



2020 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Minutes

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2020 – 10:00 AM (9:45 sign in) by Zoom

1. Sign in and Question Time (15 minutes before AGM start)
2. Meeting Start, welcome & Zoom Housekeeping John McMullen / Art Kilgour
 - 10:00 AM with Quorum of more than 30 Participants
3. Approval of 2019 AGM Minutes Anne Stewart
 - **Motion to approve the 2019 AGM minutes by Anne, 2nd: Ned Martin; approved**
4. Treasurer's Report Peter Perdue
 - Reporting on the end of 2019 we had a loss of \$11,707 in 2019 due to extraordinary expenses. For 2020, we will achieve a small surplus due to many cancellations this year, but to cover ongoing expenses we need about 20 more members. The reserves of 23K are in RBC money market account. The board proposes that we dispense with our annual audit. Peter would like a person to review his work and ask questions. **Peter proposes the motion: "That BNIA members approve that the Association dispense with the need for an annual audit and that the Treasurer will attempt to identify a member who will assist by viewing the Treasurer's work"; 2nd by Kathleen Kidd.** There was some discussion about having the person in place first, timing and cost of audits, qualifications of the person needed. Doug Ferguson volunteered to take this on. **Motion Approved.** There was a question from Bill Molesworth about raising fees instead of finding more members. David Luckock asks about membership infiltration, deferred to membership report. **Ned Martin moved the Motion to approve the Treasurer's report; 2nd by Nichola.** A question from Ted about 1) raising the fees to \$100/member and 2) what is the targeted reserve fund given that we've had deficits the last years? Reserve funds should stay at the \$23k and not be used to cover annual deficits. Increasing fees was set aside for the board to discuss and could go to the 2021 AGM. **Treasurer's report approved.**
5. President's Report John McMullen
 - John reads a First Nations acknowledgement an
 - He makes a few comments about:
 - A wonderful new website thanks to Art
 - An excellent directory which Nichola will speak about

- There were a number of Boating & safety matters this summer, so this needs to have our attention
- He asked people to complete the survey of Transport Canada PDF/lifejacket survey <https://www.surveymonkey.ca/r/2XRC2RD>
- The BNIA endorsed the Safe Quiet Lakes advocacy regarding high performance boats via their Decibel Program
- The Bay Day initiative morphed into Derelict Dock Campaign/the Bayfield Beatification Committee thanks to Ted Simmonds who removed 29 docks
- First Responders have closed for the season and a big thanks to all of them
- The Pat Thomson Property (GBLT Reserve) rented for 2 more years and then it will be torn down

6. Election of Slate of Directors

Anne Stewart

- Slate presented by Anne with the only change from last year being the addition of Art Kilgour. Director and their portfolios were shared in advance of the meeting.
Motion: Anne moved that the directors as presented be approved, 2nd: Tom Martin; approved

7. Committee Reports:

a. Membership

Sara Carter

- Membership numbers – up from last year to 218 full members which represents 75% of cottagers (about 240 cottages). This year people paid right away. Sara welcomes new members and thanks them for joining. Suggests communicating with RE agents to reach new cottagers
- Sara thanked people who have donated and highlighted the on-line donations program
- Nichola spoke about the Directory and other communications. She thanked Kathleen Kidd and helpers for their previous work. It took 4 people to reproduce that work this year. The co-editor was Sara Carter and Rob Reed is the new advertising person. The directory was received mid-May. Next year the co-editors will be Art and Sara. Changes this past year included: ads interspersed, size of 92 pages, increased features and stories, 1-page for emergency contacts and merged with the website. Costs have gone up, but ads also gone up. Still a deficit but will be addressed. They are always looking for new and interesting contributions.

b. Communications

Art Kilgour

- Art introduces the new website which was worked on last winter using the GBA template. He walks people through the website member login and dashboard. Here people can update things (contact information, input information about the property) and come January make payments/renew your fees/make donations. Art

also spoke about the on-line mapping features and the on-line phone book which also shows who has a fire pump (represented by a little flame).

- Facebook page has 543 members but a closed group. There are multiple family members and other people in our region who follow the page. It's a multilateral communication form which helps us recruit new members. It is moderated by Sara Carter and Art Kilgour
- The photo contest included 48 photo entries for 2020 (by 18 people). Winners will be announced next year and the winning photo on cover of directory. The contest gives us a pile of visual material from members.
- There was a question from Peter Perdue about having advertising on the website. This function not being used yet. It has a limited reach as the advertising is on the very bottom of the page. Print version of everything may be phased out eventually so website will become more important, so ads on website will be more important. Need better internet access as we use the Directory at the cottage.

c. Outings& Events

Molly Mulloy

- Anne Stewart reported for Molly as she was unable to attend. The Outings hopefully will be the same things that were advertised for this past summer. Please send ideas to Anne or Molly. John adds that Molly could use help in organizing and/or hosting.

d. Fire Education & Safety

Leeanne Smart

- It was a good summer fire wise. Fire awareness is up as people were asking about ratings this year. The committee aims to Increase awareness and education. Fire pump information is on the website so you can make individual arrangements. There was more road signage this year. Going forward 2021 there will be more safety & information suggestions (what to look for household fire extinguishers, fire pumps and pump compatibility). They are hoping to have 20-min fire safety sessions.

e. Regatta

Mike Major

- No regatta this year; hopefully next year. Mike is looking for ideas for a "Plan B" just in case (perhaps a fishing derby, etc.). The trophies are in need of repair (and no new room for new name plates). They are stored at the Major Island. He appeals to members for some history about the trophies.

f. Environment

Anne Stewart

- We don't have an environment committee but we do cover many topics under Outings and the environment is an underlying theme in everything the BNIA does. More people have reported sighting of increased Gypsy Moth activity so we may see an increase next year. GBF and GBBR are very active and Anne encouraged people to seek out information from those organizations. She asked for suggestions regarding

environmental topics to address on the website/directory. Leanne requested that we post information about Gypsy Moths. Tom Martin mentions that it is cottager responsibility to look after their own docks and their own [polystyrene/Styro]foam waste. John McMullen asks that people identify their docks. Tom Martin asks that it go in the directory. John Thomas comments that we have to be careful about dismantling other people's docks, especially this year when many Americans have not been there.

g. Other

Ted Simmonds

- The Dock Demo work came out of the Bay Day request to collect small bits of blue Styrofoam. Ted dismantled 29 docks. He was asked if people should pay him, but, no, he has asked that people pay up their membership. Requests that people identify docks and ramps. There was suggestion that people contribute by making a donation to the BNIA. A big thanks to Ted from everyone. Bill Molesworth has volunteered to dismantle some in Nares.
- John McMullen asked Rob to speak about boating as a few questions or situations came up this summer that made us realize we need to spend some time on education and communication. Rob says that there are certain aspects that need to be focused on: wakes, safety for other people using the waterway (swimming, canoes, kayaks). He proposes a new boating committee and invites anyone who has an interest. A lot of the issue comes from the wake from transient big boats but now much of the wake is caused by cottagers who now have bigger and bigger boats. Peter Frost says a few words about bigger boats, bigger wakes and that since we are an archipelago boats are our highway. He comments that enforcement of Acts and Regulations are virtually impossible. Safe and respectful boating comes down to us as individuals and as a community. Knowledge is paramount (i.e. everyone needs to know the rules of the road, basic right of ways and how our boats operate). Knowing how our boats operate means being respectful and aware of others on the water. The BNIA can assist with education. There was a comment from Jennifer about people making wakes on purpose for towing floating crafts. Peter responded that this is a big part of understanding how our boats work.
- John Lavis reports that 10 more cottage books were requested this year and delivered. It was requested that we make new members aware of this.
- Kathleen Kidd has nothing to report for Social

8. Township of the Archipelago

Peter Frost

- Planning and committee of adjustment has been pretty quiet
- Taxes are always an issue. Increases will be in cost of living range to increase reserves as they were getting a bit low

- High speed internet details are on the TOA website
- They are having slow progress in year 1 of a 4-yr discussion under a federal gov't plan & funding re the management of Shawanaga Island as a conservation area under the guidance of Shawanaga First Nations with the Township, GBLT, GBBR, GBF, MNFR.
- There will be a survey re speed, wake & noise centered on the harbour in the village of Pointe au Baril
- Community centre will be closed until there is a significant drop in COVID-19 but water system is still running and the library may have a curb-side pickup.
- Comprehensive Zoning by-law review has 2 main areas: 1) Coverage/built form has a lot of pressure in other areas, and 2) Setbacks are currently 7m since 1980 and probably will not be changed. Peter would like to hear from people. Tom asks for an update about reductions that the PaB islanders were keen on. Will it be a neighbourhood basis or across the Archipelago? Peter clarifies that some will be local (i.e. subdivisions size requirements), some will be the Township. Peter states that we will not see any changes in regulation that will affect us very much in our Ward.
- Council is advocating to have provincial roads 529/529A improved.
- Advocating for banning the use of foam.

9. Georgian Bay Association

John Lavis

- A written report from John with two updates about GBA:
- 1) GBA's priority actions: <https://georgianbay.ca/about-us/gbas-priority-actions/> It's not quite up-to-date because we've made substantial progress on some issues since then, but it gives an indication of the topics that take up a huge amount of time; and,
- 2) consider registering for the upcoming GBA/GBF online water-levels symposium from 10-2 on Saturday 24 October:
https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_i_EJb4ojThiWFvwSG_Nqiw
- David Luckock reminds everyone about this too verbally.

10. Discussion Period

John McMullen

- John reminds people to pick up foam around your shoreline. Ted Simmonds suggests adding a regatta event of a prize for collection of foam. There was a question about noise on the lake (dogs parking) which was answered by John McMullen. He suggested to speak to the neighbour and then to speak to Gary Joyce (for by-law enforcement). There was also a suggestion that we have social events on the spur of the moment basis (pop-up) to account for weather (i.e. picnic, kayak, canoe...). Kathleen responds that we are looking to do this and a Scavenger hunt (like geo cashing) is being considered. Tom, on behalf of the members, thanks the board.

11. Adjournment at 12:05 pm

- **Motion by Ned Martin, Seconded by Kathleen Kidd; approved**