

**Raven Lake Cottagers' Association  
Annual General Meeting**

**Saturday, August 17, 2013**

**10:00 am**

**The Sandy Beach, Raven Lake**

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**1. Welcome**

Sean Lawrence

Sean welcomed all Cottagers to the 2013 Annual General Meeting.

**2. Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting** (August 18, 2012)

Motion:

Moved, Mara Kenins; Seconded, Miriam Pearlman  
that the minutes of 2012 08 18 be adopted as circulated.

Carried

**3. Treasurer's Report**

Ronni Buwalda

Revenue 2012: \$3670.12  
Expenses 2012: \$3069.73 for FOCA, newsletter, insurance, donations to Dorset Lions  
Camp and Dorset Fire Department.  
Current Balance: \$3548.09 excluding \$550.00 additional membership dues and donations  
to Lions Camp and Fire Department, and some sundry expenditures.  
Regatta Balance: \$3772.05 excluding expenditures and receipts.  
Term Balance: \$3549.03  
Paid-up members: 93 (significantly below previous years)

Motion

Moved, Peter Buwalda; Seconded Peter Hungerford  
that the Treasurer's Report be approved.

Carried

**4. Announcements**

Sean Lawrence

- a) Volunteers are invited to assist the Association in a number of areas, for example, annual placement and removal of dock at Sandy Beach, annual set-up of parking at Landing, and many additional lake tasks.
- b) Duncan Johnston has installed a new ramp at Sandy Beach at the Association's request. Our thanks to the Raven Lake Rum Runners for donating this ramp.
- c) The Royal Astronomical Society will present star-gazing workshops to interested gazers. Dates to be confirmed.
- d) FOCA AGM, 2013, expressed concern with the government's Not-For-Profit Corporation's Act 2010 (NFPCA). Our RLCA's By-Laws need to be brought into line with this Act.

e) New website: ravenlake.org

f) History Text: *Raven Lake from Logging to Leisure* available for purchase in hard, soft and dust for \$68.00 plus tax and shipping for hard copy. Refer to Link on website and Facebook.

## **5. Membership Report**

Mara Kenins

At present, we have 93 members. Members are asked to check the master telephone directory list for accuracy, including your e-mail address, and to let Mara know if there are any corrections. In addition, it was noted that email addresses are important for us to have as a means of contacting members; at this year's FOCA meeting, the majority of Cottagers' Associations operate on a 2-tiered membership fee for distribution of their newsletters, eg. \$25.00 for e-mail distribution & \$40.00 for regular mail. The RLCA board will be discussing this as an option for next year.

## **6. Introduction of, and thanks to, our Directors for 2012-2013**

Sean Lawrence

## **7. Elections to Board of Directors**

Geoff Gooderham

Motion:

Moved, Geoff Gooderham; Seconded. Howard Rowilson  
that we accept the nominations of Jim Gould and Cameron Peck.  
Carried

Geoff Gooderham presented the slate of candidates for election to the Board of Directors.

Motion:

Moved, Ronni Buwalda; Seconded Esther Shipman  
that the following be elected to the RLCA Board of Directors for 2013/2014:

Ronni Buwalda  
Chris Gooderham  
Geoff Gooderham  
Jim Gould  
Sean Hungerford  
Susan Kanitz  
George Kenins  
Mara Kenins  
Sean Lawrence  
Ross Lawrence  
Scott Lewis  
Susan Luke  
Leslie MacFabe  
Karl Mehisto  
Miriam Pearlman  
Cameron Peck  
Howard Rowilson  
Patricia Smith

## 8. Community/Communications

### a) Regatta

Susan Luke

Registered attendees: 178. plus additional unregistered  
Profit: \$382.00

A donation has been made to the Minden Hills Relief Fund: \$205.00 (1/2 regatta profit, \$191.00 plus \$14.00 additional collection.)

Our thanks to donors of prizes, bakers under Esther Shipman's leadership, all volunteers, and the following families:

Bringloe, Buwalda, Crandall, de Haan, Douglas-Williams, Gooderham, Hungerford, Kenins, Lewis, Luke, MacFabe, Martin, McGreavy, Mehisto, Mooney, Pietrkiewicz, Reingruber, Riddle, Rodmell, Rowlison, Sheppard, Shipman-Lawrence, Smallbridge, Smith, Stransky, Wilson

### b) Spring Social

Howard Rowlison

April 6, 2013 on the Saturday Night of spring Cottage Life Show.

Attendees: 33

Profit: \$350.00 to be applied to 2014 Spring Social

Our thanks to donors of prizes. We are happy to accept all donations, large and small. Please contact Howard.

### c) Corn Roast (immediately following the AGM)

George Kenins

Corn Boil, hot dogs, hamburgers, peameal on buns, soft drinks, water

Adults. \$5.00. Youths \$3.00. Toddlers free.

### d) Communications

Sean Hungerford

165 likes on Facebook (117 last year), 230 posts

New website: [www.ravenlake.org](http://www.ravenlake.org)

## 9. Lake Steward's Report

Chris Gooderham

Stewardship means respecting and caring for our environment to preserve the ecosystem.

- a) Lake Health -The loon monitoring program continues. Loons have been sighted and heard. (A breeding pair has been observed at Deer Lake Narrows.) Under the Ministry of the Environment, water is monitored twice each year at 3 sites on the lake.
- b) Haliburton Highlands Stewardship Association and Coalition of Haliburton Properties Associations - For the past 10 years, Raven Lake has not been stocked with lake trout because we have a viable population of lake trout reproducing. Jim Bringloe and John Gould work with the ministry of Natural Resources, MNR, testing lake trout annually.
- c) Shoreline Health Concerns - Information on our website notes that 1 in 4 septic systems are failing, and most are leaking. Rob Davis, a septic expert, was unable to attend this meeting, but there will be a link posted on our website to a video of his presentation to the CHA..

## 10. Lake Access & Landing Update

Sean Lawrence & Scott Lewis

Scott Lewis presented his report as follows:

At the Annual General Meeting on August 18, 2012, a motion was passed as follows:

"Be it resolved that this Association endorses and approves the actions of the Board of Directors to date with respect to the landing, and directs the Board to develop and

advance a long-term plan to ensure that safe and secure docking and parking is available at the landing to the Raven Lake community, including opening discussions and negotiations with the MNR, townships, and others having jurisdiction. Further, the Board is authorized to draw up to \$3000 of the Association's funds as may be necessary in connection with expenses related to the development of this plan." The motion was moved by Howard Rowlinson, seconded by Geoff Gooderham, and was carried unanimously.

Since that time, we have had meetings and/or discussions with both the MNR and with Councillors representing both Lake of Bays and Algonquin Highlands. These discussions have underscored the ambiguity of our situation.

As a community, we are divided between two townships, each representing a different group of constituents, and a Ministry which has divergent vested interests and responsibilities. We are an anomaly within the MNR system across the province. We do not pay taxes to them and they do not answer to us directly as local residents. However, the situation has evolved somewhat in our favour, at least with regard to timing, and we have been able to bring each of these parties up to speed on the various aspects of our ambiguous status with each. Here is what we know:

- We were put on notice some 5 years ago that the docks were illegal
- The MNR wants to divest itself of as much liability as possible with regard to public access areas such as our landing
- The MNR defines our use of the landing as "unauthorized occupancy" and they have been very clear they do not have any obligation to the residents of Raven Lake specifically except to provide public access for short term parking (a period which has yet to be defined), to the boat ramp and the public docks

We realize that this is a very sensitive issue within our community and want to ensure that we can clearly communicate a vision of what is possible to achieve with the MNR and which will address as many of our community's needs as possible.

It has come to light over the past year that there have been many interpretations and misconceptions as to what is being proposed. We would like to be clear that this is very much a work in progress and not written in stone. We welcome everyone's input but also need to keep in mind that the MNR also has a very limited scope of what will they will allow. On a positive note, the MNR's vision of how to meet with the needs of Raven Lake community is very similar to ours.

We believe that we have reached some consensus with the MNR as to how we can secure long term, legal status for residents of Raven Lake regarding the occupancy of a majority percentage of the Landing, provided that the following criteria are met:

1. That a non-commercial body such as RLCA, representing a majority of Raven Lake residents and responsible for addressing their needs, takes on a long term land lease for a significant portion of the landing;
2. Any such plan must still allow for access to some short term parking of vehicles to the boat ramp and the public docks for the general public as well as for those who did not wish to participate in an RLCA plan

3. That the current use of the landing stays as is. This means that the contemplated future use will be limited to the parking of vehicles, trailers and boats. For further clarification, there is NO POSSIBILITY OF COMMERCIAL, RESIDENTIAL OR INDUSTRIAL OCCUPANCY.

4. That the agreement with the MNR allows for the building of a number of dock slips appropriate to accommodate the needs of the Raven Lake boat access residents

5. That the RLCA, via a long term land lease, indemnifies the MNR from any responsibility/liability for that portion of the Landing that it controls  
In an effort to further clarify the plan, a rendering of what a landing plan could look like, was presented at the meeting.

We believe that, with the support of the Raven Lake community, this is the type of plan that would be palatable to the MNR.

Discussion followed this report, including the following:

- Realtors report a 20% discount on property values of cottages with no docking facilities.
- OPP urges us to report every theft or property damage or suspicious activity at the Landing, no matter how small. Contact David Neville, OPP Minden Detachment, 705 286 1431; david.neville@ontario.ca
- Kathy Hungerford thanked Scott and Sean and their committee on behalf of the Association for their efforts and possible future plans regarding security at the landing.

## **11. Termination**

Motion

Moved, Ross Lawrence; seconded Geoff Gooderham  
that the meeting be terminated.

Carried.