

Bruce Beach Cottagers' Association

Minutes for the Directors' and Councilors' Meeting

Date: Saturday July 11, 2009

Location: Bruce Beach Club House

Present: Keith MacDonald, Ross Klopp, Peter Newson, Barry MacPherson, Susan Davidson, Area1 – Nan Grant, Area2 – Ruth McLean, Area3 – Laurie Hamilton, Area4 – Dick MacKenzie, Area5&6 Diane Bryant, Area 7 – Heather Ingham, Area 8 – Victoria Birkett, Area 10 – Joyce Pottier, Area 11 – Brian MacEachern

Regrets: Janice Gibson, David Tiernan, Area9 – Anne MacDougall

1.0 Welcome and Roll Call – (Keith MacDonald)

Keith MacDonald welcomed everyone and each person introduced themselves

2.0 Vice-Presidents Report – (David Tiernan)

David Tiernan unable to attend meeting

3.0 Report of the Councilors

A major concern was raised by many of the area councilors on the condition of the beach. With the higher water level this year, weeds and grass not native to the area and other vegetation have flourished and in many areas growing down to the waters edge. This has made it impossible to walk the beach without wading in the water or walking on the sharp grass. Also, nutrients flowing from the tiled farm fields are contributing to the excessive growth of the weeds and plants

Several recommendations were made to resolve the above issue:

1. Keith MacDonald to discuss these issues with the Mayor Mitch Twolan and the township at the next fall meeting
2. Approach the Minister of Natural Resources and the Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority to discuss the issues and recommend they send a representative to view the growth on the beach
3. Recommend to the township removal of at least 10 feet of weeds and grass from the shoreline.

The Touts Grove Association has passed a resolution to support the BBCA in any and all efforts to resolve the nutrients and excessive growth of weeds, non native plants and vegetation on the beach and offered any support they required from the association

Brian MacEachern is arranging a test assessing the amount of nutrients in the ground water after the next storm. He will select water from several different locations.

The township has moved some of the large logs from the shoreline and if not used as firewood by the cottagers, they will be removed later this summer

The road between the 8th and 10th concession is flooding in the spring and after excessive rainfall. This is mainly caused by the runoff of water at the top of the hill (Lake Range Road and Highland Road). A meeting was held with the township including the mayor and an engineer to discuss the installation of a drainage ditch on the east side of the road. It is possible the parties impacted by this re-construction could be assessed the cost of the project

Cottagers are encouraged to have their septic system inspected by the township or eventually they may be responsible for the full cost of the inspection. Pumping the tank is not required for the inspection, however, it is recommended every 3-5 years to support the septic process

A suggestion to cottagers to minimize the noise from large equipment during the summer months

Agreement to encourage cottagers to support the refurbishing of the Club House. Donations are welcome but are not tax deductible

South Bruce Beach has received an award from Cottage Life in recognition of the development of their green space

4.0 Report of the Treasurer – (Janice Gibson)

Letters have been sent out to the cottagers still owing the Annual Fee. An additional fee has been charged of \$5.00 for account overdue past July 1st and each area councilor will be sent a list of the overdue fees to ask for payment

5.0 Report of the Yearbook Coordinator – (Peter Newson)

The yearbook was sent out on time and on budget. Next year, the Bruce Beach website will be published on the front cover www.brucebeach.com

6.0 Report of the Communication Co-ordinator – (Ross Klopp)

The e-mail data is now in excellent condition with very few return e-mails showing incorrect addresses. There are now over 300 cottagers receiving Ross's emails. This continues to be an excellent method of communicating quickly to the

community. Cottagers are encouraged to view the Bruce Beach web site www.brucebeach.com

7.0 New Business – (Keith MacDonald)

At the winter executive meeting, the decision was made to eliminate the winter beach patrols. More cottagers are here out of season and have alternate security requirements. This should be an individual responsibility.

Barry McPherson will continue to represent the BBCA with Keith MacDonald at the bi-annual meeting with the township. This meeting also includes other Beach Associations in the township

Carol Mitchell MPP will be meeting with the Beach Associations this fall and will be invited to walk the beach to see the condition of the weeds and non native vegetation

The Pine River Water Shed volunteers have planted 68,000 trees along the Pine River to help filter the nutrients from the ground water before entering the river. The BBCA will be recommending a donation to this organization for approval at the next annual meeting

The BBCA will also be recommending a donation to the Golf Club Restoration fund to be approved at the next annual meeting