

**BALSAM LAKE ASSOCIATION INC.
MINUTES OF THE 2012 ANNUAL MEETING
LIONS' HALL, COBOCONK**

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Balsam Lake Association Inc. (BLA) was held on Sunday, August 12, 2012 at 09:00 at the Lions' Hall in Coboconk. There were approximately 45 in attendance. Coffee was available from 08:30 during informal discussions with various attendees prior to the start of the formal portion of the Meeting.

1. Call to Order

President Donna Braniff called the meeting to order at 09:10, and welcomed all in attendance.

Motion: It was moved by M. Lang and seconded by J. Pascoe that the Agenda be adopted as distributed.

2. Minutes of the 2011 Annual Meeting

These Minutes were posted on the BLA Web Site, and also posted at the rear of the Hall. In the interests of time, it was proposed to omit the reading of the Minutes.

Motion: It was moved by D. Gibson and seconded by J. Pascoe that the 2011 AGM Minutes be approved as circulated. Carried.

3. Financial Report

Treasurer Gerry McKeown presented the Financial Report for the fiscal year ending Feb 28/12.

Opening balance March 1, 2011	\$9866.67
Revenues	\$2930.83
Expenses	\$3417.19
Closing Balance February 28, 2012	\$9380.31

Copies of the Financial Report detailing the revenues and expenses were available as handouts.

Motion: It was moved by B. Thompson and seconded by M. Lang that the report be accepted as presented. Carried.

Web Approved

4. City of Kawartha Lakes

Mayor Ric McGee and Councillor Stephen Strangway were introduced. The Mayor spoke on behalf of Council.

- There are four major priorities in the City:
 - Connections
 - Tourism
 - Aggregate management (3rd largest producer in Ontario)
 - Knowledge sector (Trent University, Fleming College partnerships)
- Floating wetland technology pilot installation at Coboconk to absorb aquatic nutrients
- Unassumed road service agreements and maintenance
- TSW budget reductions (City will not support extra waterfront property taxes)
- The Kagawong Road was reported to be in an unsafe condition. It was agreed that the Director of Public Works will investigate in conjunction with Councillor Strangway.

5. Lake Management Plans.

Tracy Roxborough of Kawartha Conservation reviewed the status and the methodology being used in the Balsam and Cameron Lakes study. There will be a draft report in 2014 addressing the long term economic and ecological priorities. The Blue Canoe program is a management initiative now underway to promote “best practices” to reduce phosphorus, nitrogen and pesticide use.

6. Blue Green Algae

Bruce Barthorpe of Kawartha, Haliburton and Pine Ridge Health Unit gave a comprehensive presentation on blue green algae and the recent situation in Sturgeon Lake. Toxins are produced by this cyano-bacteria. For those drawing water from the lake, a special filter is recommended.

7. Fire Protection

Ken Summers of the Fire Service noted that there are 21 Fire Halls in the City, with only 3 using full time staff. Smoke alarms are of particular concern. They are mandatory where there are sleeping quarters, and recommended in garages and attics. A fire escape plan for each family is highly recommended.

Burn Permits are required for any fire more than 24” in diameter but no larger than one cubic meter. A Special Burn Permit is required for fires larger than one cubic meter. Keep driveways wide enough for emergency vehicle access. Tanker shuttle certification underway by various Fire Halls may help reduce insurance rates.

Web Approved

Secretary's Note: In answer to a question about fireworks, Ken Summers advised after the meeting that all questions be directed to Brian McCuaig at the City of Kawartha Lakes Fire Service, 705-324-5731, Ext. 583.

8. BLA Business

8.1 Board of Directors

The President discussed the role and membership of the Board of Directors and explained that every term is for 2 years, with half elected every year. The Officers are then elected from the Board by the Board at the first Board meeting after the AGM. The 2 year term begins March 1 of the next year to coincide with the BLA fiscal year. The Directors standing for election are: Murray Townsend, Doug Paterson, Donna Braniff, and Tim Braddock.

Motion: It was moved by Josie Pascoe and seconded by N. Henderson that the slate be re-elected. Carried.

8.2 Fresh Water Summit

The BLA took part again this year and plans to do so in 2013.

8.3 Web Site

The BLA is in the process of updating the web site. It will be more user friendly and contain expanded information. Bob Nixon would welcome any suggestions.

8.4 Lake Hazard Marking

Jeff Taylor reported that in 2012, the BLA has again marked several sites with a buoy. They are seasonal only, and are approved by Transport Canada. The TSW only marks their channel. Note that not all shoals are marked.

8.5 Water Quality (E-coli)

Doug Erlandson noted that volunteers collect samples 6 times per year. He presented the 2012 results to date, noting that all sites are acceptable. The BLA has funded 7 sites this year for E-Coli testing. Individual Road Associations have funded 5 more. The cost per site is \$55 per year. All results will be posted on the BLA web site.

Results for all the E-coli tests under the auspices of the Kawartha Lakes Stewards Association (KLSA) are available in their Annual Reports at www.klsa.wordpress.com. The testing under the Lake Partner Program of the Ministry of the Environment is on-going and data is also available in the KLSA Annual Reports.

8.6 Lake Management Planning

Doug Erlandson is the BLA representative. See item 5 above.

9. New Business

Web Approved

9.1 Pigeon Lake Yacht Club

Representative Joe Boland noted that the Club is 30 years old, and they are looking for interest on Balsam Lake. They race every Wednesday night. D. Paterson reported that the Balsam Lake Sailing Club still exists, having been established in the 1960's. They race every second weekend. However, interest has declined over the years. It was agreed that links will be added to the BLA web site.

9.2 Zebra Mussels

Some parts of the lake are experiencing more than in other years, especially Birch Point.

9.3 BLA Action on TSW Cuts

In response to a question from N. Henderson, The President responded that the BLA will be discussing this at the next Board meeting. No one supports extra taxes.

9.4 Indian Point

The President noted that Indian Point Property Owners Association has joined the BLA, and their nominee is Craig Mather.

Motion: It was moved by N. Henderson and seconded by M. Lang that Craig Mather be approved to join the Board. Carried.

10. Adjournment

The President adjourned the meeting at 11:20, having thanked the presenters, Mayor and Councillor.

BLAannualmeetingminutes2012webapproved