

**Minutes of the Buck Lake Association
Annual General Meeting
Thursday Oct. 14, 2021
19:00 – 20:00
Virtual meeting via Zoom**

1. Welcome

President Gillian Lash called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the BLA Annual General Meeting.

- She explained that this meeting is being recorded because the secretary Cheryl Dawson was not able to attend. The recording will be used to help in taking minutes.
- Voting to object a motion during the meeting was to be done by raising your digital hand.
- Option to use the chat feature to ask a question.
- Introduced the agenda for the meeting. See Appendix A.

Gillian introduced BLA Board members who were present:

Cheryl Savery	Treasurer, Membership
Gillian Lash	President, Friends of the Lake
Kathy McDonald	Archivist, Communication
Martha Scheinman	Friends of the Lake, Communication
Cheryl Savery	Communications, Newsletter
Randy Ruttan	Government Relations
Don Young	Vice President, Membership
Nora Lapp	Friends of the Lake, Communication
Crawford MacIntyre	Past-President
John Curran	Communications (resigned Feb. 2021)
Ria Berry	Social and Outreach (resigned Mar. 2021)
Cathy Ottenhof	Social and Outreach (resigned Mar 2021)

Regrets:

Cheryl Dawson	Recording Secretary, Calendar
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Others present:

Mayor Ron Vandewal	Councillor Alan Revill
	Councillor Ross Sutherland
Heather Keeling, Duncan Sinclair, Rob MacLean, Bruce McDonald	
Heather Douglas, Scott Lillis	

2. South Frontenac Township Government Officials:

a. Mayor Ron Vandewal

- Last couple of years have been challenging with COVID but still busy.
- Lake Ecosystem Advisory Committee going
- Grants are on-going
- Portal on website for budget input (new this year)
- Official Plan - initial summary coming Nov. 3 from various committees
- Building and Planning has been swamped - a month behind and has faced the most pressure over this time.
- Everything else is running well.
- Deputy Mayor Pat Barr passed away recently.

b. Councillor Ross Sutherland

- Of note: one issue coming to council likely on Nov.2 presentation regarding Air BNB's on lakes, asking the township to do something
- Reinforced by a letter from a resident on Buck Lake
- Please contact Ross if you have any questions or comments around this issue.
- Climate Change Strategy is ongoing. One example is reducing the carbon emissions from the firehall in Battersea.
- Budget input is now online but there will also be 2 meetings when people can come to speak generally or specifically
- Thanked for the invitation

c. Councillor Alan Revill

- Restated that the Lake Ecosystem Advisory Committee is underway and that Gillian Lash, our President, is the chair of that committee.
- It's important to keep the lines of communication open. Please reach out if you have any comments, concerns or questions. Formal or informal
- Another area of concern is that while the policies of the township support public access to our lakes, the township also needs to be cognisant of the impacts of transient boaters on our lakes and what the township can be doing to help support the health of the lake.
- In September, council approved a road needs study to specifically look at use of gravel roads. Will help with planning and funding and improvements for these roads
- Acknowledged the work of the BLA Board of Directors in supporting many of the things that make BL a special place to be.
- Alan thanked everyone for the opportunity to speak.

3. Remarks by President - Gillian Lash

Importance of communication in strengthening our community

- Pandemic continued to assert itself
 - Increased number of home improvement projects
 - More people enjoying the lake
 - More time being spent at the lake
 - People enjoying the lake in more ways
Examples: skating, snowmobiling, walking, kayaking, canoeing, waterskiing, wake-boarding, fishing
 - This all creates stress on the lake that we need to manage.
 - Social gathering limitations
- Natural extremes
 - Epicenter of Gypsy Moth infestation
 - Summer heat, humidity and drought
 - Aquatic invasive species - Eurasian Milfoil
- But passion for and love of Buck Lake remains the same!

4. Approval of 2020 AGM minutes and business arising

- Crawford brought up that BLA bylaws require 20% of membership to have a quorum.
- Cheryl S. suggested that we note that there were no objections at this meeting to the 2020 minutes and that we'll re-vote next year when we have a quorum. This was agreed upon and so no voting will take place during this meeting.
- Martha Scheinman suggested not voting, but continue sharing and have a separate Zoom meeting just to vote on necessary items.
- Crawford offered kind words and condolences on the passing of Councillor Pat Barr. He asked how she will be replaced at the SFT Council until the next municipal elections.
- Mayor Vandewal offered that this is being reviewed beginning next week.

Approval of minutes of 2019 AGM: tabled until next meeting when there is a quorum.

5. Treasurer's Report – Cheryl Savery

Please see Appendix B for the full report.

Revenues:

- Last year was a very quiet year due to the pandemic. Very little money came in or out.
- Membership revenues were down slightly.
- Advertising revenues are down because we did not want to ask people given the stress of the pandemic on businesses.

Expenditures:

- Insurance expenses aren't actually up. The increase is due to payment timelines with 2020 and 2021 being paid at same time.

Balance Sheet

- Assets
 - Cash in bank \$5,106.06
 - Total Assets including prepaid expenses: \$6687.19
- Liabilities
 - Deferred Revenue of \$1,075.00 is from prepaid memberships
- Equity
 - Total members' equity is \$4030.06
 - Next year this should increase

Motion to accept Treasurer's Report: Tabled until next meeting with a quorum.

6. Membership – Cheryl Savery

- BLA is a not-for-profit organization and is registered as such
- Only \$25 per family per year
- Can renew online - link to do so is on the BLA website
- There are approximately 450 eligible members.
- Dues go toward publishing the newsletter and providing social and educational programs throughout the year.

- With some extra work this year, we now have approximately 150 active members, which is a good Increase.
- The membership cost isn't so much about the money as it is a show of commitment to your community.

7. Friends of the Lake (FOTL) – Martha Scheinman

- Annual Education Night
 - Cancelled for 2020, 2021 but we're hopeful for 2022
 - Past topics have included: squirrels, birds and deer, on-site sewage disposal, Frontenac Park Overview, Turtles, Sandy Pines Wildlife Center
 - Possible next topic on quiet lakes and wakes
- Newsletter articles - Gypsy moths, blue-green algae, Eurasian Milfoil, lake and fish health, the Frontenac Arch
- South Frontenac Ecosystem Advisory Committee
 - Newly created by the township
 - Gillian Lash (BLA Board president) is the Chair
- Loon Lakes Survey
 - First time there has been a coordinated effort to look at loon populations on the lake. Don Young is heading this with help from 6 BLA members.
 - There is information on this at the kiosk at the boat ramp.
 - Summarized findings should be released shortly.
- FOL has links to various environmental agencies that offer information, knowledge, grants, networking, advocacy at provincial level, analyses, studies, plans and policies.
 - See PPT slide presentation in Appendix C.
- New members to this committee are always welcome. Please reach out if you're interested.

8. Nominating Committee – Gillian Lash

- Board members are nominated for a 2-year period for a maximum of 6 consecutive years
- Maximum 12 Directors - we currently have 9 members which is minimum
- There is a push to find new directors for the BLA Board.
- Directors for re-election include Cheryl Dawson, Gillian Lash, Kathy McDonald and Martha Scheinman who have all agreed to stay on.
- Without quorum voting on re-elections will be tabled until the next meeting with a quorum.
- The following new member is being nominated to join the BLA Board of Directors: Heather Douglas
- She will begin her role as a new director and official voting will take place at the next meeting with quorum.

9. Other Business and Open Question Period

- None at this time.

10. Closing Remarks: Gillian Lash

- Recent concerns include short-term rentals on the lake, stressors on the lake, and development
- South Frontenac Township is actively looking for input. Take advantage of this great opportunity to offer your thoughts and ideas into the SFT Plan.
- Links to provide your input:
 - Official Plan comments,
 - 2022 Budget survey and
 - Engage South Frontenac.
- Duncan Sinclair: offered how struck he is by the impact of the pandemic on social activities around the lake. He suggested this be put as an agenda item for a future meeting as to how to bring back the social activities and engagement that are so much a part of what makes living on this lake so wonderful. Right now there is no director on the BLA to head the Social Outreach committee. This is of great concern and should be addressed for next year and beyond.
- Discussion brought for regarding short-term rentals, noise, concern for care of lake environment:
 - Rob McLean:
 - short-term rentals: What are we seeing happen locally?

- Gillan L. spoke to some concerns that have been raised; for example, number of people at these properties exceeding occupancy limits; having pets that are not used to being in a lake environment; excessive noise and water activity and wakes; impact on lake and residents' ability to enjoy the lake.
- Kathy M. mentioned that there is a petition/survey regarding the issue of short-term rentals.
- Ross Sutherland asked for a link to the survey to be sent to SFT council.
- Nora L asked 2 questions:
 - Q1: *Is council looking into creating by-laws around noise on lakes?*
 - Councillor Ross Sutherland - it's hard to enforce 'noise' on lakes, but if noise is impacting your ability to enjoy your property, that's a problem so call and by-law will come out to investigate.
 - Q2: *Is AirBNB looking into putting more clarity with respect to noise at these rentals?*
 - Councillor Ross Sutherland - little progress has been made in this regard in recent years but with 2 people bringing this forward, we'll have a delegation to council and there is more openness on the part of council to deal with this. Suggested having a licence system which could help.
 - Crawford M. stressed the importance of educating people who visit our lake on speed, wake, distance from shore, and impact on our environment and species. Should we offer some education/guidance to the property owners that can then be passed to their renters?
 - Duncan Sinclair suggested we identify those renting their properties on the lake and to provide them with a handout to make the renter aware of these sensitivities ex: showing what loon platforms and nests look like with the message to stay away from them and not interfere with the reproduction of the loons. It comes down to ignorance or unawareness of how a lake environment differs from their city environment. Cheat sheet for renters prominently displayed in rental properties.
 - Cheryl S. pointed out that it would also be a good idea to send this type of information to everyone on the lake.
 - Ron McLean spoke to offer his help and expertise as a Sail Canada Cruising Instructor and Power Instructor to put together a 'best practices' for boating on Buck Lake.
- Heather Keeling asked about the Loon Survey results but Don Young said it will be published in the newsletter.

14. Adjournment

Gillian thanked everyone for tuning in.

Recording Secretary, Cheryl Dawson

President, Gillian Lash

Attachments:

Appendix A – Agenda

Appendix B - Treasurer's Report

Appendix C – PPT presentation used during meeting ****Should I include this? 20 pgs.? Parts thereof?**

Appendix A:

Agenda



- Welcome, call to order, and introduction of Board members
- Remarks from South Frontenac Council members
- President's remarks and announcements
- Approval of 2020 AGM minutes and any business arising there from
- Reports: Secretary Treasurer
 - Membership
 - Friends of the Lake
- Nominating Committee report and election of 2021/2022 Board of Directors
- Other business and open question period
- President's closing remarks

Appendix B:

**Buck Lake Association
Statement of Income & Expenses
For the period ending Dec 31, 2020**

Income:

	2019 Actual	2020 Actual	2021 Budget
Membership Revenue	\$2,900.00	\$2,650.00	\$3,000.00
Deferred Revenue Prepaid Membership	\$1,375.00	\$1,075.00	\$0.00
Advertising	\$750.00	\$100.00	\$0.00
Maps/ Tick Keys/ Magnets	\$170.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Community	\$4,032.50	\$0.00	\$0.00
Picnic	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Donations	\$85.00	\$325.00	\$250.00
Calendars	\$1,473.51	\$1,567.00	\$1,100.00
Other	42.97	(\$89.78)	(\$100.00)
Total	\$10,828.98	\$5,627.22	\$4,250.00

Expenses:

	2019 Actual	2020 Actual	2021 Budget
Insurance	\$1,358.64	\$2,771.28	\$1,400.00
Affiliate Memberships	\$552.00	\$531.00	\$500.00
Publications	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Administration Fees	\$293.50	\$465.13	\$190.00
Calendar Expenses	\$1,894.71	\$2,366.16	\$1,600.00
Meeting Costs	\$588.39	\$30.00	\$150.00
Miscellaneous	\$0.00	\$101.01	\$0.00
Social and Outreach	\$770.83	\$0.00	\$0.00
Heritage Project	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Community Project	\$4,139.45	\$117.54	\$0.00
Lake Planning	\$113.02	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total	\$9,710.54	\$6382.12	\$3,840.00

Excess of Revenue over Expenses	\$1,218.43	(\$754.90)	\$410.00
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Balance Sheet -- As of Dec. 31, 2020



Assets	Dec 2018	Dec 2019	Dec 2020
General Bank Account	\$8,256.26	\$7,490.18	\$5,106.06
Prepaid Expenses	\$1,499.32	\$1,544.78	\$1,581.13
Total	\$9,755.58	\$9,034.96	\$6,687.19

Liabilities:

Appendix C: