

BELLA-REBECCA COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
SATURDAY, JUNE 29, 2019 @ 10:00AM
BILLIE BEAR LODGE HALL

1. Call to Order:

Wendy Kimmel called the meeting to order at 10:05 am.

2. Welcome & Introductions:

Wendy Kimmel welcomed everyone and acknowledged the efforts of the Executive over the past year and introduced those of the Executive and the Lake Representatives that were in attendance.

3. Bereavements:

Wendy Kimmel reflected on the loss of members during the past year, Bobbie Welsh and Barbara Lawrence and asked everyone to pause for a moment of silence in remembrance.

4. New Members:

Wendy Kimmel asked if there are any new members on the lakes and again reminded all if they are aware of any new cottagers please let the Executive know as the Lake Reps would like to welcome them to the community.

5. Presentation:

Wendy Kimmel, on behalf of the Executive and all members of the Bella-Rebecca Community Association, expressed her gratitude to Willma Stortz and Billie Bear Resort for the ongoing support of the Association, their hospitality, use of the beautiful heritage property for the Annual General Meetings year after year and of course the favourite ice cream social. On behalf of the Executive and for the generosity shown to the Association, Wendy Kimmel presented Willma Stortz with a print of Betty's Island, taken by Mary Spring of Bella Lake. Willma expressed that Billie Bear Lodge really enjoys being part of the community and that a true friendship/partnership has evolved over the years. Willma also went on to mention that if anyone has any concerns with the day to day operation and activities at the Lodge to please bring it to her attention.

6. Approval of Minutes of AGM June 30, 2018:

Lisa Parrott reviewed the highlights of the June 30, 2018 AGM and asked that we consider these minutes as published. Wendy asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the June 30, 2018 AGM. Motion by Linda Houser that the minutes be accepted as published, seconded by Cindy Burgess. Carried.

7. Nominating Committee:

Wendy Kimmel, in Don Spring's absence, requested nominations from the floor, there were no nominations from the floor, therefore, Wendy put forth nominations as follows;

David Bird, Incoming President
Wendy Kimmel, Past President
Nettie Cronish, Incoming Vice-President, Bella Lake
John Greven, Vice-President, Rebecca Lake
Rosemary Mantha, Incoming Treasurer
Lisa Parrott, Secretary
Blake Hutcheson and John Paterson, Bella Lake Reps
Rob Fraser and Dennis Robinson, Rebecca Lake Reps

Moved by Christine Jany to close nominations, seconded by Marlene Walker.
Motion to accept nominations by John Housser, seconded by Dennis Crane. Carried.

8. Financial Report:

Denise Omand presented the Financial Report. A couple highlights noted under revenues was that expenses for the Bella and Rebecca Lakes maps have been partially recouped and the trial gift membership drive during holiday season did not garner many new memberships. Denise once again reminded everyone to encourage the 30ish adult family members to become Association members. Under expenses the annual donation to the Huntsville Hospital and Hospice Huntsville in the amount of \$400.00 is recommended. Denise went on to explain that there was a savings of \$660.00 as David Bird completed the 2018 tax return. As David Bird is the incoming President the Association is looking for a volunteer to complete the 2019 tax return.

Denise also highlighted that there were reduced costs for the regatta as crests were reused and an additional savings was realized by not mailing the directories. Everyone was reminded to pick up their directories at the door and that after the meeting the remaining directories would be available at Denise's cottage on Swains Bay Road until end of day Sunday. Denise thanked Rita Bloem for her assistance in preparing the updated directories and Denis Crane for picking up the directories from the printer in London. Denise stated that the website costs are ever increasing and that the Association requires a new volunteer website manager and asked anyone interested to please put their name forward as soon as possible.

Questions: Why does the Association no longer make a donation to the local Fire Station #30?
Wendy Kimmel explained that it was decided a few years ago that The Foundation would make the donation to the firehall.

Motion by Cathy Greven that the Financial Report be adopted as presented, seconded by John Ellis. Carried

Motion by Dennis Schettler that donations in the amount of \$400.00 each to the Huntsville Hospital and Hospice Huntsville be approved, seconded by Ginny Burgess. Carried

9. Foundation Report:

Glen Warnica stated that The Foundation is fairly stable with no major activities other than the restoration of one of picnic tables. He advised that if anyone wishes to make a donation to the Foundation for the ongoing upkeep and maintenance, there is a donation sheet at the door. Glen noted that the maintenance committee is doing some work on trail, specifically in a location that is typically wet and they want to ensure that people remain on the trail rather than walk around this wet area ultimately rerouting the trail. Glen advised that due to the government changes for charitable organizations the Foundation is in the process of making changes to the charter in order to continue to be recognized as a charitable organization under the new guidelines. Wendy Kimmel advised that the BRCA will also require changes to the bylaws. Glen reminded everyone of the information signs that have been erected along path and encouraged everyone to read them and learn of the ecological balance and history of Foundation property. Glen also asked that as the Bella-Rebecca Community Association and the Foundation are linked, that members of the BRCA consider also becoming a member of the Foundation.

10. Committee Reports:

➤ History – Valerie and Harald Kremer

Val and Harald presented the Committee's work to date. The Committee had a demonstration board of pictures from the past and laminated maps available for purchase at the front door. Val walked everyone through a power point demonstration that is available on the BRCA website, showing how to navigate through the information by clicking on the maps and/or following the embedded links. Val introduced the Committee members – Rick Bramm, Wendy Burgess, Paule Clifford, Bob Hutcheson, Marcia Julian, Wendy Kimmel, Harald Kremer, Val Kremer, Carolyn Paterson and Robert van Bremen. Val also mentioned that Ginny Burgess was the first to hold the position of Chair of the Historical Committee and was responsible for getting the Committee up and running and John Greven convened the group to start with. Val noted that the Committee has relied on the vast research and the publications of Barb Paterson, her work has been an extremely valuable resource. Marlene Walker thanked and congratulated Val and Harald and the entire committee for their tireless efforts and commended the inspired writers and the strong team effort from around both of the lakes.

Wendy Kimmel mentioned at this point that a Dark Skies Event will be held the last weekend in August on the Friday or Saturday evening, depending on the weather. Wendy explained that this is a new event hosted by Rick and Susan Bramm who travel the world following the stellar events and will offer the participants a tour of the night sky and provide a look at the stars as seen through the eyes of our ancestors. Participants will also have the opportunity to look at the skies through the Bramm's 8" telescope. If anyone is interested in participating, contact Wendy Kimmel.

➤ **Stewardship Awards – Cathy Greven & Linda Houser**

Bella/Rebecca Lakes Stewardship Initiative: Linda provided a brief review of the initiative and mentioned that the document is on the website for all to review. This award came from the initiative and the nominations come from the property owners and members of the BRCA. Linda went on to mention that the nomination forms are also found on the website and encouraged everyone to review the Stewardship Initiative and criteria for this award and to consider nominations for future years. The Stewardship Initiative Award is a print of a painting by Catherine O'Mara of the bridge at the narrows and nominees must meet all 7 criteria. The Paddle Award nominee must meet one of the criteria. Linda presented the Award to this year's nominee Carolyn Paterson and provided a lengthy description of the nomination and Carolyn's many qualifications and tireless contributions to both lakes. You may read the entire nomination on the website.

➤ **Environment – John Houser**

John began by advising that the charts will no longer be printed and handed out in an effort to protect our environment. He went on to explain that the charts are available on the website. John explained that the lakes are monitored every year and he looks for an anomaly in the data that is collected. The water clarity test is carried out every couple of weeks and he noted that in Rebecca Lake a decline had occurred in the past but it is now improving and 6.5 meters was attained before the disk disappeared, an average of all the samples is used to obtain the number. Bella Lake is looking great. John touched on the phosphorus levels and explained that this comes from decaying trees, septic systems, motor boats, weather and temperature for example. Both lakes are consistently in great shape. He touched on the collection of non-commercial wood ash which can be delivered to the dump to be used in an effort to improve the calcium content in the lakes. The Township of Lake of Bays have identified 3 lakes as test sites and they are depositing the ash to monitor and determine if this will improve the calcium content. If the calcium content is below 2mg/l the crustaceans and fish will disappear. The calcium level has improved in Bella Lake and Rebecca Lake was not tested this year.

➤ **Benthic Water Monitoring – Marcy Lancaster**

Marcy was not available this year to present the benthic water monitoring, however, it was noted that the testing will again be on their property @ 1041-5 Kell's Bay Road on Saturday, July 20th @ 9:00 am.

➤ **Regatta – Denis Crane**

Denis volunteered to coordinate the organization of the annual regatta, he stated that there has been a lot of help from everyone. Denis mentioned that the Nadalin's are looking after trophies and asked that everyone please return the previous years trophies asap in order to prepare them for this year's regatta. Denis thanked the Burgess clan for their contributions in the organization of the event. Nancy Ellis is updating the regatta manual and putting it into a word document so that it is available to assist organizers in

the future. It was decided that the overall winners will be the MC's the following year. Denis mentioned that assistance is still required for this year's event, help for starting boats, finish line and emergency boats for sailing on Sunday. Sign in sheets were being handed out. Regatta will be held at the Foundation Beach @ 1pm, waterskiing will not be offered due to insurance costs.

➤ **Trophies:**

Lisa Nadalin is collecting last years trophies; everyone was reminded to please return the trophies.

➤ **Corn Roast:**

Wendy Kimmel advised that the Corn Roast will be hosted by Vice President's Nettie Cronish and John Greven on the Saturday of long weekend @ 1pm at the Foundation beach.

11. Other Business:

❖ **Municipal Reports: Rick Brooks / Mike Peppard**

Rick Brooks stated that roads will continue to be a major concern by all and that this past winter has been very hard on the roads. The clean up of the sand on roads will be done and that it is a bit late this year as winter held on longer than usual. Rick discussed that the township only has one grader and one rental grader for the summer months and that the Public Works is utilizing micro surfacing rather than repaving which is a cost savings to the taxpayers. He mentioned that some of the savings will be used to move up road work and there will be some bridge repairs as well. Rick stated that there is information on the Township website regarding the ash collection program, all owners should know how to collect their ash and where it is collected. Rick commented on the Citizen Advisory Committee and that there have been 2 meetings to date and the minutes were distributed. Rick mentioned that he is working on a number of projects and that he is involved in the recruitment program in which 8 candidates came forward – 7 for Fire Station 30 @ Limberlost and 1 for Station 50 @ Interlaken. Rick stated that the lack of volunteer firefighters is a very serious issue and due to this Fire Station 50 has been decommissioned. Rick mentioned that they are working on the location for the new Canada Post mailboxes at Billie Bear Lodge as the current location is too close to the road. He noted that there is a fundraising bbq and garage sale at the Pioneer Church on July 13th.

Question/Comment – There was a comment from one of the members that the Township Building Department has become an unreasonable force to deal with. Rick mentioned that work is needed to be done on customer service as well as the enforcement of the regulations and guidelines and that council is working on this issue. Wendy suggested that people need to speak up and ask questions if change is to happen. Mike Peppard talked about the area of concern with the Township staff and he stated that sometimes they are having to follow guidelines that are not always agreeable with the public and it is not always a staff issue.

Mike Peppard advised that the District will be implementing a septic inspection program and the cost to owners will be \$100 and will appear on everyone's tax bill. Mike indicated that it is intended to carry out this inspection every decade. Many questions were asked around the enforcement of the program however Mike advised that he was not aware of all the details of how the program will be implemented and that more information is required. There is a website tutorial how to maintain septic system and instructions on how to check and clean the sieve on the new systems with the green lids. Mike discussed the algae detection program and that they have a device to detect and test the type and status of the algae in the lakes. He also stated that there will be new signage erected under a grant that was received for main street improvements in Dwight, Hillside and Dorset. Mike Peppard discussed the garbage and recycling at the landfill sites and mentioned that it is becoming an urgent matter with the landfill sites filling up very quickly and with approximately 70% of recycling having garbage in it and 70% of garbage having recycling in it. He noted that composting may be coming to the transfer stations over the next year. Mike mentioned that once again the paramedic services will be coming to the Lake of Bays this summer and that we will once again notice them at Fire Station 30. Mike mentioned that the Township will be retaining Station 50 and repurposing it however, no details as of yet.

❖ **Off Road Vehicles:**

Peter Ham was unable to attend the AGM to make a presentation on this issue. Wendy Kimmel advised that the information will be distributed by an email blast. Wendy asked that the members provide feedback on whether this is an issue of interest or concern and if anyone wishes more information regarding these types of vehicles.

❖ **Boat Speeds:**

Denis Crane discussed that in accordance with the Vessel Operation Restriction Regulations it is illegal to operate a boat at greater than an unposted speed limit of 10 km/h within 30 metres of the shoreline. Denis asked that everyone comply with this regulation between Buck Island and the shoreline otherwise he will place a regulation buoy to bring attention to the speed limit and the danger.

❖ **Social Events:**

Progressive Dinner	–	Saturday, July 20 th
Regatta	–	Saturday, August 3 rd @ the Foundation Beach
Sailing Race	-	Sunday, August 4 th @ the Perry's dock
Music on the Dock	–	Sunday, August 4 th @ Ross's dock
Corn Roast	–	Sunday, August 31 st – 1pm @ the Foundation Beach
Artists of the		
Limberlost	–	Saturday and Sunday, August 17/18 th
Dark Skies	–	Friday or Saturday August 30 th / 31 st – location tbd
Benthic Testing	-	Saturday, July 20 th @ Lancaster's Dock – 1041-5 Kell's Bay Road

❖ **Adjourn:** Meeting was adjourned at 12:00 Noon.

Wendy Kimmel, President / Lisa Parrott, Secretary