

Agenda

Big Gull Lake East End Cottage Association 2012 Annual General Meeting

1. Introductions:

Ken welcomed everyone to the 2012 AGM meeting. He introduced the BGLEECA executive. Ken mentioned that there were items for sale, (t-shirts & caps). He welcomed our guest speaker, Matt Craig from Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority.

2. Guest Speaker: Matt Craig from the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority

- a. MVCA activities and programs: Matt gave some background information on the history of the Authority. They are governed by municipalities with a portion of financial backing coming from the Provincial Government and user fees. We have one of the largest watersheds with it being over 400 kms. There are 15 members which represent each of the municipalities.

There are various environmental initiatives on the lakes. Regulations come from studies that have been completed on the lake. Permission is needed from the Conservation Authority especially in wetlands areas. Samples are taken from the lakes so the Conservation Authority has baseline data on each lake.

There is a watershed report card which allows the authority to compare the health of our watershed to that of others. Flood forecasting and warning is another responsibility of the Authority. They are also in charge of the 23 dams in the system. The Authority is also involved with regulations and planning in the watershed.

- b. Lake Planning: It is spearheaded by the lake community. It is to identify what is important to the residents on the lake and how to protect the lake. Water quality is the main driver of the lake planning. Development on the lake is another issue that is addressed in the lake planning process. Big Gull Lake in comparison to Mississippi Lake has low to moderate development. Lake Planning educates the resident on the lake to what is important to preserve the quality of the lake. Matt handed out an information sheet if we would like the Authority to get involved. Matt answered questions from the community regarding the selling of crown land and the regulation of water levels. Matt urged the residents to contact the Conservation Authority with any concerns they may have.

3. Review of 2011 AGM minutes: The minutes of the 2011 AGM were approved on a motion by Larry Glass seconded by Peggy James.
4. Dues: Debbie Bird will be collecting any outstanding dues and accepting early payment of 2013 dues.
5. Long time cottagers leaving and new cottagers arriving: Ken mentioned the passing of Captain Rowe and Seth Fagerstrom. Ken also welcomed new cottagers to the Lake.
6. Recognition of special volunteers: Sandy and Bill Phypers, Eric Williams, Jim Kuhr, Mel Thompson, Chuck Carolan, Steve Palmer, Jim Commerford, Nancy Gibson, Bill Hindson, Bev Williams, Virginia Grant and Gord Erickson were recognized for their contributions to the cottage and lake community on Big Gull. Ken presented each person with a small token of appreciation from the Cottage Association.

7. Director's Reports:

a) Vice President Nancy Kingston:

Nancy thanked Tom Symes for his work on the calendar. Tom has asked that all photos be submitted electronically. He also asked that names of people be included on any photographs. Nancy hoped to have the calendar ready by the end of April. If you are up at the lake early, your calendar can be picked up from her.

Nancy also introduced the Area Reps and thanked them for all of their hard work.

Nancy thanked Areas 7, 8 & 9 for their work on the picnic. Areas 10, 11, 12 & 13 are responsible for the organization of the picnic next year.

Nancy reminded everyone that there are caps and shirts for sale.

b) North Shore Road Director Dave Cox:

Dave gave a report on the work on the North Shore Road. He also outlined plans for future work on the road. He reviewed the expenses and activity sheet that was available to all.

c) Treasurer Debbie Bird:

Debbie referred to the expense sheets that have been handed out. If more detail is needed by anyone, please feel free to contact her. Debbie thanked everyone who mailed their dues into her by April. If you are unsure if you have paid, please email Debbie. The

accounts have been audited by Eric Williams. (See attached Expense Summary of 2012)

d) Lake Steward Ken Grant:

Ken gave an overview of what activities have occurred this year. Ken also mentioned the concern regarding Blue Algae. If you spot it, please contact the local authorities. Another invasive species is the emerald ash bore.

The Algonquin Land claim activity was updated by Ken. Some of the issues being discussed are the land, fishing, mining and forestry rights for Crown Land that is being claimed. An Agreement In Principle is slated to be completed early next year. Public Consultation will follow the issuing of the AIP.

Emails regarding low water issues and fire bans were sent to the area reps this summer.

e) Director at Large Janet Sidey:

Janet gave an update on the BGLEECA website. Janet asked for any input regarding the website.

8. Elections : for Lake Steward and Secretary positions:

A motion to approve the positions of Lake Steward (Ken Grant) and secretary (Donna Commerford) was moved by Ted Economides and seconded by Fern Murray. The motion was carried unanimously.

9. Door Prizes were awarded, the meeting was adjourned and picnic began at 11:55.