

Minutes of May 18, 2014

PLRA MEETING

Attendance: Graham Warren, Karen Hatch, Errol Farr, Susan Wenghofer, Brian Edey, Lou Kiriakou, Jack Russel, Dave Smith, Bob Wong

Next board meeting: Sunday, **July 6th**, at Dave Smith's

Web Site: Ken will make changes next week upon his return

Constitution: Still to be done.

Data Base: Dave will work on beginning July 1st.

Membership: Need to promote membership(37 paid members). Karen listing benefits of membership from information on line. John Parish could hand out to new owners. Need 60 members, \$30., of the 65 cottages. (Haliburton Lake membership is \$65.) Raffle/auction at corn roast to raise money (30 bottles from winery, Canoe 100.9 items).

Saturday, August 16th -

Fishing Derby: 8 a.m. - 12 noon

General Meeting: 2 - 4 p.m., Murray Fearrey, Walt McKecknie, Jack arranged speaker from CHA , Board nominations, new members??

Corn Roast: 4 - 6 p.m.** (includes *fishing derby presentations*), discussed could bring own alcohol as on private property, Haliburton Lake has beer and burgers at their corn roast. Ask for volunteers to help with corn roast. Karen buying everything needed.

Facebook: Bob Wong volunteered to take on. So far only 3 members. Access limited teens/youth from our lake. A link will be sent to join the facebook community. Pictures could be uploaded, people commenting and contributing. Possible teen volunteer to manage the Facebook page. Could have a link to Facebook from PLRA web.

Newsletter: Discussed whether to print or e-mail. Adding membership page to newsletter and will include interact transfer payment option, with link.

Benefits to PLRA membership to be included in newsletter (environmental, CHA, FOCA-reduced cost of insurance, etc.)

PLRA Youth: First meeting of Youth Club to be held Saturday, **June 28th**, at Dave Smith's, age 18 and under. Possibilities: junior naturalists, volunteer hours-forms??, facebook, corn roast, social club, sports, water testing, newsletter

Financials: Treasurer's Report ** Sept 1/12 to Dec 31/13 (2013 membership fees received \$780.71, expenses \$1860.44) (some expenses include \$648. Insurance, FOCA \$240./year-2 years paid. In 2-3 years our expenses will not be covered unless we can increase our membership to 60 or increase our revenue in other ways. List of paid up members to be provided to Dave for Data Base.

**Balance at Dec 31/13 \$3081.33 (Reserve \$2000. Avail. \$1081.33)

Jack giving incorporation paperwork to Errol re tax return.

Lake Stewards Meeting - Fleming College - May 10/2014:

Jack Russel attended. Scientists made a presentation about water quality issues: mercury content found in prey of loons (**don't throw thermometers out, don't throw out florescent light bulbs**); calcium decline (1.5 or lower/start to have problems, Percy Lake is 3.5), caused by cutting trees down; climatic acidity effects Daphnia (Daphnia are important to lakes because they eat algae and are food for fish), potential algea growing. **Two things we have control over - septic systems and shoreline.** That's what the meeting was about. 50% of lakes in Haliburton County are at stress level for lack of oxygen. Percy Lake is being tested this summer.

Water quality has an affect on cottage prices. **Prices rise by 6% for every meter increase in water clarity.** Muskoka/Haliburton lakes adversely affected by warming trend.

**** septic and shorelines**** - the two big issues that can make a difference on our lakes. 75% of natural shoreline would be good for lake. Plants are good to put on shoreline. Grass doesn't have the same root structure. Concrete walls- waves hit and drop. If you take away natural habitat the shorelines get the affect of too much energy from waves. Informative video

(made by CHA and Barb Elliot): A Ribbon of Life and A Beginner's Guide to Shoreline Stewardship. We are all stewards of the lake.

Septic pumpers not licensed. Some septic systems have been in since 1970.

**** Actions You Can Take**** Find out about 3 litre toilets, replace one toilet with 3 litre, "Poop Talk, It's All about the Water" video-watch with friends, have your septic tank inspected, use Eco Ethic Septic Treatment regularly and recommend to a friend, start naturalizing your shoreline, talk to a neighbour, use phosphate free soap especially dishwashers

****Low Calcium Problem**** add wood ash to property would fix this problem. 80%of calcium is in the trees. Spread wood ash behind the cottage. Leave bark and twigs in the ground and if tree gets cut down put the ashes where the tree was cut down - keep sugar maples healthy. a century of acid rain has removed the calcium.

**** Lake Trout Season Update**** Don't want to catch pregnant females. Mid-August closing date for trout. Strategy to bring back trout population.