

**Minutes of the 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting  
of the  
OXTONGUE LAKE RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION  
August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2000, 7:00 P.M.  
Oxtongue Lake Community Centre**

The President, Geoff Holden chaired the meeting with 41 in attendance. Copies of the agenda plus 1999 AGM minutes were available at the door.

1. A moment of silence was observed in memory of Margaret Canning, Earl Farber, Eve Hamilton, Jack Hayden and Bill Swift. Omitted from the list were Stuart Beemer, Isabel Smith and Mrs. Fred Crew. It is sad to have lost so many of our long time members.
2. Welcome to the 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the OXTONGUE LAKE RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION. No additions to the agenda.
3. The President's remarks included personal comments about motors on the lake and ATV's on our trails. Geoff displayed some photos of pollution taken at the end of winter showing residue on the snow and ice from snowmobiles. He also mentioned the build up of rocks out to about 20 feet +/- at the closest side of the dam. He indicated the concern of the Board; if damage occurs at the far side of the dam as the water is eroding the land during high water levels.
4. Motion by Rick Wesolowski, 2<sup>nd</sup> Barb Woodfield, that the minutes of the 36<sup>th</sup> AGM be accepted as circulated. Carried.
5. Treasurer's report. As of August 9, 2000, there is a balance of \$1,941.12 in the Chequing Savings Account plus a GIC worth \$4,537.40, which matures March 8, 2001. There were 55 members, plus 19 paid tonight (74). Madeleine moved the acceptance of her report, seconded Judy Clapp. Carried.
6. Township Report by Don Shortreed, reeve. Mr. Shortreed introduced council members who were present: Eleanor Harrison, present Reeve for Stanhope and seeking re-election for Reeve of the new municipality in November election; Gerald Bain, present Clerk of Stanhope and newly chosen Chief Administrative Office of new municipality plus Garry Sanderson, our Deputy Reeve and Kerry Lock, our Council member.

The Reeve reviewed a bit about the newly formed municipality of Sherborne, Stanhope et al. The township office for the new municipality will be in the present Stanhope office, 35 km south of Dorset and 58 km from Oxtongue Lake. The decision has not been reached, if a satellite office will remain in Dorset on a part time basis, nor any firm information on staffing except the appointment of Mr. Bain as CAO. There was some discussion from the floor about alternate council meetings in Dorset or occasionally in Oxtongue Lake Community Centre.

The decision for the municipal office to be in the present Stanhope office was passed down by Arbitrators, Helen Cooper and Ian Robertson, who were chosen by the Transition Board. Ada Coxworth mentioned she had signed a form to receive the information on this decision, but it had not arrived.

A discussion followed about the winter hours of our dump. At last years AGM we were told that the hours could be expanded to more days when the information was printed for this year! The Reeve did not seem to have any explanation why this did not occur. Concern was expressed about the recycle containers not being replaced when full.

Mr. Bain explained where the office was located in Stanhope – 35 km south of Dorset and ¼ km north of Carnarvan on North Shore Road, ½ mile west, off Hwy #35. He went on to review the "Voter by Mail" procedure as distributed at the door. Last election only 62 people voted out of a possibility of 1,700. It is hoped to have a 40% vote, by mail. Our municipality will consist of 3 Wards: Ward 1 – Sherborne Twsp with 1 councilor, Ward 2 – Stanhope Twsp with 2 councilors and Ward 3 – McClintock, Livingston, Lawrence and Nightingale with 1 councilor. The Reeve is elected at large. Council – total 5 members. A list of all eligible voters will be posted by September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2000.

The President thanked Mr. Bain for his information.

A further discussion followed about our roads conditions, some which were in need of repair due to the extremely heavy rain storm on July 31<sup>st</sup>. The question arose of why the Oxtongue Rapids Park Road was not posted as 'closed' at our end of the road. It was thus posted at the other end by Lake of Bays staff. There was further discussion of tree removal from roadways in emergency situations, who to contact? The roads department of the township should be called, the township office, the reeve or local councilor.

Mr. J. Hondrich application for development along Harris Road has been withdrawn. Another hotly debated topic was the charge of \$10.00 per year for all ratepayers to visit "The Tower" at Dorset. We were reassured at the AGM last year that ratepayers would not have to pay to visit the tower.

Garry Sanderson reported that the trail from Oxtongue Lake area around Beetle Lake has been changed to go up Eiler Lake Road to the gravel pit on the right and back via Blue Spruce ski trails coming to the twsp road beside the Outfitters. Permission for land crossing has been obtained from Haydens, Swifts and Williamsons (Lambert property owners). This is an 8-km trail. It will be called "the Memorial Trail" in memory of Jack Hayden and Bill Swift.

The original bridge over Oxbow Creek is still in good condition. The trail was crossing private land before reaching Timber Trail and we do not have permission to trespass this land. The municipality has hired two staff members to cut trail as well as trail in Sherborne twsp, near the Frost Centre.

Our dump is in good condition. Also the lagoon was improved and is now operating with more freeboard than last year (7" compared to 2 ½ " last year).

7. Geoff reported that the water level of Oxtongue Lake was 364.52 on August 4<sup>th</sup>, approximately the same as on May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2000, the time of spring runoff. The logs are all in at Tea Lake Dam and the water on the topside is up to the top of the cement breakwater.
8. Ted Keown gave the report for the Oxtongue Lake Fire Department. They were called to:
  - 9 medical calls
  - 6 motor vehicle accidents
  - fire calls – the biggest was the accident at Smoke Creek resulting in the bridge burning – our fire department attended this fire for 22 hours

\$2,380.14 was raised at the bar-b-que last Saturday, August 5<sup>th</sup>. Ted thanked everyone for coming to dinner, for contributing food and for volunteering his or her time.

They have received \$250.00 in donations.

Fire Department Emergency # 789-6466.

Ambulance # 789-9694

Due to insurance regulations our present fire truck is outdated and must be replaced in order to maintain fire insurance at the present rate. The municipal council is looking into the purchase of a new fire truck – pumper – tanker combination at an estimated cost of \$200,000.00. This funding to come out of the township reserve. Delivery is expected in the spring.

\$2,00.00 was donated to the Children's Fire House. This is a teaching tool for children, purchased by donations from many businesses, for education use in Muskoka Parry Sound area. It is a very effective teaching tool.

Ted mentioned that there are bears in the area. Traps have been set at Blue Spruce Inn by MNR and at Oxtongue Lake cottages' office are by Mike McIntosh from Bears or Us.

Within 2 or 3 years, we hope to have 911 available for use for emergencies. This will necessitate the change of all our present emergency numbers. All roads must be individually identified.

9. Algonquin Snowmobile Club report was given by Joe Lindsay in the absence of Scott Hayden, President of the club. Our club is part of the MSR (Muskoka Snowmobile Region Consortium). There is now a good trail from here to Kearney. Lake access through Mary Schell's has been discontinued due to abuse and damage of private property. Access is now through Blue Spruce property.

10. Canoe Regatta was organized and reported by Matt Strickland. There were some concerns about the location due to the heavy rain. Brian and Alison Carter, Oxtongue Lake Cottages, kindly gave permission with the condition that no vehicles drive on the grass area, which is still very wet. Algonquin Rideau Propane made their bar-b-que available, but this year the cost was \$100.00. Matt felt this cost was too high and suggested we not order it for next year. Matt also thanked the many businesses who gave donations and prizes, plus those who volunteered for the afternoon.
11. Fran Gower reported on the progress of the book called "Facts & Fables of Oxtongue Lake". Funding approval has been committed from:
- our Municipality - \$500.00
  - Millennium Bureau of Canada - \$2,334.00
  - \$2,500.00 from this association

Due to a mistake when asking for the printing cost, we will be over budget by about \$2,000.00. We are hoping to cover this cost by pre-selling the book. By the end of the meeting about 100 copies had been pre-sold. According to our agreement with the Millennium Bureau of Canada, any profits are to go to a local charity. Therefore I would like to propose an amendment to the motion of August 1997 AGM, "that any profit money realized from the sale of the book Facts & Fables of Oxtongue Lake be donated to the Oxtongue Lake Volunteer Fire Department. Moved Fran Gower, 2<sup>nd</sup> Marilyn Farber. Carried.

The book is slowly falling into place. We would like to thank Marlene Kyle for her expertise on the computer. She has typed all the information and some of it is ready for final proof reading.

A sample of The Book cover was on display, looking very attractive in the millennium colors of royal blue and silver gray plus white. Please have faith, it shall get done.

12. There was not any new business presented from the floor. Unfortunately, Peter Gillespie was not able to attend nor did he forward any report on Stewardship.
13. Judy Clapp chaired the nominating committee and presented the following slate for the Executive for the following year (until the next AGM):

President:	Sandy & Gord Atlin
	- Co-Chair 635-2870
	- Home (416) 483-7486
Vice President:	Rick Wesolowski
	- 635-2049
	- Home (905) 843-1085
Secretary:	Marlene Kyle
	- 635-9816
Treasurer:	Madeleine Pageot Strickland
	- 635-2761

Directors:

- 635-3275
- Home (905) 845-6197
- Shelley Wagar Cousintime
- 635-2507
- Fran Gower
- 635-1229
- Ted Keown
- 635-2667

Moved Graham Tipple, 2<sup>nd</sup> Marvin Jones. Carried

This part of the meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m. followed by a short intermission while refreshments were served.

Guest Speaker for the evening was Don McCormick, Huntsville. Don updated us on the Trans Canada Trail System, plus a bit on Park to Park. The Trans Canada Trail is the longest trail in the world, a length of 16,000 km, from Atlantic, Pacific and Arctic Oceans. Uses are to include walking, hiking, running, equestrian, biking and snowmobiling. The local people will say what uses in their area, as they will be paying for it. Relay 2000 went through Huntsville last Friday, August 4<sup>th</sup>. Don was the coordinator of a great program organized for the town of Huntsville. A new pavilion opened at Avery Park.

Goal is to get off township roads and create trails that everyone is happy to use - 95% of work is securing access and funding. Park to Park is from Kilbear to Algonquin Park. Also there is a concern about ATV's using the trails and creating a problem of ruts. The local councils will set out the guidelines for the trail uses. Covering of the trails will be crushed granite.

Don led a discussion at the end of his presentation.

Mr. McCormack was thanked by Fran Gower.

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF DALLAS

IN SENATE, FEBRUARY 15, 1905.

1

1905-1906

Approved by the Senate  
this 15th day of February  
1905.

1905

Approved by the Senate  
this 15th day of February  
1905.

Approved by the Senate  
this 15th day of February  
1905.