

North and South Otter Lake Association
Annual General Meeting
July 21, 2013

The North South Otter Lake Association, Annual General Meeting was held at the Frontenac Park Office on July 21, 2013 from 10:00AM to Noon, followed by a Potluck Picnic.

Attendees: Anne and Barry Robertson, Rudy and Joyce Duncan, Sally Dundas, Bill Racz, Steve Blostein, Jean Hodgson, Peter Neumann, Louise Gwyn, Beatrix Mueller, Jon Hulse, Mike Kramer, Don and Pam Stuart, Walter Abicht, Anita Austin-Dunn and Keith Dunn, David Crane, Ian Burgham, Catherine West, Fred Tudiver, Karan Aquario (visitor) Pam Wheaton, Mary Farrar, Edward Farrar, Mike and Liz Evans, Edith Costello
Regrets: Keenan Wellar, Lynda and John Morrison, Alfie Fulford and Brian Roche

From 10:00 to 10:30 Edith Costello accepted membership fees. New members completed membership forms, which were introduced this year. Everyone enjoyed socializing during this time with thanks to Anne Robertson for organizing the coffee and treats table.

At 10:30 AM Liz Evans, President, called the meeting to order

Introductions

Liz introduced and welcomed new members:
Anita Austin-Dunn and Keith Dunn,
Marie and John Hulse,
Pam and Don Stuart
Linda and Aaron Zimmerman

Name Tags were provided for the first time, which all appreciated.

Lake Binder

Pam Wheaton is continuing to keep the Binder up to date. She circulated a sheet for members to add comments on their observations of flora and fauna.

Minutes

Jean Hodgson, Secretary had completed the Minutes of the 2012 AGM and emailed them to members prior to the meeting.

Motion #1 Moved by Barry Robertson. Seconded by Peter Neumann.

That the minutes of the 2012 AGM be adopted.
Carried

Treasurer's Report

Edith Costello, Treasurer, reported a bank balance of \$694.39 as of July 1, 2012. Following the collection of membership fees, today, the balance would be \$765.10.

Edith noted the main expenditure for this year was membership in FOCA (Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations), which was \$225.75 - increased from \$149.00 due to FOCA's loss of government subsidies and grants. It was the first increase in 6 years.

Liz noted that FOCA represents 50,000 waterfront owners in Ontario which is 20% of all owners. Liz urged NSOLA Members to become involved and noted their website:

www.foca.on.ca

Motion #2

Moved by Edith. Seconded by Walter Abicht.

That the Treasurer's report be adopted.

Carried

NSOLA Cottager/Resident List

Barry displayed an enlarged map of North and South Otter Lake and area, which corresponds to the Cottager/Resident List which Barry continuously maintains.

Barry noted the changes in property ownership since last year:

1. Marcel and Sandy Ranger sold Property #4 to Nancy and Bruce Hunter (1/08/2013)
2. Anita Austin-Dunn and Keith Dunn have taken over #19.
3. CRCA (Catararqui Region Conservation Authority) has sold off a small piece of land adjacent to #58 to Kim Timon, owner of property #58.
4. Barb Dewhirst and Andre Lessard sold property #41 to Linda and Aaron Zimmerman as of Sept. 2012.
5. Pam deRuiter sold property #15 to Pam and Don Stuart, who had rented this cottage for many years.

Barry noted that the Tibbutt's property - #22 is for sale. Simon Smith is thinking of selling #3.

A list was circulated for members to update their information.

Liz thanked Barry for his work in the endless updating of the NSOLA Cottager/Resident List.

Liz announced that a copy of the Property List is available by emailing Barry:

bar@sno.phy.queensu.ca

Lake Water Testing

Mike Evans reported the most recent results of water tests:

Phosphorous readings were at the lowest level for several years. North and South Otter Lakes have better results than many surrounding lakes.

Water clarity was reduced earlier this summer due to excessive rainfall. Currently, clarity has improved.

Mike noted that results may be found on the MNR website.

Peter Neumann has observed less algae growth this year.

Culvert Repair

Liz reported that she had written a letter to Mark Segsworth, Public Works Manager for South Frontenac Township inquiring about plans for replacement of culverts between North Otter and Rothwell Lakes and between North and South Otter Lakes. She asked that the Township inform the NSOLA of any deconstruction and reconstruction plans. Members had expressed concern for lake water levels, shoreline conditions and the effect on flora and fauna.

In a response to the letter Liz received a phone call in which she was reassured that the culverts would be reinforced and not replaced. To date no work has been done.

Beaver Report

Barry reported the number of felled trees due to beaver activity was at the lowest level in decades. He observed five active lodges.

Other members noted that there were a number of trees felled by beavers on their properties.

Barry explained that his survey is taken from the lake and uses the number of beaver-cut trees that can be seen from the lake as an annual comparison. He noted that there is no attempt to control beaver activity, except to clear the dam that is in constant construction in the culvert between North and South Otter Lakes. (Salmon Lake Rd.)

Constitution

Peter Neumann reported that the new constitution has been completed and is available on the website. The main issues that were resolved after the 2012 AGM are:

TWO FORMS OF MEMBERSHIP

1. Voting

- Registered owners within NSOLA jurisdiction
- A person, designated by a registered owner

2. Non Voting, for example past members and others with a demonstrated interest in Otter Lake. The executive will define the naming, eligibility and enrollment of such members at a future executive meeting.

VOTING RIGHTS

One vote per property. If there are more than one property owner on the deed, it is up to the owners to choose the member who will vote.

If a member owns more than one property he/she will have 1 vote per property.

PROXY

By signing a Proxy form a member may delegate their voting power to another member.

Please see the 2012 AGM Minutes or the on- line constitution for details.

NSOLA Website and Facebook

Liz noted that Brian Roche has set up the NSOLA website and Facebook.

Steve Blostein recommended that AGM minutes and other information be included on these sites. (nsola.org).

Peter Neumann suggested that someone be designated for this responsibility. Liz asked for volunteers. No one has accepted this role to date.

Slate of Officers for 2013-2014

President - Peter Neumann

Vice President - vacant

Secretary - Steven Blostein

Treasurer - Edith Costello

Directors - Barry Robertson, Jean Hodgson, Brian Roche

Past President - Liz Evans

Liz thanked all past officers for their diligent service and Anne Robertson thanked Liz for her fine work as President.

Liz asked for nominations for Vice President and one Member At Large. No nominations were received.

Motion #3

Moved by David Crane.

Seconded by Rudy Duncan that:

The Slate of Officers for 2013-2014 be adopted.

Carried

Members' Questions and Comments

1. Walter Albicht stated he believed the Ash Borer had begun infesting trees on his property and asked if others had noticed this problem. Barry stated, as far as he is aware, the Ash Borer had been identified east of our region but not into it yet.

Walter suggested that property owners in the area cooperate to hire and expert to inoculate Ash trees.

Liz asked those interested to email Walter: walter@mcfarlandconstruction.ca

Peter Dawson, Frontenac Park Superintendent, noted that the Park is now part of the monitoring process for Ash Borer.

2. Ian Bergham commented on difficulties in obtaining reliable internet services at Otter Lake. He asked for those interested in talking to internet providers to email him at: west.catherine@sympatico.ca

David Crane summarized a conversation with his son who builds such systems. Towers cost anywhere from \$15,000 to one million and even then may not solve the problem for all locations on the Lake because line of sight communication is required.

3. Simon Smith inquired regarding getting road work done on Birch Point Lane. Liz suggested that this could be discussed by property owners on this private road.
4. Simon commented on dogs barking and on the loose.

Members adjourned to the Board Room where Erica Barkley gave a very engaging and informative presentation on Snakes and Turtles of this area.

Those who stayed enjoyed a delicious and sociable pot luck picnic.

Minutes by Jean Hodgson
July 21, 2013