

Minutes of PaBIA Directors' Meeting (via Zoom) June 1, 2021

Directors participating: Erica Allen, Mike Berton, Helen Bryce, Hilde Clark, Tom Lundy, Michael Phippen, Cam Richardson, Nancy Rogers, Virginia Skuce, Mary Thomson

GBA: Mark Gwozdecky

TOA Councillor: Earl Manners for first agenda item only (Scott Sheard unable to attend)

Unable to attend: Dave Sharpe

Ward 3 Councillor Earl Manners

The waste management dock is now in place closer to the Transfer Station. Carts are now clearly labeled for waste, separate from those for luggage and other items.

There have been concerns about wakes from wakeboarding boats in narrow channels in Skerryvore area.

In 2020 the Bayfield-Nares Association made an effort to remove derelict docks. TOA staff along with Scott Sheard are looking into doing the same in Ward 3. Tom Lundy will ask the Marine Patrol to report locations to him and Michael Phippen.

The most recent Committee of Adjustment meetings were held over two days. There are development pressures for larger, higher and more buildings. As of April there were 22 applications for building permits.

The septic information packages were mailed to ratepayers. A webinar on how septic inspections are done will be held again in the summer aimed at Wards 4, 5 and 6.

Insurance Mary Thomson

Mary reviewed the Directors & Officers group policy, noting that the exclusions are critical. We will need to confirm that our service suppliers have their own insurance coverage. Nancy Rogers will send the policies for the Commercial General Liability and Marine policies to Mary for her review.

First Nations Mark Gwozdecky

Mark chaired a discussion group (Erica Allen, Dave Sharpe, Hilde Clark, Terry Clark, Helen Bryce, Mary Thomson) on Strengthening Relations with First Nations. Their report (attached below) was discussed and unanimously approved by the Board.

Erica has written a letter to Adam Pawis, congratulating him on his election as the new Shawanaga First Nation Chief.

Communications Hilde Clark

The Communications Team, webmaster Dave Anderson, social media Savannah Richardson and Hilde met to discuss coordinating the four entities for communicating with members: Yearbook, eBlasts, Website and Social Media. Hilde distributed her report to the Board outlining steps being taken in each of the four areas.

Member Events: Virginia Skuce

With changing COVID-19 restrictions it is still not possible to know if regattas and other events can be held. The Ojibway Club is planning a limited Camp so it was suggested that their Rec. Head Scott Ballon be contacted for information. Mary Thomson advised that we get Public Health input. Mark Gwozdecky will ask at the next GBA meeting what other Associations are doing for their activities.

Two weeks' notice was given last year for cancelling speakers so that may need to be done again. If restrictions are loosened, triathlon and regattas may be changed to later dates. We will keep members informed through our website, e-blasts and social media.

TOA OP & CZBL Review: Cam Richardson

Cam reported that the consultant to the Township will present the report to Council by June. It should be available to the general public in late August or early September.

There are increasing development pressures for new lots along roads that lead to coastal properties. The concerns are overburdening local services and the septic systems required to service these lots plus the overall density.

Maple Leaf Marina group have one marina installing trailers for rent on a property and another that is reducing slips to put in a development of townhouses which is underway. Payne marine is now a Maple Leaf Marina and the expectation is that we will see more cruisers up and down the east shore of Georgian Bay as this is one of their mandates. Growing numbers of cruisers need services for waste pump outs.

LOTB.ca are building floating cottages made from shipping containers on barges. They have composting toilets but grey water goes into the Bay. These are not classified as vessels as they are not motorized so do not need to be licensed. They may park at Crown Land or virtually anywhere there is water without recourse at this time.

Macey Bay received approval from LPAT to build 180 trailers at a park in the Honey Harbour area. The Township of Georgian Bay (ToGB) was against it but through the appeal process to the LPAT they were able to move ahead with the development.

Brandy's Cove Marina is lobbying to put in a septic system to handle waster from cruisers. The rationale is that the current system of pump out to holding tanks and then those pumped to a truck to be taken to the municipal system is too costly and time consuming. The property cannot really handle a septic of this size and scope and has been turned down by the ToGB.

Mark Gwozdecky noted that the GBA has launched a program giving assistance to Bay townships in developing planning and zoning by-laws.

Member Safety Tom Lundy

Tom reported that the 2021 Marine Patrol will begin on June 27th with a shortened training week. Last year's patrollers, Tom Wunderlich and Chris Lusty, are returning.

Randy Johnson will work with Tom and Chris to produce an instruction video for fire pump starting and use.

US and International Ratepayers: Erica Allen

Mike Berton drafted a letter related to current border closures that with additional input from others was prepared to be sent by Erica Allen (via e-blast) to the PaBIA membership. Mark Gwozdecky drafted a letter for GBA to be sent to political leaders and an additional letter was drafted by the Federation of Ontario Cottagers Associations, which GBA co-signed to be sent to political leaders. The latter two letters would be referred to and links provided in Erica's letter to PaBIA members.

Meeting adjourned.

Nancy Rogers, Recording Secretary

Attachment:

Strengthening Relations with First Nations

May 28, 2021

Objective: To be good neighbours to Shawanaga First Nation (SFN), to constructively engage in reconciliation efforts but always stand up for the interests and mission of PaBIA. This objective is

consistent with PaBIA's mission statement to "unite our island and coastal community while preserving and protecting its unique natural environment, supporting community involvement and safety and engaging with relevant organizations to help us achieve the vision of the Association."

Approach: genuine engagement and wise decisions are only possible if PaBIA is better informed and educated about the history and current context of Canada's First Nations. We cannot be naïve about the potential for conflict and misunderstanding, nor the fact that many of our members may not be comfortable with these efforts. Therefore we recommend an approach which is gradual, flexible, step-by-step and focuses on educating our membership, direct and friendly engagement with SFN, taking opportunities for practical cooperation if/when it serves the interests of PaBIA.

Possible Activities:

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- a) **Education/raising awareness:** this is the most important one because unless we and our members buy-in, there is little we can do that will be lasting. Under this category there is a whole suite of things we can do to offer our members opportunities to learn about First Nations issues, particularly about the Shawanaga First Nations people who live next door to us. This category would include all manner of recommendations to our members regarding videos, books, links to websites, content in our e-blasts and on our web pages.
 - b) **Direct Engagement:** These include encouraging our members to participate in events such as the annual SFN Powwow, the Talking Circle, the Oshkinigig birch bark canoe event, Phragmites-busting)
 - c) **Practical Cooperation:** continuing ongoing cooperation with SFN (water quality monitoring, IPCA, Phragmites-busting) and looking for opportunities more cooperation when it serves our interests
 - d) **Symbolic actions:** symbolism really matters and so we should establish rules around acknowledging our First Nations before major public events such as AGMs as well as looking at our activities to ensure that they are respectful of FN (e.g. medals for the regatta, Champlain Monument)
 - e) **Donations:** encouraging members to support organizations (Outward Bound, Nature Conservancy of Canada, SFN Healing Centre) that have programs that support First Nations, particularly if it is aimed at youth and rebuilding the SFN connection with the water.
 - f) **Communications:** most of the above cannot work without effective communications with our members. We have great tools and a communications team who are generating many ideas for our Facebook, Instagram, and e-blasts/to inform our members and improve their engagement. One example is dedicating a small "corner" of every e-blast to include a fact or two about SFN and Canada's First Peoples, recommended video content or reading.
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