**Minutes of PaBIA Directors’ Meeting (Conference Call) April 14, 2020**

Directors participating**: Tom Scoon, Erica Allen, Helen Bryce, Hilde Clark, Tom Lundy, Michael Phippen, Nancy Rogers, Dave Sharpe, Julia Sievwright, Mary Thomson**

Ward 3 Councillors: **Earl Manners, Scott Sheard** present for the first agenda item.

Regrets: Ian MacLeod, Virginia Skuce, Mike Berton (GBA Rep.)

**Township of the Archipelago (TOA)** Earl Manners and Scott Sheard

The proclaimed Emergency Act due to COVID-19 has been extended to May 14th. The Township is governed by that Act. Marinas, Township properties and public access points are closed to the public. Cottage rentals are not permitted except to provide housing to those who have none during the emergency period.

Council has changed to twice a month meetings which are held remotely.

Provincial costs are actually higher due to the need for emergency measures. Not yet decided by Council, but there may be a possibility of deferral of interest charged on unpaid property taxes.

**President’s Report** Tom Scoon

With no known date of the lifting of emergency measures, it’s not possible to be sure that we will be able to provide all our services and events as planned. The organization needed for the events on the calendar has mostly been completed e.g. speakers, regattas, sailing but we must be prepared for them to be cancelled. Savannah Richardson, Junior Regatta Chair, sent a creative list of suggestions for activities for individuals and families if the Regattas need to be cancelled which Tom read.

Tom Lundy has contacted Andy Blenkarn about our markers. They can’t be placed until the restrictions are lifted. All Andy is able to do at this point is to prepare them so they’ll be ready when the time comes. Desmasdon’s has very limited staff.

The Marine Patrol program may be run for only part of the season, subject to Federal, Provincial and Municipal policy. We have made a commitment to the two students who have been hired for the summer. Mary Thomson pointed out that in order for them to receive any government funding for lost wages they would have to be laid off.

All agreed that we must encourage our members to support the local businesses. There was discussion about how best to allocate any savings, depending on the 2020 year end finances.

Dave Sharpe will draft a letter to members for the next Connections e-blast. It will be sent to the Board for approval once the draft has been set with input from Hilde, Nancy and Helen. Mary suggested that the message must be clear that seasonal residents must stay away until it’s safe and that we will support local initiatives.

For several years, Helen Bryce has led the group of cottagers participating in the annual spring Walk, Run, Pole fund-raiser for the West Parry Sound Health Centre Foundation. This year it will be held virtually. The need for funds is greater than ever.

**GBA** Dave Sharpe

PaBIA is the largest of the GBA member associations. They look to us for support and participation. They are working well on our behalf.

Dave and Erica Allen participated in their recent AGM. Dave circulated the Minutes of the event. Dave has been asked to be part of the Executive.

**Member Safety** Tom Lundy

There is no further action on the proposed EMS initiative in the area. Those contacted are unable or unwilling to participate. The most serious concern is liability.

The 2017 Yearbook contained an article outlining the steps to follow in emergency situations. This will be recirculated.

**PaBIA By-Law Update** Mary Thomson

Even if the new Provincial legislation related to Not-For-Profit organizations is not enacted by October, it is recommended as best practice to update the By-Laws to conform. Mary sent the Draft 2020 By-Laws to Tom and Nancy. The updated version addresses some of the problem areas and the overall governance structure. Tom and Nancy will provide feedback to Mary and Erica and Julia will be asked to do the same and send their responses in a week. Once that’s done, the next draft will be circulated to the full Board by the next meeting.

**Environment** Michael Phippen

The septic inspection program developed by Tom Todd, Northshore Barge, is ready to begin. The pricing structure has been determined and Tom has been consulting with TOA staff. It will be run as an educational program, to recommend any needed improvements to systems and to acquire data, not to report these to the TOA. PaBIA may promote the program but this is not a PaBIA initiative.

Bartlett Tree Service and Northern Pest Control (Neil West) will work together to offer services on the islands for Pine Sawfly and Gypsy Moth infestations. They may also work on Phragmites eradication.

**Education** Helen Bryce

Plans for the summer events that are indefinitely on hold include the Naturalist speaker, a GBBR kayak and walk event, Rick Esselment at the AGM and boat safety courses being organized by Ann Doritty and Madi Macdonald with Randy Johnson. Tom Scoon suggested that Helen’s article on dock foam should be included in an e-blast. Trudy Irvine is preparing a series of articles to go out in the e-blasts. Janet Irving and Helen will attend a GBF webinar on water levels, a critical and current issue, to share learnings going forward.

**Communications** Hilde Clark

The Yearbooks have been delivered to Nancy who is now preparing the mailing to members.

We will continue to communicate with members about changes to events and services.

**Administration** Nancy Rogers

A report on member numbers, revenues and expenses to April 9th was circulated to the Board. Total membership is 752: 530 Primary, 69 Secondary, 26 Supporting, 126 Junior. There are 18 members from last year still unpaid for 2020. Advertising revenues are higher and should cover costs for the Yearbooks and mailing. A forecast of expenses and revenues was provided.

**Next Board Meeting**: Tuesday April 28th, 5 p.m. EDT. Further meetings will be scheduled as needed.

Meeting adjourned.

Nancy Rogers

Recording Secretary