



Annual General Meeting APPROVED Minutes Sunday, October 17 2021, 1:00-3:00pm

(Virtual Meeting - Zoom invitation provided in advance requesting sign in starting at 12:45pm)

- 1. Call to Order (John McMullen). 1:00pm.**
- 2. Land Acknowledgement (John McMullen).**
- 3. Meeting Procedures (John McMullen):**
 - John says that names are now showing; a few motions that need to be voted on – ask for nays, abstentions, the balance will be approved; using the chat function or raise hand but we can't see the whole gallery (Art will monitor); if you lose connection or other issues text Art.
- 4. President's Report (John McMullen):**
 - John has a few brief comments to welcome to our 2nd virtual AGM hopefully our last. Directory best ever, outing and events not what we planned but good none-the-less. Acknowledges the passing of Barbara Carlton, the late wife of Ted Carleton.
 - Jen Logue asks that we also acknowledge the passing of Charles Logue this year.
- 5. Approve 2020 AGM Minutes (Anne Stewart):**
 - Anne says minutes have been circulated.
 - Anne requests motion to approve minutes. Ned motions, Peter Perdue seconds.
- 6. Treasurer's Report (Peter Perdue):**
 - Peter says BNIA has a surplus of 23k, 25k by the end of the year. Money that is "extra" because of COVID lack of in-person meetings, regatta and outings. Will work with Mike Major to ensure smooth transition.
 - Cheryl Dinnin asked how much "normal" regatta expenses are. Peter states about \$1,000.
 - Motion to approve: Anne Stewart, seconder Jennifer Logue.
 - Tom Martin clarifies that membership approves the financial report whereas financials are approved by the board and tabled to the membership.
- 7. Committee Reports:**
 - Membership (Nichola Martin):**
 - Nichola calls out the people who helped with membership. Huge thanks to those who took part – meetings and discussions.

- A summary of initiatives:
 - \$5 discount highly successful. Will repeat in 2022.
 - Neighbourhood coordinators reached out to expired members.
 - Currently 266 members (44 more than last year, 14 did not renew, so 58 new members - some American, some Canadian).
 - Increase in donations (8k from 5k). This inspired a membership survey to see how the money might be spent.
 - New maps published with neighbourhoods dotted in. Dropped off maps and burgees during the summer which encourage conversations with members

Member Survey (Leeanne Smart):

- Leeanne goes through the PowerPoint summary of the topline results. She clarified a few of the points (i.e. reason why neighbourhoods were not as highly ranked – although they might be useful to the board for breaking down the communication tasks, they don't appear to be relevant to the membership at large).
- Mike Major asks why the regatta was not as highly rated. Leeanne suggests that the older age of respondents likely contributed, and regatta may not be top of mind (as we've not had one in 2 years).
- Question why outings were not high ranked but later in the survey outings were requested. Leeanne suggests perhaps it is the kinds of events (not staged, educational but simpler (i.e picnic and more casual events). Molly talks about how she tries to keep events and outings educational. Jennifer Logue says they "should be a balance of informational and perhaps social". Nichola says "Definitely part of the reason for the creation of neighbourhoods...so that local social events can be organised".
- Leeanne comments that survey responses ratio similar to membership ratios by Nares and Bayfield, albeit somewhat over indexed for Nares.

Communications (Art Kilgour):

- Art states that there are many different channels.
 - Facebook 500+ "members" (live locally, renters, live far away and want to know about the area).
 - Instagram managed by Katie Pointner 250+ followers
 - Email via Mailchimp (95% of members have email)
- Art comments that we put energy in social media but survey results showed that social media not as important (but maybe it was the age of respondents). Some commented that they would prefer a regular newsletter rather than a flurry of summer emails.
- Anne asks if there is anything about Website that members would like to know about. Art answers that it didn't score really high on survey but it does have access their property info. For new members, the website probably most important. Several new members today and the website is a way to recruit new members. Molly states that key information should be on website, which it is.

Directory (incl. photo contest) (Sara Carter):

- Sara says that the survey reinforces the importance of the Directory. Good feedback. Had extra pages (due to COVID / no regatta) so they increased personal interest stores which were well received. It had more variety, slightly larger, extra colour, a fold out flap with emergency information and Rob Reed brought in new advertisers with new life.

- Story ideas form community and members so please contribute. Jennifer asks about when she should submit a memorial. Copy deadline end of Feb.
- Photo contest (Art): Art comments that people love a deadline! The BNIA uses submitted images all through the year. In the directory, with winning photo on the cover, and in social media.

Outings & Events (Kathleen Kidd):

- Kathleen agrees with the discussion about the survey and outings.
- As far as outing and events when for 2021, when they were planning outings they assumed no social contact (events were planned to do an event individually/as family and post pictures afterwards). When things were relaxed, they decided to have group events. The dates picked for 2021 were a factor in attendance – some had horrible weather and the painting event was on a weekday.
- Hopefully in 2022 we will do some traditional education events and some more informal events. For example, along the lines of pick a date and place, come and meet and have a picnic. Kathleen stated that she thought the painting event was still worthwhile and perhaps add an art tour aspect to it (famous painters or done by your grandmother). Kathleen stated it would be herself, Molly, Heather Gilman and Susan Day who work on these ideas.
- Jennifer says some events were too far away - suggested 2 points of entry or join in along the route which was well received.
- Molly asks the members about their possible attendance to events organized in the channel down from Hangdog. John suggested that ideas should go to the committee.

Fire Education & Safety (Leeanne Smart):

- Leeanne says that a hot and dry June, and wet and cool July, meant no fires of note, no infractions; Members were aware of Fireworks and commenting positively; there are articles in 2021 directory and on the website; Art asked membership to contribute information about fire pumps which is published on the website; reminder posts were uploaded to social media when we had extreme fire ratings.
- Leeanne reinforces that fire pump sharing/borrowing arrangements are an individual responsibility. The BNIA is not able to purchase, insure or maintain them. The BNIA cannot lawfully give permission for folks to borrow other peoples' pumps. It is the cottager's responsibility to talk to your neighbours and make individual arrangements.
- Leeanne says next steps include live fire education & safety session at a future AGM with help from firefighter members; directory articles in 2022 will focus on pumps and nozzles. Keeping fire top of mind reduces the risk.
- Frank Pointner reminds us that the website is a good place for hoses, type of pump, nozzle sizes.
- Art classifies that last year we added content about fire extinguishers (<https://bnia.ca/fire/>).
- Question about island history and information from Molly – Frank says that she should send info to him for the history binder. Art says that there are 9 items history tab on the website. John comments that similar to lifejackets, fire pumps should be tried out.

Regatta (Mike Major):

- Mike confirms no regatta, no expenses with the exception of repairs to trophies and water woggles in 2021.

Boating (Rob Reed):

- Rob says rejuvenated and revived boating and safety committee: cottager wake, being safe, speed around paddlers, being safe and courteous. Great and very experienced team: Tom Martin, Katie Pointner, Alice Lurie, John McMullen, Peter Frost and Rob Reed. Marinas now have signs about wake, social media contest (no entries but lots of comments that people liked what they saw). They will think of other ways next year. Education for kids in person: knots, safe boating.
- Molly suggests Harvey Cornish could do a knot workshop well intended in the past.
- Leeanne supports the idea of educating ourselves and not fueling “us and them” mentality.
- See <https://bnia.ca/boating-news/> for our website. See the GBA pamphlet “Georgian Bay for Everyone”.

First Responders, Derelict Docks and more (Ted Simmonds):

- Ted shares the First Responder Report from Butch Folland about a busy summer:
 - 21 call outs, May 14th to Sept 16th, July was the busiest.
 - 8 patients went to WPSHC by ambulance, 6 were treated on the scene and transported by family and friends, the rest treat and release.
 - 60% were 60 yrs. and older.
- 2 courses for our team:
 - Wilderness First Program - 3-day recertification, Cold Water workshop over Zoom in 2 sessions. Eagerly signed up for courses.
- Derelict docks
 - Nares: 6 structures and 3 to do next year,
 - Bayfield 11 docks with assistance with Bill Dinnin.
- Thanks to ToA and Peter Frost - Free deliveries to site 9 (no dump fees).
- John McMullen gifts Ted Simmonds a new Solas lifejacket as thanks on behalf of the BNIA.
- Leeanne says that the survey specifically called out the wonderful work of the first responders and that Ted Simmonds got called out individually which doesn’t happen often.
- Ted is asked about First Responders and he clarifies that there are 2 new First Responders: Rob Lablond and a new responder in Bayfield (both active or retired firefighters).
- Peter Perdue comments that a few donations came in because of the First Responder program. Cheryl and Bill Dinnin state, “Wearing a life jacket is also setting a good example for our children and grandchildren”.

8. TOA Update (Peter Frost)

- Peter thanks everyone for support over the last 5 or 6 years. He asks people to look at Township website. A few of the highlights:
 - financials are in good shape increases roughly in line with inflation,
 - protection of the environment (official plan, comprehensive zoning bylaw); the Township “wants to manage change rather than having change manage us”.
 - For example, the site alteration bylaw (came about because an island had golf course development started).
 - Working on a great neighbour’s guideline – will be on township website.
 - No Committee of Adjustment issues in BN.
 - Great staff and Council. Changes – Grant Walker.
 - 529A resurfaced, 529 is supposed to be done next year.
 - High speed internet coming possibly this winter (\$).

- Jennifer Logue asks, who is responsible for steel bars in the rocks and outhouses on Gibraltar? Peter refers her to MNR but Peter will take it up with Public Works.

9. GBA Report (John Lavis):

- John reports that there is an amazing line up of 3 H2O webinars hosted by GFB and GBA. Sign up for each webinar separately: <https://georgianbay.ca/h20-2021/>.
 - 1) What's happening? What's new? – Saturday 23 October from 10-12;
 - 2) Shorelines and shoreline structures – Saturday 13 November from 10-12; and
 - 3) Septic, insurance and businesses – Saturday 4 December from 10-12.
- The GBA is working on 6 keys priorities:
 - dev pressures south end Georgian Bay,
 - unencapsulated dock foam,
 - waste/ garbage,
 - septic systems,
 - open cage aquaculture,
 - COVID 19 border restrictions
- Tom Martin suggests that it might be useful to communicate the unencapsulated dock foam once it is approved (but it might say something different on our website).

10. Election of Directors (Anne Stewart):

- Anne thanks to retiring directors.
- Anne reviews list of proposed 2022 directors. Motion to approve John Lavis, seconder Kathleen Kidd.

11. Q&As and Discussion (Anne Stewart):

- Jennifer Logue asks about “Adopt a Highway” signs on 529A. Ted Simmonds responds that this is an informal committee and one of his initiatives, and that he walks the road once or twice a year picking up garbage.
- Pat Roebuck mentions a user friendly app called “What Three Words” that is connected to 911 and can be used if people are lost.

12. Adjournment. 3:00pm

- Motion Tom Martin, seconder Pat Roebuck.