

Lake Louise Cottagers' Council Meeting: August 12, 2015

President John Marshall called the meeting to order with Loon calls at 7:00 p.m.

"The Cottagers' Minute" was provided by Barbara Renton. Barbara read a poem, You Have to Believe in Happiness, that had been presented to her by her husband.

The meeting agenda was accepted without additions. However concern was expressed regarding debris from logging left in the woods and along roads.

Minutes of June 20, 2015, were approved.

Items from the President:

- Remaining events for 2015-
 - Forest Legacy Celebration, Friday, August 28th at 11:00 a.m. On the Green between Halsted & McKay Lodges
 - Sunday a.m. Chapel Services, through September 6th at Lake Louise Chapel
 - Lake Louise Fish Fry, Saturday, August 29th at 4-7 p.m. at the Retreat Center- to support Camp Scholarships & Boyne Valley Food Pantry
- Cottagers' Annual Assessment increases, approved at the July Town Hall Meeting, will begin in December 2015 for the 2016 year. These increases will take place over a five-year period ending in 2020. The 2016 assessment will be \$840, and \$40 a year will be added to the assessment annually, capping at \$1,000 in 2020. A partial summary of the services that the annual assessment covers was presented. These include:
 1. Road maintenance that allows access to cottages summer and winter.
 2. Land security that prevents further development, example: Forest Legacy
 3. Forest management such as the Ash tree removal.
 4. Trash disposal
 5. Milfoil mitigation, permits, money for chemicals.
 6. The camp provides hazardous waste disposal.
 7. Permanently marks boundaries, resolves lease and boundary issues.
 8. Reviews and issues permits.
 9. Allows cottagers use of facilities for weddings, meetings, church services
- E-mail communications information: Cottagers may add family members that are on the lease to the Cottagers' Council email list. Also it was requested that cottagers provide any changes to their e-mail addresses or provide the information that they are a non-user of e-mail so that the Cottagers' Council can communicate information to those individuals via regular mail.
- Some cottage transitions due to moves or purchases were announced.

Welcome to Jim Willford, LLCC Executive Director, and his wife Barbara Willford

Jim shared some background information that included 8 years in camping administration in California as well as executive director of camping at the YMCA in Jackson, Michigan for 15 years. He also taught 1st grade for 15 years and was a missionary before that. He vacationed in Northern Michigan while in Jackson and enjoyed the cooler temperatures here. He and his wife have 3 sons and are empty nesters. Two sons are married and the youngest is attending the Naval Academy. Jim states that he and his wife prayerfully considered what next and felt called to camping and working

with children. He states that they have been here 12 days but feel welcome and at home. He also urged cottagers to please feel free to contact him with any issues or concerns that need to be addressed.

Dwight Finley, Treasurer's Report

Dwight stated that the current fund balance is \$4,649.15 due to payment for milfoil brochures, not included in the printed handout provided. He reviewed the expenses listed, including the large expenses for milfoil mitigation as well as rental of the dumpsters. The contribution of \$1,300 from the Horner Island Corporation was also acknowledged with appreciation.

Update on the Lake

- John Marshall gave the 2015 fishing report stating that there are plenty of fish in the lake. Lake Louise has been stocked this year with 19,000 splake, 8,000 rainbow trout as well as legal size brown trout.
- Tom Gschwind gave the Lake Louise water report and stated that the lake level has dropped 2 inches a week since June 14th of this year. Lake temperature is 80 degrees. He provided a handout that suggested a possible emerging pattern indicating an increase in lake levels. Lake clarity is at 23 feet. A handout was provided that showed the annual clarity of the lake for the years 1992 to 2015.
- Status of milfoil mitigation provided by Kirk Halsted and Tom Gschwind:
Kirk displayed the Department of Environmental Quality map showing milfoil invasion areas, and he indicated that all of the areas that were known to contain milfoil in June were chemically treated. He stated that in the treated areas, the milfoil is decomposing or looking ill. Other patches of milfoil near the public beach and elsewhere have been reported, and 33 mats have been placed over those patches. These mats will be removed in September. Leslie Helwig, Cottagers' Council Vice-President, will attend the Charlevoix County Parks Committee Meeting in August to provide information and seek financial assistance for the management of the patches of milfoil near the public beach. Kirk and Tom reported on various items of equipment that may be utilized in the future or are no longer being used to battle milfoil, including several piles of sand bags on Frog Island and mats currently stacked on the float boat. Tom stated that he has a log chain for sale which would just require a donation to the camp for the purchase. Consideration is being given to the sale of the suction harvester machine due to its unsuitability for use, given the conditions of the lake bottom. Kirk and Tom cautioned that we must remain vigilant and continue to watch for and report sightings of milfoil patches.

A huge thanks was offered with applause to both men for their enormous efforts in battling the milfoil invasion.

Chapel Benevolence

The Chapel benevolence money collected in 2016 will continue to provide support to the Manna Food Project. Charles Marvin shared that he has personally seen the need while visiting the Boyne Falls food pantry. Also information was shared that the Manna Food Project, Food for Kids Program, places packs of food in children's back-packs for weekend consumption, as well as distributes 140,000 pounds of food

monthly. Charles moved to continue to provide assistance with the Chapel benevolence fund to Manna. There were several seconds and the motion passed unanimously.

“Special Things”

Jane Seaton presented to Past-President Cathy Gilbert a framed “Ode to Cathy Gilbert” that had been written and read by John Marshall at the Town Hall meeting in July.

Jane also presented Kirk Halsted and Tom Gschwind with a stuffed beaver toy mascot in recognition of the beavers work on milfoil. Kirk stated he would place it on the prow of the boat.

Much applause accompanied both presentations.

Additional announcements/Miscellaneous

- David Strong provided a handout regarding purple loosestrife as well as information regarding its invasion at Lake Louise. He stated that he and his wife, Marcia, discovered and removed 71 plants from around the lake this year. He urged people to report purple loosestrife sightings to the Cottagers Council President or to the camp office.
- Millie Janka announced that a service will be held at the Memorial Garden on Sunday, September 6th at 9:30 a.m. The service is in memory of loved ones and the names of those being remembered may be spoken aloud by attendees.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:55 for the ice-cream social

One final announcement was shared by Dorothy Bowden:

A neighbor here at Lake Louise, an original cottager Margaret Sursaw, celebrated her 100th Birthday today!

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Mahan, Cottagers Council Secretary