

Chaffey's Area Lakes Association
AGM 2007 Minutes
July 7, 2007

Call To Order

- The AGM was called to order at 10:10 am by the President, Walter Ebaugh.
- Walt noted that there were no passing of members, or new members.
- Walt identified other current board members: Jim Swartz (Vice-President), Mary Eeg (Treasurer, absent), Sarah Clarke, and Brian Patterson (absent).
- Walt welcomed guests Irv Mazurkiewicz (Parks Canada, Rideau Canal Director of Operations), Valarie Blazeski (Parks Canada, Manager of Resource Conversation), and Vince Watters (Chaffey's Lockmaster).

Additions To Agenda

None.

Announcements

- Vince Watters, Chaffey's Lockmaster, received the Parks Canada Award of Excellence this year. He is the only non-management staff to have ever received this award. Walt presented details of the award from an email sent by Gordon Liddy, Parks Canada Superintendent of the Rideau Canal.
- The Rideau Canal was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Routine Business

- No errors or omissions in 2006 AGM minutes.
- Approval of 2006 AGM minutes
 - Motion: George Brown
 - 2nd: Betty Clarke, carried
- Approval of 2006 Accounts Summary and 2007 Budget
 - Motion: Pat Brown
 - 2nd: Will Ebaugh; carried
- Election of Directors
 - Betty Clarke and Barbara Bekooy Parker resigned from the board.
 - Mary Eeg and Walter Ebaugh, whose 3 year terms ended, were renewed.
 - Danielle Ebaugh was nominated as secretary.
 - Board changes approved
 - Motion: John Gordon
 - 2nd: Dave Schenkel; carried

Director Reports

- Strategic Planning outcome – Jim Swartz
 - Jim first displayed the poster advertising this year's boat parade in the Chaffey's Locks Rocks (Corn Roast) event, and encouraged everyone to participate.
 - Jim discussed the strategic plan.
 - Board decided we needed a new purpose and direction since being renamed from the Indian and Benson Lake Property Owners Association.

- He discussed who we are, why we exist, and what we contribute.
 - Top 5 priorities
 - Water – zebra mussels, septic systems, fertilizers, water levels
 - Vegetated Shoreline – deer, chainsaws
 - Property Turnover – educating new owners, renters
 - Lake Population – density, traffic, pollution, noise
 - Fish and Wildlife Conservation
 - Goals for 2006-2007
 - Conduct membership drive
 - Develop communications program
 - Engage key organizations and government entities
 - Establish volunteer network
- Communications – Sarah Clarke
 - Need to communicate to members, potential new members, and others to engage them.
 - Communicate via mailer, email, pamphlets, word of mouth, newsletter, and website.
 - Lake Association has purchased a URL. Name is chaffeyslakes.com. Members will be notified when link is available.
 - Sarah asked members for specific items they would like to see on the website, and for help compiling the information. Suggested items included community events, water safety, water quality information and testing reports, dock construction, shoreline plants that do well, links to other useful websites, and how to enhance property values, among other suggestions.
- Water Quality Monitoring – Walter Ebaugh
 - Indian and Benson Lake Property Owners Association hired consultant to review all available water quality information on Chaffey's area lakes, which produced a good baseline for future water quality testing.
 - Data identified lack of dissolved oxygen relative to depth. In very deep water, dissolved oxygen drops to zero. In 1970's, lake trout disappeared. Cause due to extra nutrients in lake, which cause more algae to grow. Decomposition of algae uses up oxygen.
 - Phosphate level is 12-13 micrograms per liter in Indian Lake. Less than 10 micrograms, no algae grows. 10 – 20 micrograms – bass do well. 20 micrograms – filled with algae (i.e., a swamp).
 - Water clarity 6 years ago was 12 – 13 feet. It is now 18 – 20 feet. Zebra mussels are eating free floating algae, which makes water clearer.

Comments by Township Representatives

- Mayor Ron Holman and councilors Linda Carr and Jim Stedman attended.
- Ray Holman reported:
 - Garbage collection on all Township roads should be in place by Fall 2007.
 - Roads are a high township priority.
 - Making the Rideau Canal a World Heritage Site will be good for tourism.

- Population is increasing in township, so more lots are being created. Developments are restricted to 40 lots. 70 – 80 new houses are being built this year.

Presentation by Parks Canada, Rideau Canal

- Irv Mazurkiewicz, Director of Operations, and Valerie Blazeski, Manager of Resource Conservation, gave the presentation.
- They discussed the role of lake associations in helping Parks Canada meet it's Rideau Waterway mission.
- They said our lake association is very engaged and doing a great job.
- Valerie gave us handouts to pass out. She said policies about what is permissible on the waterway, and dock permits are on their website. Parks Canada welcomes our help in reporting policy violations, since they have such a small staff.
- Irv stressed that Parks Canada is not against development, but for appropriate development. He said peer group pressure helps enforce the waterway policies.

Adjourn

- Meeting was adjourned at 12:00 noon.
 - Motion: Pat Brown
 - 2nd: George Brown