA; he suggested that we need a petition on the lake – a petition is a powerful tool eg. 2/3 of cottage owners represents an important tax base; signing petition might have a very strong impact. Response: PLA has discussed this and a petition will likely be considered in the future.

Question: “What is the issue regarding Gravel point development?” Response: Andrew highlighted the issues with rezoning the property to rural co op.

Question: Pat Chamberland; “Where is Gravel Point?” Response: Joan Hayes showed where Gravel point is located, on the wall map.

Question: “How can we keep up to date on this issue?” PLA referred membership to <https://engagefrontenac.ca/ompah-palmerston-cottage-co-operative-official-plan-amendment-and-zoning-by-law-amendment>

3. **FINANCE REPORT**: Leslie Viets PLA Secretary and Treasurer, delivered the finance report which is included in the PowerPoint presentation.

MOTION: to approve the Financial Report

Moved by: Mike Zimmerman; Seconded by Joan Hayes carried

MOTION: to Authorize the Directors to set a Budget according to the needs and resources of the Association

Moved by: Christina Sass-Kortsak; Seconded by Joan Cotton; carried

MOTION: to Not appoint an auditor and to not have an audit

Moved by Pat Chamberland: seconded by Mary Rothfels; carried

4. **NOMINATION FOR AND ELECTION OF DIRECTORS** Andrew Waywell

- Nomination for position of President:
Move to nominate for re-election Andrew Waywell as President by Jim Getman;
seconded by John Viets Carried;
Public thank you to Andrew Waywell for all his work
Acknowledgement of Rene Van Diepen for all his work – has currently resigned due to personal job related work load. Will rejoin in the future.
- Directors who are in the 2nd year of their term and who are continuing:
John Livernois
Mary Rothfels
Christina Sass-Kortsak
- Nomination of Directors who have completed the 2nd year of their term and agreed to stand for re-election:
Jim Getman
Liz Jackson
John Viets
Robbie Viets
Nominated by Andrew Waywell; seconded by John Livernois; carried

- Nominations are open to the floor for one additional board member:
Liz Jackson, PLA Director, moved to nominate Joan Hayes. Liz provided a brief CV for Joan, outlining her qualifications and expertise. Lake property owner for 35 years and passionate about the Lake.
Seconded by Andrew Waywell; carried
 - Leslie Viets is continuing in the office of Secretary-Treasurer.
5. **PRIORITIES AND ACTION PLAN** Mary Rothfels PLA Director. *Refer to the PowerPoint Presentation and the Palmerston Lake Association website for further detail regarding priorities and action plan.*

Certification under the Blue Lakes Program required the development of goals and objectives for four Performance Areas: Water Quality, Invasive Species Control (EWM), Citizen Science and Community Engagement, and Public Outreach and Communications. The loon population seems healthy: 4 breeding pairs with total of 5 chicks last year; total of about 12 loons this year – 4 pairs, 2 with 1 chick each. Mary is also surveying birds for the 3rd Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas (2020-2025), noting that there are 10% fewer bird species than she recorded 20 years previously. Out-of-the-ordinary bird sightings this year and next should please be reported to her: mary.rothfels@gmail.com

Question: “Where are you water testing?” Response John V.: Testing at North and South basins (shown on Map) wish list is to test ‘run off’ after heavy rain which would detect problems with septic systems. PLA will post test results on Web site. Christina Sass-Kortsak advised members interested in water quality (or other interests) to put their name on list on wall

Question: “What is happening with the drone plan going forward?” Response by Liz Jackson: reported that we will need to repeat each year (\$400/time) and create data; information provided about Drone mapping

Question: “Why is there a reduction in bird nesting?” Response by Mary. Reduction is primarily due to habitat destruction where the migratory birds overwinter in the south.

6. **EURASION WATER MILFOIL – Part 1**

- A short video was shown about the EWM mitigation efforts of Farlain Lake property owners. Farlain Lake is a small lake near the southern end of Georgian Bay.

7. **EURASION WATER MILFOIL – Part 2 ACTION PLAN AT MAZINAW LAKE** Vern

Haggerty VP Mazinaw Lake Property Owner's Association.

20 minute Video:

Vern discussed phosphorous levels in Mazinaw over the years (2016-2024) higher levels observed yearly. Where are the weeds coming from??? Took pictures and that was the beginning of the focus on EWM. 5% of shoreline is affected (37 acres) with potential for 65% of shoreline by 2032. 1500 volunteer hours to date with aim to kill the roots. Getting so thick that fish can't swim through; Re Drone pictures– water has to be dead flat and calm. Visual eye can pick up more than drone.

Options:

- hand pulling roots- ineffective in long run
- Divers needed- ineffective
- Mechanical harvesting– ineffective \$5000/day+disposal for harvester cost prohibitive
- mats used to smother weeds (kills by suffocation) and commercial divers needed– cost prohibitive
- Underwater lawn mover – kills everything EWM and other aquatic plants but doesn't kill roots- ineffective
- ProcellaCOR FX approved in US 2018; used in 200 lakes; used in Ontario 3 times (Bay of Quinte; Farlain lake and Trent Severn) started to study in 2010 – 300 peer reviews-appears to be very effective
- No restrictions on drinking water or swimming; ProcellaCOR applied by weighted drip lines; 3 applicators approved in Ontario; applicator is required to carry the required insurance. As a cottage owner – you can do it yourself with required permits. It takes 2 weeks to get a permit; the treatment needs careful planning and organization
- Cost - \$115,000 for Mazinaw Lake - 3 year plan. Year one \$95,000 + 10k +10k in subsequent years.
- Mazinaw has been unsuccessful in seeking grants. ½ funds needed to be provided by Association first to qualify. They are working on fund raising; Ok to start with smaller beds if funds are limited – better than nothing.
- Important to emphasize that mandatory septic inspections are necessary (10% failure rate of systems). For example if there were 300 properties on the lake it is likely that at least 20 septic systems are leaching into lake.

Question: “How will it play out in 5 years? It's inevitable that Boats will bring more in”

Vern noted that he hoped that Mazinaw will get 10 years out of the ProcellaCOR 3 year plan.

Question: “How much would it cost on Palmerston?” Drones will help determine the extent of the problem eg. determining if EWM is a solid mass or diffuse. Visual look at density of mat on map. Cost dependent on size of mat.

Question: “Would the introduction of weevils help with the problem?” Response: not effective.

8. **OPEN DISCUSSION** Christina Sass-Kortsak PLA Director, advised members to:
- put name on board if interested in assisting in any capacity. Example Need to recruit individuals to help with social networking
 - Drone map – mark map if you know of an existing EWM bed;
 - cottage map – mark where your property is located

Question: “Can donations be tax deductible?” Vern responded – it’s possible. Township can issue tax receipts – contact treasurer. Liz Jackson said that the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority can issue tax receipts as well. A ‘flow through’ agency is needed.

Fred Fowler commented that he brought copies of 2024 Township budget; reserve funds; grants etc.

Question: Steve Allen “How do we apply additional pressure to request for another meeting re gravel point”. Response Andrew. The PLA is not sure or aware of anything other than what we’ve already done in conjunction with what we hope the NFLAA will be doing ie: requesting another public meeting. Andrew - advised that the adhoc Gravel Point Advocacy Committee would continue to explore any other options.

Suggestion by Doug Humphries to start next year’s AGM at 9:00 show up at 8:30 to register.

Bill Pentney commented that we need to make technical legal (paper work) changes to revise our constitution to comply with the Law; It is understood that PLA will need a Special Members meeting to comply with the new Ontario Not for Profit Corporations Act before October 2024 to make the necessary changes. The meeting will be brief and online; quorum will be required.

Marilyn Seitz of the Ompah Community Centre Association gave an update on current events.

9. Meeting adjourned at 12:00.

