

# 2019 SDRS Annual General Meeting Minutes

**Time: 9:30 am - 1:00 pm**

**Pineview Free Methodist Church - Basement**

**Hwy 41 and Skootamatta Lake Road**

9:30 - 10:00 Meet and Greet with coffee and treats

10:00 - 11:45 Formal Meeting

11:45 - 12:15 AGM Information Booths

12:15 - 1:00 Barbecue lunch

## Formal Meeting

Welcome and Introduction SDRS Executive

Debbie Awde

5 mins

Debbie opened the meeting:

- Introduced the co-ed softball league
- Asked about members new to the lake
- Introduced the current board: Debbie Awde, Paul Lindsay, Christie Arthurs, Joel Arthurs, Ellen Copeland, Marianne Plumb, Bill Blake (absent), and Jackie Bleecker (absent).
- Welcomed Henry Hogg, Township Reeve, and David Miles, Ward 2 Councillor and thanked them for coming.
- Noted that MLFI was unable to come this year, but that Matt Mertins is willing to follow up on any questions that members have.
- Introduced Nancy Kallina and the need for volunteers at the Lake Festival.
- Thanked Ron Nowell for leading the Canada Day parade last weekend.
- Erica McBride pointed out that at the Lake Festival, the format has changed so that volunteers are now able to watch the races.
- Thanked the volunteers who came to run their tables:
  - Land O' Lakes Quilters and Crafters Club - Beth Buck and Laury Hitchcock
  - Land O'Lakes Community Services - Susan Andrew-Allen & Mary Kelly
- Thanked Ron Nowell for bringing the BBQ and Gord McCulloch for doing the barbecuing, and Gwyneth for helping with the refreshments.
- Spoke about her departure, and about how she's happy to endorse Joel as incoming president.

Gord McCulloch spoke as co-chair of the Food Bank.

- Thanked our membership for their ongoing support of the Food Bank. Noted that our lake is one of the best supporters, both through financial donations, and the bins at the end of the road.
- Food Bank is located in the health building, and is only open on Fridays.

Debbie thanked Mark Boone from Quinte Conservation for coming to a presentation, and for their ongoing support of the board and our events and communication with us.

Great Skootamatta Ice Contest Winner Paul Lindsay 5 mins

Paul told an “Uncle Paul” joke about television reception, and kicked off the competition for the Ice Contest winners.

- Brought up the competitors that were present.
- Thanked Gary & Kathy Shortt for the donation of prizes (gift certificates for The Maz’s ice cream shop)
- Introduced the game.
- Matt Folling was the winner.

Approval of July 2018 AGM Minutes Paul Lindsay 5 mins

Motion to approve the 2018 minutes: Lynn Osborne

Seconded by: Erica McBride

All in favour? Yes

Any opposed: No

Carried.

Approval of Slate of Directors Paul Lindsay 10 mins

Joel Arthurs: President

Paul Lindsay: Vice- President

Bill Blake: Treasurer

Christie Arthurs: Secretary

Jackie Bleecker: Webmaster

Anders Holder: Lake Steward

Ellen Copeland: Director

Marianne Plumb: Director

### **Director Nominees from the floor**

Paul called for nominees three times, no volunteers or nominations.

Motion to approve the Slate of Directors: Wayne Arthurs

Seconded by: Tricia Sinclair

All in favour? Yes

Any opposed? No

Carried

### **Director retirement**

Paul thanked Debbie for all of her hard work with the Board, and presented her with a gift.

Approval of Treasurer’s Report Joel Arthurs 10 mins

Joel presenting the report prepared by Bill Blake.

- All in all, we are at a more or less break even point, even with the fee reduction.
- Major expenses that are not annual, are the dock repair and the water testing.

- Those two items aside, no major differences in our year over year expenditures.
- Fireworks fund is break even as well.
- 206 paid memberships for last year, plus a retroactive membership.
- The newsletter expense is largely offset by the advertising revenue.
- As of the end of the financial year, we had 207 paid memberships, 3 honorary members, and 3 families who are not members but contribute to the fireworks.
- Expectation is that we will be close to break-even financially this year.
- The Board will decide on fees for next year, in the fall.
- One big change this year was that Revenue Canada now requires us to file tax returns, which we began this year. Big thank you to Greg New and Nancy Kallina for their help with that.
- Member question about the revenue from the boat launches.
  - Joel explained that comes from the box at the boat launch that collects. Paul explained that for non-members it's \$5 but for members it's free. A sign will be going up to remind people about the contributions.
- Member question about members who have not paid, and what we do about those members.
  - Joel explained that we follow up with those members.
- Nancy shared some information from a FOCA meeting a few years ago, and explained that our ratio of members to non-members is much higher than other associations have, and that our 2/3 ratio is very good.
- Member question about how we reach new members
  - Joel explained that we really rely on our membership to help spread the word to their neighbours.
- Member suggested that we make a welcome package and provide it to the local real estate agents to provide when they sell a place.

## Lake Steward Update

Joel Arthurs

10 mins

Joel explained that Anders was not able to be here today, and this is his last Lake Steward Update.

- Joel spoke about the high water levels due to a wet spring, large melt, etc.
- Thanked everyone who came together to help their neighbours with the flooding issues. The logs were placed in June, Quinte waited until the water level was low enough.
- The Lake Management Plan is done, and will be posted once the website migration is complete.
  - It is a living document and will be updated as needed or as things change.
  - Thanked everyone who contributed to the plan
- Water testing will occur in mid-July. Testing occurs on about 10 different sites around the lake, and data is accumulated and compared across years, so that we can identify trends.
- MLFI provided us with the details of their plan. Work south of the causeway is scheduled for after Thanksgiving; Head of the lake, beyond township road, is unlikely to occur this year, but if it does, it will be after Thanksgiving. West of the lake is also unlikely, but also after Thanksgiving. So, no major work is scheduled for during the

summer. MLFI is always very open with us about their plans, and great to work with. New forestry management plan will be coming in 2021. Consultations are scheduled for the fall, and we have already been provided with a contact for that.

- Member question about the state of the fisheries in the lake - has MNR provided any information lately about our fish population?
  - Joel answered that the ministry did a broad scale assessment.
  - MNR used to stock walleye in the lake, but the last time was in 2007. There may be an option to stock lake trout or whitefish to feed off the smelt.
  - Smelt are present, but there is a spring smelt netting to capture the smelt.
- Member question about smelt putting pressure of the fish population, and that in other lakes MNR has done stocking in order to help balance the population. We should ask MNR to do this at our lake as well.
  - Joel responded that he could look into speaking with the MNR about that.
- Member comment that if there are residents on the lake, perhaps they could put out a notice when the smelt are running for those who do the netting.

Guest Speaker from Quinte Conservation

Mark Boone

30 mins

Introduced himself: Mark Boone, Hydrogeologist from Quinte Conservation.

- There have been a lot of changes over the last 10 years, mostly due to climate change.
- There have been 2 significant flooding events, and in 2016 was a significant drought - so we are seeing the extremes at each end.
- Explained the goals and missions of the Quinte Conservation Authority, and shared the boundaries and properties of the watershed.
- Gave a bit of a history of how the conservation authority has evolved and is structured, and the various sources of their funding.
- They have a “drought management plan” that is in development to help municipalities and landowners better prepare for future events.
- Outlined the many programs and services offered by Quinte Conservation.
- Explained that their number one mandate is flood monitoring and protection to reduce the loss of life and property damage. They do flood forecasting, warnings, and run the operation and maintenance of flood control structures.
- Explained their role in ground and surface water monitoring: sampling rivers, streams, and groundwater to understand watershed health.
- They produce a watershed report card every 5 years, with the latest being in 2018.
- Spoke to their climate change strategy, because they have a mandate to help residents deal with climate change, and also to help mitigate climate change. Showed a Climate Change Vulnerability map. Where we are situated, we are at a low impact vulnerability due to some of our natural features.
- Skootamatta Climate Station measures a variety of metrics and monitors year-round.
- Climate Change Adaptation program: tracks water levels across years (2016 was the lowest ever recorded), and is federally funded. They are working towards continuous water-level monitoring, with the goal of having the data posted live on the website.
- Member question about water levels - is there any plan to use Skootamatta Lake water to augment the quality of the water further down the watershed?

- Mark explained that the dam logs regulate the levels of water, and in terms of quality, it's a possibility depending on what happens in the future that water would be needed to maintain the health of the watershed. It is a complex management plan and system that needs to be balanced. He does not expect any drastic changes, but with the effects of climate change, it is difficult to predict and control.
- Stormwater protection - Quinte Conservation is active in promoting proper stormwater management, because stormwater is a significant source of contamination
- Also active in drinking water source protection, because of the Clean Water Act after Walkerton.
- Spoke about dam operations; our dam is not owned by Quinte but they do the maintenance on it.
- Member question about the waterfront: if the member does not own it, who is responsible for management?
  - Mark responded that it does depend on the ownership, and it's complicated because it depends if it was built with a permit. Also pointed out that Quinte manages from the water level and up, but below that point, it would be the Ministry of Natural Resources.
- Member question - does anyone know when the dam was built? Her cottage was bought in 1922, and used to include a larger amount of land, but after the dam, it has been reduced. And now the road allowance would mean that she has to buy land that was already bought in 1922.
  - Mark explained that they are not in charge of the road allowances - that is the municipality, but clarified that the permits can only be issued to the owners of the land.
  - Another member (Nancy) explained that the municipality counselled her not to bother buying the frontage, because people are not permitted to build on that land regardless of whether they own it or not.

Paul - as timekeeper - stepped in to bring things back to the agenda.

- The Quinte Conservation Open House is occurring on July 16 at their head office.
- Member Question - has seen purple loosestrife on the lake, because of it the concerns of its invasive nature. How should we pull/handle/dispose of it?
  - There are so many invasive species right now, and each one is different. He will look into it, and get back to Joel to provide the information.

Debbie thanked Mark once again for coming.

Member Questions to the SDRA Board

All

20 mins

Eric Meikle had a question for Mark: a lot of people are abandoning marks, and there is a lot of styrofoam as the docks are decaying. Are people allowed to just abandon their docks?

- Mark explained that Quinte does not provide permits for permanent docks, and only regulates the permits for the structures that permanent docks are anchored to. Whoever owns the dock is responsible for it. There is no way for Quinte to police that.

- Eric questioned if the SDRA has any way of pursuing or organizing this?
  - Nancy Kallina suggested that perhaps the dump would accept it at no cost if we organized volunteers to collect it.
  - Debbie pointed out that the association can do some education to the membership about what is occurring and see if the community can pull together to do something. She also suggested that pictures be sent to the board, so that we can post the pictures and ask whomever it belongs to and ask them to pick it up.
  - Mark also suggested the MNR tips line, because the conservation officers may be able to enforce that better.

Roseanne thanked whoever was responsible for installing the signage on Deer Lake Road after the meeting last year. She also had a question about forest fires. What would we do if a forest fire broke out here? Perhaps members should be encouraged to develop an evacuation plan.

- Christie responded that this is an important conversation to have, and there is lots of emergency information provided on the Government of Canada website. As a volunteer board, we can't provide that kind of advice about what to do in an emergency.

Eric Meikle had a question about the fire pumps: Where are they, are they maintained, and how do they work?

- Debbie responded that this is a conversation that the board has been having, and that it's important for each member to know where the fire pumps are, how they work and what the plan is in case of a fire.
- Ron Nowell said he'll have the fire pump set up for a demo at the potluck if you're interested.
- Paul pointed out that the fire pump locations are in the newsletter

Karen Stacey had two comments:

- if we're going to put information about purple loosestrife on the website, then it would be good to point out other invasive species as well.
- On the subject of emergencies, she also wanted to note about our emergency services responders and how wonderful they are, and shared a story about an incident a few years ago, and just wanted to share how impressed she was with the emergency responders.

Mary Kelly spoke for a minute, and thanked the membership for their support of the Lake O' Lakes Community Services. Also spoke about the swim program, and how valuable it is, and how it began.

Raffle

Debbie Awde

10 mins

Formal Meeting Adjourned

Debbie Awde

Motion to adjourn: Lynn Osborne

Seconded by: Gary Shortt

All in favour? Carried

Meeting adjourned at 12:13 pm