

Lake Louise Cottagers Town Hall Meeting: July 21, 2012

President Kathy Gilbert called the meeting to order at 10:00am

Dwight Finley started us off with some food for thought. He shared an inspirational reading filled with positive advice.

Kathy Gilbert:

- Roll call of the plats: All plats were represented except: Sunset View, Cove Point, and Forest Glen.
- July 21 Agenda was approved.
- 2011 Town Hall Meeting notes were presented—no objections. Approved.

Treasurer's Report from Doug Vogel:

- 2 transactions: deposit of \$203 (donations toward the cost of the July 13 Pizza Party and check for \$1027.75 written to Enviroscience for the planting of beetles to combat milfoil growth.
- Lake Louise check for dues has not been received. Have not received a bill for the dumpsters yet. Should be about \$2300.

Kathy Gilbert:

- Presented dates for **2013**: Cottagers' Potluck/Council Meeting June 22, 2013; Town Hall Meeting July 20, 2013; Cottagers' Council Meeting August 14, 2013
- Reminder about the Golf scramble on July 28, the Sailing Regatta on August 5 @ 3pm, Cottagers' Council on August 15
- Executive Committee decisions and proposals:
 - 3,000 Beetles/weevils were planted July 20, 2012. Couldn't wait for cottagers' approval.
 - Proposal to raise cottagers' dues to \$50/year. We may need a special assessment in the future to address future expenses.
- Kathy Gilbert presented an overview of the seriousness of the milfoil issue on our lake. Today's speakers discussed further details regarding this issue.

Environmental Committee Report: Kirk Halstead and Tom Gschwind

- Presented information on milfoil infestation on Lake Louise. They supplemented their report with several projected photos, actual samples of milfoil preserved in water, and a "eurasian milfoil update" handout.
- Tom: water levels are dropping this summer.

- 3 ways to control milfoil: suction harvesting, mats, weevils, and chemicals. Chemicals affect the fish population and suction harvesting is expensive. Mats and weevils, implemented by volunteers as much as possible, seem to be the best options. Of course, informative communication about milfoil is also an important aspect of controlling milfoil.
- 3000 beetles/weevils were planted in Lake Louise near the old beaver dam (northwest of the boat launch near the eagles' nest) on Friday, July 20 to combat milfoil expansion. Regular price = \$1200/1000 weevils. We received a 50% price break on the cost of the weevils.
- Kirk: Milfoil spreads easily and is not readily detected. The concentration of milfoil has increased significantly from July 2011 to July 2012.
 - Kirk sent an email alert regarding milfoil to the cottagers. About 10% of those receiving the email responded with offers to assist in milfoil control.
 - Kirk said awareness and communication among cottagers about the serious nature of milfoil is key to controlling it; please tell neighbors, family members, renters, etc. about milfoil. If you find milfoil floating, please remove it from the water and dispose of it.
- The environmental committee proposes using mats to control the milfoil in addition to the weevils. Logistically, this is going to be difficult. We may need suction harvesting in the future; this option is very expensive. Currently, much of the milfoil is "laying down" in the water. Milfoil apparently struggles somewhat when the water warms up, so we have had a short term benefit in this regard. If LLCC gets approval on these mats, we will place them in order to control the growth expected later this season as the water cools down.
- The environmental committee recommends that we utilize the suction harvesting option if we do not get the mats this year. Mats and volunteers are the preferred method to control the milfoil. This seems the most economical option.
- Kirk presented a map of milfoil locations on the lake. Most are in the western bay of the lake and in the narrow area where the western bay opens into the large bay of the lake. Milfoil patches can be seen via Google maps quite easily. Cottagers are encouraged to view for themselves. John Marvin also provided aerial photos of milfoil patches on the lake.
- Cottagers were invited to take large bags, fill with sand, and leave at the head of cottagers' driveways.

Renewal of Chapel Benevolence: Ruth Jameson

- Ruth proposed the continuation of our current benevolence: that 10% of our undesignated chapel offerings this summer go to support Manna, the regional food bank.
- She also reminded cottagers that there is an on-going Sunday-morning canned food drive to support Manna. Please bring canned goods to chapel and place in the box outside the chapel entrance.
- Cottagers moved, voted upon and approved our continuation of support to Manna.

Election of Cottagers' Council Officers: Kirk Halstead, Lura Way, Kathy Gilbert

- Thank you to all who have served in the past: Kathy Gilbert (3 years as president), Kirk Halstead (3 years as vice president), Doug Vogel (6 years as treasurer), Sandy Smith (6 years as secretary).
- Kirk asked if there were any other nominations from the floor. None were given. Kirk asked for a proposal. Cottagers proposed, moved, voted upon and approved the slate of officers:
 - Kathy Gilbert: president
 - Mike Townsend: vice-president
 - John Marshall: treasurer
 - Jane Hazle: secretary

State of the Lake: David Gladstone, LLCC Executive Director

- “The state of the lake is *fun!*”
- David created a Lake Louise YouTube channel. He shared a recent video from this week's camp: children are finding joy in Christ through our camping programs
- “Let us never forget, in our passion for keeping the lake clean and other important endeavors, that the goal here at Lake Louise is to encourage all to find the peace of Christ at the center of our lives.”
- Introduced Hillary Thurston-Cox, Program Development Specialist for LLCC.
- Invited cottagers to attend a meet and greet on the lake: Sabin cottage on July 24, Strong cottage on July 31. Call camp office to rsvp.
- Some observations and small starts:
 - The tenant chapel cross and Strong chapel lighted and brush cleared away, organizing and improving materials for meetings
 - Encouraging cottagers to say “yes” to some way to help our community go forward in positive ways.

- Beginning a weekly “finding the quiet center” email that will allow David to share news and ideas and video and photos
- One easy answer to “What can we do?” is: when you are here, come to chapel service on Sunday. It is the important weekly gathering of the community.

Announcements, Good and Welfare, Miscellaneous:

- Please write to government officials regarding the forest legacy program. Check your old emails for the details. It is not too late to send your letters in support of this effort.
- Vaughn Maatman recognition originally slated for August 18 will be rescheduled due to a schedule conflict. The Board of Trustees is trying to arrange the recognition gathering for some time during Labor Day weekend. Cottagers will be notified of the change. Meanwhile, cottagers wishing to contribute toward camp scholarships in honor of Vaughn should send their checks to the camp.
- Be sure to keep your boats out of the swim areas of the county park and the camps
- Be sure to close the dumpsters securely

Meeting was adjourned at 11:20am

Respectfully submitted,
Jane Hazle
Cottagers' Council August 2012-15 secretary