

Lake Louise Cottagers' Council

August 17, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President Kathy Gilbert. Ruth Jameson opened with a prayer.

The agenda was approved with no additions. The following dates for meetings in 2010 were suggested with no objection:

Cottage Council – Monday, June 28, 7:30 p.m.

Town Hall – Wednesday, July 21, 7:30 p.m.

Cottage Council - **SATURDAY, August 14, 9:00 a.m.*new**

Kathy Gilbert shared some initial thoughts about the changing role of the Cottagers' Council as the group has changed and grown. She indicated that the Council officers would like to explore and define the role of the Cottagers' Council for the future. They would start by looking at the bylaws and plat representative duties. She repeated her charge that she hoped to increase communication, build relationships and support the Ministry Plan for the camp through the Cottagers' Council. In order to increase communication, Sandy Smith, secretary indicated that the officers would like to be able to share information in a timely manner with all cottagers. To do so, they are suggesting a Cottagers' Council link on the Lake Louise website. They would send out blind-copied emails to cottagers when there is new information on the link. Only cottagers that have signed up with a permission slip will be emailed. The permission slip will be mailed out in early September with an explanation. Building relationships will be addressed by scheduling plat meetings next summer and continuing some of the "Lake Louise FUN DAY" activities around the lake, such as the golf outing, 5K run/walk, boat parade, art fair and regatta. The suggestions were met with a very positive response.

The minutes of the July 6, 2009 meeting were accepted by acclamation with no corrections. Doug Vogel, treasurer reported a balance of \$2677.92 in the Cottagers' Council account. He also explained that the Cottagers' Council officers had decided NOT to hire additional marine patrol for 2010.

It was brought to the attention of the council that many cars and trailers had been parking on C48 and Magee Road on busy lake days. The sheriff indicated that it was not against the law since there were no "NO PARKING" signs posted at either location. The State Police make the determination if a sign is warranted. A motion was made for the Council to write a letter to the County Parks & Recreation, Sheriff and State Police to make them aware of our safety concerns at those locations. The motion was seconded and passed.

REPORTS

75TH ANNIVERSARY- Jane Seaton reported that there had been two more successful events with the Sailing Regatta and Golf Scramble. There is one more to go!! There will be a Walk Around the Lake on Saturday, September 5th, 9 am. Also, there are still photos available from all the celebration events. You can order prints from Jane for a small donation to the camp.

MEMORIAL GARDEN – Shirley Benson updated the cottagers on the garden and the progress of the Memorial Book. Information about 40 of the 80 people whose ashes are interred in the garden and listed on the Bronze Plaque has been included in the book but she encouraged others to

send missing information to her as well. There will be a Memorial Service at the Garden following the chapel service on Labor Day Sunday.

LAKE ECOLOGY- Don Renton

- Clarity of the lake is excellent (19-23 feet)
- Phosphorus measurements indicate a dramatic decrease
- Eurasian milfoil continues to be a problem in 5 areas around the lake (2 on Horner island, boat ramp, Renton dock & Ludwig dock). However, the beetles “planted” last year survived the winter and have been spotted alive and well. Don suggested that we keep on top of this issue and proposed to gather some scuba divers to pull up the weeds where there is infestation.

Kathy Gilbert introduced the program speaker for the night, Shawn Bauman, Hudson Township Fire Chief. He introduced trustees from the Hudson Township and members of the Charlevoix County Parks and Recreation who were present. Chief Bauman explained the importance of accessibility to the cottages and the water necessary to put a fire out. The addition of the new park has removed a vital water port to draft from because the road was moved away from the lake. Also, the boat launch is not plowed in the winter, therefore, there is no port available in the winter. He proposed the fire department seek funding to buy a portable pump that would allow increased water volume anywhere on the lake and requested our participation in the purchase. The model he recommended is \$5160.00. He has applied to the DNR for funding for this project but will not know the answer until Nov.9th. They are looking for support from three sources: Hudson Township, Charlevoix Parks & Recreation and Lake Louise.

Jim Herrington made a motion that Cottagers’ Council vote for an assessment of \$15.00 per cottage to help pay for the portable water pump. The motion was seconded by Eber Sherman.

Discussion included the information that the Cottagers’ Council has supported the Fire Department before through Chapel funds to help pay for a defibrillator, “jaws of life” and communication system. It was agreed that cottagers should be notified by a mailing. It was also asked if people could make personal donations to this specific purchase and the answer was YES! Contact the Hudson Township Clerk and designate your donation to the Fire Department.

Jim Herrington amended his original motion to include “pending a decision from the DNR and notification of cottagers.”

Doug Vogel announced that the Executive Board of officers for the Cottagers’ Council had unanimously voted to support this purchase by the Hudson Township Fire Department. He reminded everyone that there is over \$2000 in the treasury. It was asked if there is any money left over from marine patrol assessment. He answered that money is in the Trustees line budget but it would not be collected next year. It was recommended that the allocated money be investigated to see if it might be available for this portable water pump purchase.

There was a call for the amended motion of Mr. Herrington. It read: “**Move that the cottagers be assessed \$15.00 per cottage for the purchase of a portable fire pump pending notification of the DNR decision and the cottagers.**”

It passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Dick Quinlan that the Treasurer be given permission to write a check for up to \$2000 if needed to help purchase the portable water pump for the Hudson Township Fire Department before the assessed monies were collected. Seconded by Howard Benson. Motion carried unanimously.

Several questions were asked of the Chief:

- 1) Would it help to have the boat launch plowed ? **YES**
- 2) Are dry hydrants a possibility? **Not really- maintenance nightmare**

3) Are there any issues with regard to trails and forestry that would prevent your truck from getting to cottages? **We have addressed that with Myke Sherman and he is following up**

4) Do you have good maps ? **Not really – need more up to date map of cottage locations. It was announced that complete, accurate maps are available in the Assessment Office.**

An important reminder for cottagers is that it is a county ordinance that green reflector signs with the correct mailing address (not cottage #) be visible from the road for emergency vehicles.

That information will be shared in the newsletter and on the website link. Kiwanis will come out and install.

The Hudson Township representatives thanked LLCC for all their cooperation and help.

GOOD AND WELFARE

Dorothy Bowden reported that the geese have once again become a serious problem on the northeast corner of the lake. She reminded everyone to NOT feed the geese and be sure to inform all renters of the same.

Ted Halsted announced that the revised edition of “Spring-Fed Waters” will be available by late September. You can order copies at a special rate until Labor Day. He also requested information as to the code and criteria used to mark trees for cutting be included in a newsletter. He felt this was good information for all cottagers.

Meredith Rupe asked about the forestry cutting being done this fall. Vaughn Maatman responded that information was available at the office.

Jim Herrington expressed concern that the big boats with a deep V bottom are churning up the bottom of the lake in shallow areas in the channel around the island. We will ask Marine Patrol about this problem.

Bill Mate reminded everyone that the Golf Scramble would be the first Saturday in August, 2010.

Mark your calendars now ☺

After singing “Happy Birthday” to Millie Janka the meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.