

AGM Peninsula Lake 2020 | Monday, August 3, 2020
PLCA Minutes

1. Membership Trivia:

1. Q: How many years has Ben Wolfe and his band been 'calling' the Regatta square dance?

A: 27 years + one virtual greeting

Winner: Vicky Koudstall

2. Q: How many buoys are there on Pen Lake?

A: 12 buoys

Winner: no one!

3. Q: What is the deepest part of Peninsula Lake?

A: 112 feet off the Deerhurst cliffs

Winner: Debbie Court

4. Q: How old is the Springsyde Association?

A: 115 years! The Springsyde Cottagers association was created in 1905

Winner: Tony Moffat

5. Q: How many islands are there on Peninsula Lake?

A: 3

Winner: Catherine

6. Q: On what hole was the frog pond?

A: 5th hole

Winner: Rob + Cathy Hurst '

7. Q: How many bays are there in Peninsula Lake

A: Eight!

Winner: Scott Goodhew

Winners of the PLA coffee mugs: Debbie Court & Alex Armstrong

2. Land Acknowledgement

- Bridget Love introduced Joan Pratt
- Joan Pratt gave land acknowledgement:
 - We respectfully acknowledge that our Peninsula Lake community is located on the land of the Williams Treaties and was traditionally occupied by Indigenous Peoples
 - We acknowledge the Anishinaabe First Nations as the original caretakers of the land and we are grateful to be here today.
 - We take this opportunity to be reminded of the importance of being stewards of this lake and taking care of the environment so Peninsula Lake can be enjoyed for generations to come.
 - Tony Moffat asked “Doing a land acknowledgement is great but what can we do further for Indigenous peoples?”
 - Lori Vaudry responded that we will take this on as an initiative for the next year.

3. Introduction of Board Slates:

- PLCA
 - Graeme Eastmure | President
 - Dave Walker | Vice-President (retiring)
 - David Smith | Treasurer (retiring)
 - Bridget Love | Secretary
 - Jenner Pratt | Communications & Membership
 - Bruce Howell | Director
 - Vicky Koudstaal | Pen Notes Editor
 - Lori Vaudry | Social Director
 - Aaron Eastmure | Environmental Director

- PLA
- Gord Moffat | President
- Ted Charlton | Vice President
- Cathy Oakden | Treasurer
- Wendy Sommerville | Environmental Issues
- Ken Harper | Secretary

4. Special Guests

- This year's special guests were:
 - Karin Terziano, Mayor, Huntsville,
 - Terry Glover, Mayor, Lake of Bays
 - Michael Peppard, District Councillor, Township of Lake of Bays
 - Rick Brooks, Councillor, Township of Lake of Bays
 - Tim Withey, Councillor, Huntsville,
 - Kirstin Maxwell, Director of Development Services, Huntsville

- Graeme Eastmure introduced the meeting's special guests
 - Terry Glover, Mayor, Township of Lake of Bays
 - Township is slowly re-opening after COVID-19. In the month of July, the township hosted 4 planning meetings.
 - Michael Peppard, District Councillor, Township of Lake of Bays
 - Peppard attended the eco workshop and really enjoyed the program.
 - He encourages the membership to focus their efforts and attention in the next year on the environment and climate issues.
 - Rick Brooks, Councillor, Township of Lake of Bays
 - Brooks assured everyone that the township is working hard and are very busy helping the community recover from COVID-19.
 - Township is now back to full function and they look forward to working with the lake association in the upcoming year.
 - Karen Terziano, Mayor, Township of Huntsville
 - The community permit planning process was put on pause due to COVID-19. They anticipate it will start again in 2021.
 - Short term rentals have returned after a pause due to COVID-19 and Terziano reported that the licensing program has ramped back up.
 - Terziano reported that there will be major renovations and repairs to Huntsville's downtown core and street scape.
 - Questions from the membership for our special guests:
 - Can you advise as to how we can find out if short term rentals do indeed have a license on file with the town?
 - Terziano reported that there is a map on the Huntsville website.
 - Why are we seeing new docks and beaches at Deerhurst?
 - Maxwell reported that she will look into the docks in question. There was approval in 2017 for one dock at the northern most point of Mosquito bay, however, she will look into the additional

docks in question. She will also look into the new beach which was reported by the membership.

- Tony Moffat asked “One of the problems in the Township of Huntsville has been urban sprawl. Mayor, what is your reaction to this?”
 - Terziano explained that the urban sprawl is expected as there are urban areas within the town of Huntsville’s development plan. Part of Pen Lake resides within the Town of Huntsville which is zoned as an urban area.
 - Maxwell said Hidden Valley and Deerhurst are zoned as a recreational community, however, no industrial or commercial development is permitted.
- Brooks suggested that FOCA ‘clean boat’ signage is made available at the public launch points. This is an important step that we need to encourage everywhere in Muskoka.
- David Walker asked if there is a map of short term rentals in Lake of Bays? Mayor Glover reported that they are working on it and it will be available to the public soon.
- Gord Mofatt reported that Deerhurst has not yet cleaned up the maintenance areas next to the Canal which was part of our agreement.
 - Maxwell reported that she wasn’t directly involved with this agreement, however, it was very clear that they would have to clean up that area when they started development of the rest of the site. Maxwell will look into it and report back.

5. PLA Portion of AGM

- ***Gord Moffat called the PLA 2020 AGM to order (see Ken Harper’s notes)***

6. PLCA Portion of AGM

- Graeme Eastmure called the PLCA meeting to order.
- Vote to approve the 2020 AGM agenda
 - Motion to approve by David Walker.
 - Seconded by Eric Koudstaal.
 - All in favour.
- Vote to approve the 2019 AGM minutes:
 - Lang Moffat suggested that the minutes be amended to include the slate. Bridget Love to amend the 2018 AGM minutes accordingly.

- Motion to approve by Lang Moffat.
- Seconded by Anne Kinard.
- All in favour.

- Graeme Eastmure, President
 - One of his highlights of the year was the paddle parade in replacement of regatta. We had 45 boats, a parade of watercraft and swimmers – let’s keep having fun!
 - Graeme Eastmure highlighted the amazing work of the members of the PLA and PLCA boards.

- Jenner Pratt, Membership and Communications
 - Happy to report we have 205 members in good standing which is up by a very large margin by this time last year

- David Smith, Treasurer
 - David Smith walked the membership through the PLCA income statement.
 - The increase in paid membership dues is as a result of specific efforts by members of the board to get membership dues up to date.
 - Major website and maintenance effort was a significant cost which was needed to improve functionality of our membership fee.
 - Rob Hurst asked, “is the annual transfer to the PLA an acceptable amount to cover operating expenses?” Gord Moffat responded to say it is a fair amount, however, the PLA has started some fundraising efforts to help cover any additional costs that are incurred.
 - Lang Moffat asked, “why does the statement not show revenue?” David Smith responded, the event conveners take responsibility for the expenses/revenue from the events and then deliver net revenue to him after the event.
 - Susan Brenciaglia asked, “why are the dock rental and Canada Day costs so high when these events didn’t happen?” David Smith reported that the numbers on the income statement are costs from 2019.
 - Vote to approve financial statements:
 - Motion to approve by Eric Koudstaal.
 - Seconded by Dibbie Appelton.
 - All in favour.

- Lori Vaudry, Social Report
 - A big thank you to all our event conveners!
 - Remember summer isn’t over yet, upcoming events include:

- August 8 – star gazing
 - August 9 – picnic at flat rock
 - August – ladies luncheon
 - August 15 – the dock party
 - August 19 – Springsyde and friends book club
- Lori Vaudry, PLCA/PLA Membership Survey
 - 77 respondents which is 39% of our members
 - Lori Vaudry reviewed the high level findings from the membership survey.
 - Graeme Eastmure articulated that the purpose of the PLCA was born out of the PLA getting legal advice on what it can or cannot do as a charity. As there were prohibitions on lobbying, the PLCA was formed as a not-for-profit which could represent the membership more vocally on development and lobbying concerns.
 - Gord Moffat reminded the membership that there are currently no plans to build a clubhouse on the PLA property.
- Ken Harper, Buoy Report
 - The lake's navigational buoys are at the point when they need to be replaced.
 - Ken Harper reached out to our neighbouring associations in Fairy and Vernon lake who reported that they've been having trouble with the new buoy model not standing up correctly in the water.
 - We will hold off on purchasing new buoys until we find a satisfactory buoy model to purchase.
 - Ken Harper reported that there are currently 4 sets of Loons on Pen Lake.
- PLCA retiring board members
 - David Smith has worked to move the year end to make our financial system more understandable. He has also adjusted our processes back to an invoicing system. Thank you for all your valuable contributions, David Smith!
 - David Walker joined PLA in 2016 and later became vice president of the PLCA and served through to this year. He's our hands-on local guy who we've depended on for the past several years. David Walker often attended various local meetings and FOCA meetings on behalf of the PLCA and coordinated on behalf of the propane group. Much thanks to David Walker!
- Vote to approve PLCA board slate
 - Motion to approve by Margaret Brenciaglia
 - Seconded by David Walker
 - All in favour.

Early bird prize

- Tom and Lisa Walsh won the early bird prize and were awarded their own gift certificate to Muskoka on the rocks (coincidentally they are the owners!) The PLCA will determine another prize.

- Shore Stewards
 - Shout out to our shore stewards! Thank you for all your hard work and contributions to the Peninsula Lake Community.

- Final points of discussion
 - Graeme Eastmure communicated that the PLCA was incorporated in November 2016 which resulted in restructuring between the two organizations. Graeme was appointed president of the PLCA on March 18th 2017 and Gord Moffat, President of the PLA. The membership agrees that both presidents' terms be extended to the following AGM.
 - Motion to extend PLCA & PLA Presidents' terms through to the next AGM in 2021.
 - Vote to extend PLCA President's term:
 - Motion to approve by Rob Hurst
 - Seconded by Eric Koudstaal
 - All in favour
 - Vote to extend PLA President's term:
 - Motion to approve by Eric Koudstaal
 - Seconded by David Walker
 - All in favour
 - Lang Moffat commented on the importance of getting younger people from our community engaged in the association's membership. He suggests there should be a family membership for two people from the same family as a way of encouraging participation. Graeme Eastmure responded that the association has certainly looked at this in the past and studied other organizations which do have different classifications of memberships. It is something we will continue to discuss moving forward.
 - Tony Moffat communicated that we are at the beginning of a climate crisis and we need to emphasize the importance of our relationship with the earth. Climate change is lurking and it is the biggest threat coming to humanity. He feels we need to see the leadership of the lake take more responsibility and action here within the Peninsula Lake Community.

 - Graeme thanked the membership and officially announced the meeting adjourned at 11:20am.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING PENINSULA LAKE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION Virtual AGM Meeting

August 3, 2020

PLCA President's Introductory Remarks – Graeme Eastmure

Graeme Eastmure welcomed everyone and provided an overview of the joint virtual AGM structure of the PLA and the PLCA. Directors of both the PLA and PLCA were asked to introduce themselves to the membership. Lori Vaudry hosted the meeting and gave the membership an overview of the online format and the layout of the presentations and chat and trivia functions. A Special Land Acknowledgement Statement was presented by Bridget Love and read by Joan Pratt.

We want to acknowledge that we are on lands traditionally occupied by Indigenous Peoples. Their legacy and respectful stewardship for this land continues to shape Peninsula Lake today and we want to show our respect. Centuries after the first treaties were signed, they remain relevant today in guiding our decisions and actions.

Tony Moffat wanted to know what we were doing for the Indigenous people.

Lori Vaudry will take this item on and put together a follow up for the next PLCA meeting.

Graeme performed an introduction of the board members for the PLCA

Graeme Eastmure- President

David Walker- Vice President

Bridget Love- Secretary

David Smith- Treasurer

Lori Vaudry- Moderator and Social Director

Vicky Koudstaal- Editor Pen Notes

Jenner Pratt- Communication and Membership Director

Bruce Howell- Director

Aaron Eastmure- Environment

Andrew Moffat- New Director

Gord Moffat introduced the board members of the PLA

Ted Charlton- Vice President

Cathy Oakden-Treasurer

Ken Harper- Secretary

Wendy Somerville- Environmental Director

Call to Order and Constitution of the PLA Meeting:

Gord Moffat called the meeting to order at 9:16 am

Approval of the PLA Agenda:

Motion for approval of the agenda: Lori Laudry

Secunder: Perk Demara

All in favour. Carried.

Approval of the 2019 AGM Minutes:

Gord Moffat advised corrections are required to the AGM Minutes from 2019 which include the following:

Lang Moffat wanted the names of the directors and years on the board to be added to the slate when the membership votes on the board members nomination.

Lang wanted to make a motion that the names of the board members be added to the minutes before the membership votes on the PLA slate.

Motion for approval: by Lang Moffat

Secundered by: Lori Vaudry

Approval of the amended 2019 AGM Minutes

Motion for approval of the Amended 2019 AGM Minutes: Gary Depew

Secunder: Tony Moffat

All in favour. Carried.

PLA President's Report – Gord Moffat

Gord Moffat spoke about the challenges we face with the constant threat of Covid 19, social distancing and the introduction of virtual meetings. We continue our mission to enhance and protect our lake, the watershed and the overall environment that surrounds the lake. This year the board has continued to test and monitor the water quality under the leadership of Wendy Somerville. We continue to focus on maintaining the Lamon-McCann Meadow property and its garden, the tree program that will be reviewed later. We are also responsible for managing and protecting the Pen Lake Nature farms reserve on behalf of the Muskoka Conservancy. There are specific items we must do and items we choose to do to ensure the health and safety of this beautiful property.

We have also increased our ability to interact and communicate with and to the members. We have added two revenue streams to the PLA by offering 5 trees for auction to the membership and coffee mugs and beer steins with the Pen Lake and Pen Lake Community logos.

It takes a very large group of passionate people to make the PLA thrive into the future and we have that team but are always looking for additional members with a passion and keen interest that would like to get involved in a special project or role on the board. We welcome anyone with an interest in the environment to assist us in our efforts to keep our lake pristine and help with the changes in the lake's health and the impact of the environment. Asking members to get involved for the Benthic Monitoring and water testing, organized eco workshops and continues to work diligently on water testing and trying to get the word out to the membership about shoreline vegetation and the sensitivity of the watershed.

Ted Charlton- Web Site and Communications:

Ted shared some of the enhancements and updates to the environmental web site and the PLA section of the web site and to add some context to the importance of this information. The primary mandate of the PLA is to preserve, protect, restore and improve the natural resources, water quality and the environment of the Pen Lake watershed and that is exactly what the information I am sharing is focused on. The results of the recent survey confirm that the top 4 issues that members consider to be the most important are the lake quality and condition, the environment protection, information on policies, planning and development and lake planning and development. We are sharing this information through the web site for the membership to review at their leisure. There is a new tab under the PLA section for the environment and separate pages listing the reports and project that we have worked on. The ECO workshop and algae study that was specific to Pen Lake. There is also a flood plain map and ECO event that might be of interest to the members. We have added to boater's code of ethics to use as a reference and teaching tool. The ECO workshop presentations are also available on the web site to listen too.

The PLA is always grateful to donations and the coffee mugs and beer steins are listed for sale on the stores page.

Tony Moffat raised a concern that the Pen Lake Association should take a more aggressive approach to property owners about the shoreline and the clear cutting down to the lake.

The PLA put together a package last year that was delivered to every property owner on the lake, Non-members included providing them information on the work the association does and steps that each property owner could do to enhance and protect their shoreline. We can educate and we can promote but we cannot mandate. That is not our role but we will encourage property owners to do what benefits the lake.

Ken Harper's report - on the PLA property:

The PLA was very successful in the sale of the 5 trees that were put up for auction this year. All the trees were planted in June and personalized plaques were adhered to a piece of Muskoka granite and placed in front of the trees. We also added two rain barrels that I kept full so any member visiting the property could water the trees during the dry season.

The PLA reached out to a local gardener to clean up and plant some flowers around the Lamon McCann commemorative stone. Many thanks to Janet Walker for her work in making this area beautiful.

The Shed that Eric Koustaal donated to the property was put on hold due to this pandemic and will hopefully get put on the property next year.

The PLA are in the process of building a gate for the entrance to the property. A member of the association has offered to donate the hardware and the plans for the gates.

Cathy Oakden- PLA Treasurer's Report:

Gord Moffat invited Cathy Oakden to speak about the Pen Lake Association financials. The financials for the PLA show that we are in the black with almost 3500\$ income which is an improvement over the last few years. This is due to the tree planting and the sale of the coffee mug and beer steins. The expenses for the Lamon McCann meadow include grass cutting, taxes, insurance and general upkeep to the property. The other expenses we have are the management of the Conservancy property. Every third year the PLA must have the field cut down to prevent trees from growing. This keeps the field clear for the birds to use for nesting. The conservancy requested that we add Blue Bird Boxes along the road to get the migrating birds a home to roost in. A member of the association built bird boxes and they were mounted on poles for the birds to use.

The PLA had bobolink signs made that will be posted around the property to keep people out of the field during the nesting season.

Approval of the PLA Financials:

Motion for approval of the PLA Financials: Wendy Somerville

Seconder: Eric Koustaal

All in favour. Carried

Wendy Somerville- Environmental Report:

We had a wonderful ECO workshop with 3 different presenters that are now uploaded to the Pen Lake website for everyone to view.

We attended the safe and quiet seminar and received some pamphlets that we plan to put out at the boat launch next year.

There was an Algae causation study that was done on our lake due to the bloom that we had in 2017 and the report will be presented later in the fall and posted on the District of Muskoka web site. The PLA offered 10 years' worth of data that they used to set a baseline for their study.

The Algae that occurred in this bloom was tested and no toxins were seen. There is

An abundance of phosphorus that resides at the bottom of the lake does not pose a problem in the water column.

Last year we were blessed with being part of a pilot project that collected water samples from 2 lake locations and the samples were sent to the Dorset lab to be analyzed to create a base line for Algae and where it lives in the water throughout the summer months.

A huge thank you to Jim Marshall who continues to perform water testing around the lake keeping our records current for reference.

Stewardship Award- Gord

Gord spoke about the award that is given out by the PLA to a person who has spent a lot of time, effort and work promoting the lake and our community. We have had a few nominations this year. Gord read the nomination and recipient of this award.

Wendy Somerville

Wendy has been a member of the Pen Lake Board since 2018 taking on the Environmental portfolio and a long-time member of the Pen lake Association following in the footsteps of her father Warren Moses who was also on the Board.

Wendy's background in the medical field of laboratory technology and testing has given Wendy a head start in helping the Association in their quest to understand our lake and how it works.

Wendy is an advocate in educating the membership on topics that concern us all and has continued the ECO workshop event with the assistance of a few board members. She coordinated the delivery of some amazing presentations to bring to the membership including the MNRF's Water Management Program, and Fish Habitat study, how we coexist with wolves in Muskoka, and recently a presentation on Monarch butterflies and how to reduce your use of road salt and its effect on our watershed.

Wendy attended and took part in the Algae Causation Study last year and put together a vast amount of research data collected from Pen Lake and shared it with the Hutchinson Environmental Group for their evaluation on the algae in our water and what factors trigger the bloom we saw in 2017.

Wendy signed up with the Muskoka Watershed Group to perform algae water column sampling to get a baseline for where algae live in the lake during the spring, summer and fall when most blooms occur. All water samples were frozen and taken to the Dorset Environmental lab to be analyzed.

Wendy attends all environmental seminars that the District of Muskoka put on so she is kept current with information on our changing climate, vegetation and surrounding environment.

Wendy collects lake data from our own biologist, Jim Marshall and populates it onto a spreadsheet that is put on our website for viewing together with historical information.

Wendy created a Welcome Package that included a letter from our presidents, a copy of a past Pen Notes and environmental brochures that were delivered to all non-members of the association by the shore stewards to let them know the many benefits of becoming a member of this group.

Wendy is always out enjoying the lake we love so much but also taking notes on the water and what is floating in it to be on the ready if an algae bloom should appear and notify the membership as well as the Simcoe Health unit so testing can begin.

The Environmental portfolio is a huge undertaking and Wendy has not only stepped up to the challenge but exceeded everyone's expectations on her knowledge and dedication to take on this role for the Pen Lake Association.

PLA Board Slate 2019-2020 – Gord Moffat

Gord Moffat advised that there were no changes to the PLA slate and all the Directors were remaining in their current positions.

Gord Moffat- President

Ted Charlton- Vice President

Cathy Oakden-Treasurer

Ken Harper- Secretary

Wendy Somerville-Environmental Director

Approval of the PLA Slate 2019 - 2020:

Motion for approval of the PLA Slate: Perk Demara

Secunder: Rob Hurst

All in favour. Carried

The PLA AGM was adjourned at 10.08am

~ the PLA portion of the meeting was concluded and a 15 minute break was provided before the commencement of the PLCA meeting ~