

Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
August 10, 2013

Attendance: 37 people

1. President **Roy Sunstrum** welcomed those in attendance, and thanked the Board of Directors, Camp lawah, the door prize donors and our child-care helpers for their assistance with today's event.
2. **Jeff Friesen** welcomed everyone to Camp lawah and presented an overview of their existing programs and efforts to re-vision their facilities and activities.
3. Rideau Lakes Councillor **Bob Lavoie** extended greetings from the Township and outlined some of the challenges facing Council as government funding declines. He described progress on the plan to hard-surface 70% of township roads, the proposed construction on Highway 15 between Seeley's Bay and Lombardy, the Eastern Ontario Regional (broadband) Network, and efforts to ensure better cell phone access, and stressed the importance of input from residents on municipal issues.
4. South Frontenac Councillor **Pat Barr** noted that a public meeting on waste management will be held at Glendower Hall on August 28 at 7 pm.

Business Meeting

5. The **minutes of last year's AGM**, as published in the 2013 newsletter, were approved, on a motion by Paul Thompson and Bill Garland.
6. **President's Report: Roy Sunstrum** summarized the work performed this year by the Board of Directors.
 - a. After their first full year in operation, our new **website** (wolfelakeassociation.org) and **Facebook** page are beginning to receive more traffic. Roy has also issued two **email newsletters**. The traditional paper **newsletter**, produced by Shirley Ewen, remains the most effective means of communicating with lake residents and recruiting new members.
 - b. Two permanent **signs** advertising the association and the AGM have been erected, with more to be added in future.
 - c. Roy has been monitoring progress on the **Algonquin Land Claim Agreement-in-Principle**, and reports that, while he was initially reassured by the first meeting he attended, FOCA has recently

indicated that plans for public consultation are being reduced, and we would therefore be wise to stay involved and informed.

- d. After several years of intensive work, the Association's **Lake Vision & Overview** was finally posted on our website in July. It describes the current state of Wolfe and Green Lakes and our hopes for the future, and identifies our two primary goals: to foster a strong community and to monitor and act on issues that affect our lake and our community.
6. **Shoal Marking:** Roy Sunstrum confirmed that **Roy Chisamore** has installed shoal-marking buoys again this year, including an additional six red/orange buoys purchased as we gradually replace the old yellow ones.
7. **Marilyn Crawford's** report on **Green Lake**, presented in her absence by Roy Sunstrum, indicated that RVCA water sampling continues to show excellent water quality. No zebra mussels are present, and the water chemistry will likely prevent their appearance. A family of loons has produced two nestlings, of which one has survived. There are no problem issues to report.
8. **Membership/Financial:** **Cathy Thompson** reported that we have 62 paid memberships for 2013-2014 out of approximately 250 properties on the lake. Once again, she urged everyone to recruit their neighbours and to submit any suggestions for increasing membership, in an effort to strengthen our community, promote involvement and increase public awareness of the issues facing us.

The financial report appears in the 2013 newsletter. Our balance, which was significantly reduced as a result of the milfoil weevil pilot project, is beginning to recover, and now stands at approximately \$2600.
9. **Fishing:** **Margie Manthey** reported a general decline in fishing success for all species in general, including panfish, bass, pike and walleye, although some visiting fishermen have complained that they are catching only walleye too big to keep. She suggests that the fish may be remaining in deeper water as a result of July's sudden intense heat, which produced surface water temperatures approximately 15°F above their preferred levels.
10. **Water Quality:** **Paul Thompson and Gord Moore** continue to assist the RVCA and the Ministry of the Environment with their sampling programs; detailed information on their findings is available in the newsletter. Values for water clarity, total phosphorus and oxygen levels remain excellent, and the RVCA again expressed surprise at the oxygen levels in Wolfe Lake, which may now be high enough to support trout. The zebra mussel colonization of Wolfe Lake appears to have stabilized and is beginning to decline.

11. Last summer, **Paul Thompson, Gord Moore and Duncan MacDougall** initiated a pilot project to test the effectiveness of milfoil weevils as a control for **Eurasian watermilfoil**. In July, they assisted Milfoil Solution Inc. in stocking 6500 weevils at a test site near Derbyshire's Island, and since that time have been comparing the results there and in a control site on the northwest shore. In August 2012, they estimated that milfoil at the test site had declined from 95% of the plant community to 75%. By July 2013, the test site was showing 40% improvement, and in August 2013, about 75%, with native (non-milfoil) species of plant life reappearing. At the same time, the control site was approximately twice as heavily infested as it had been in 2012.

Milfoil Solution has submitted a quote of approximately \$1200 to perform an official follow-up survey to confirm these results, although Paul feels that he can negotiate a price closer to \$700-\$800. Following some discussion of whether Milfoil Solution can provide an unbiased report on the results of the pilot study and whether there is any purpose in treating limited areas of the lake rather than the lake as a whole, Paul recommended that we authorize this final survey. He feels that we will need scientific data to back up our recommendations, whether we decide to embark on a lake-wide project to control milfoil (at an estimated cost of \$106,000-\$111,000) or simply pass the information on to landowners for action in individual bays or specific areas. Ilse Noonan and Glen Ewen moved that we proceed with such a survey, and the motion was carried. Anyone with an interest or expertise in, or suggestions for, fundraising activities is urged to contact Roy or Paul.

12. **Kaitlin Brady** then described the **RVCA's Algae Watch** program, which is designed to compile information on and help waterfront communities deal with aquatic plant and algae issues on their water bodies. Members of the public are asked to complete a survey on their observations and concerns at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/plants-algae>. She also urged participation in the RVCA's **Shoreline Naturalization Program**, which offers free site visits, suggestions for shoreline planting plans and technical and financial assistance for approved shoreline naturalization projects.
13. After extensive discussion of a possible **response to the Algonquin Land Claim Agreement-in-Principle**, Glen Bowmaster and Manjit Kerr-Upal moved that a small group draft a letter to the appropriate provincial and federal authorities, expressing our concern about the need for public consultation on the agreement, regulations relating to hunting, fishing and development on the lands concerned and the importance of guaranteeing conservation on Fox Point in particular, which became Crown land by expropriation for the express purpose of protecting wildlife habitat.

14. Cathy Thompson and Duncan MacDougall moved that **membership dues** be increased next year from \$20 (the level in effect for the past twenty-five years) to \$30. Carried.
15. **Elections:** The following individuals were elected to the Board:
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| President: | Roy Sunstrum |
| Vice-President: | Bill Garland |
| Secretary: | Betty Jo MacDougall |
| Treasurer/Membership: | Gord Moore |
| Water Quality: | Paul Thompson (with assistance from Gord Moore) |
| Shoal Marking: | Roy Chisamore (to be confirmed) |
| Green Lake: | Marilyn Crawford (to be confirmed) |
| Fishing: | Margie and Brian Manthey |
| Newsletter: | Shirley Ewen |
| Communications: | to be handled jointly by Roy Sunstrum, Shirley Ewen, and Manjit Kerr-Upal, [with assistance from Rosanna Bylsma until September 30, 2013] |
| Directors at Large: | Jim Buchner (to be confirmed)
Sharon Carr
Jeff Friesen
Bill Hutchison
Duncan MacDougall |
17. Paul Thompson moved that the meeting be **adjourned**. Seconded by Jeff Friesen. Carried.
18. The meeting was followed by a corn roast and potluck lunch on the beach.

Roy Sunstrum
President

Betty Jo MacDougall
Secretary