

**BALSAM LAKE ASSOCIATION INC.
MINUTES OF THE 2010 ANNUAL MEETING
LIONS' HALL, COBOCONK**

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Balsam Lake Association Inc. (BLA) was held on Sunday, August 08, 2010 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 Doug Paterson called the meeting to order at 09:10, and welcomed all in attendance. The Directors introduced themselves, giving their location on the lake. Doug Paterson noted that there was a large map at the rear of the hall showing the locations of member Road Associations.

The President also indicated that there was a volunteer sign-up sheet at the rear for anyone interested in volunteering to assist the BLA, especially in web site development.

Doug Paterson also explained the voting rules. Individual members and members of Road Associations in good standing would have one vote on any Motion.

Copies of the Agenda at the rear of the hall were available to everyone.

Motion: It was moved by Jeff Cairns and seconded by C. Couchman that the Agenda as presented be adopted. Carried.

2. Minutes of the 2009 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 Tim Braddock and seconded by Gerry McKeown that the reading of the 2009 AGM Minutes be dispensed with, and that they be approved as circulated. Carried.

3. Financial Report

Treasurer Gerry McKeown presented the Financial Report for the fiscal year ending Feb 28/10.

Opening balance March 1, 2009	\$8886.14
Revenues	\$3035.84
Expenses	\$2628.97
Closing Balance February 28, 2010	\$9293.01

Copies of the Financial Report detailing the revenues and expenses were available as handouts, and is appended to these Minutes.

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On request from Catherine Couchman, Gerry explained the Directors' Insurance provided through Atrens Counsel Insurance Brokers. Catherine is possibly interested in similar coverage for their Road Association.

Motion: It was moved by Bob Murray and seconded by Jeff Swire that the report be accepted as presented. Carried.

4. BLA Business

The President noted that the Homewood Association has rejoined the BLA, as well as the Pride of Balsam Marina as an individual member in the name of Doug Good, who is in sales at the Marina. There are also two new individual members from the east side of South Bay.

4.1 Request for Volunteers

See item 1 above.

4.2 Reading of the 2009 AGM Minutes:

See item 2 above.

4.3 Election of Directors:

A slate of Officers and Directors was presented as follows. Doug Paterson explained that the Officers are on the second year of a two year term and are elected by the Board of Directors. There is a vacancy for a Director position and for the Vice President. The Board will fill these positions as per the By-laws.

OFFICERS

President	Donna Braniff
Vice President	vacant
Treasurer	Gerry McKeown
Secretary	Ross Bird
Past President	Doug Paterson

DIRECTORS

Tim Braddock
Doug Erlandson
Cindy Lee
Bob Nixon
Barbara Peel
Jeff Taylor (new)
Murray Townsend

Motion: It was moved by C. Couchman and seconded by M. Lange that the slate be elected as presented. Carried.

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4.4 Water Testing:

Doug Erlandson gave an overview of the E-coli testing and Lake Partner programs for Balsam Lake, being done in conjunction with the Kawartha Lakes Stewards Association and the Ministry of the Environment respectively. The results to date are very encouraging, as shown on slides that Doug presented.

He also gave recognition and thanks to the sample collectors for both the E-coli and Lake Partner programs. For the lake Partner Program, six samples are taken each year from locations around the lake for submission to the Dorset Environmental Sciences Lab as well as twice monthly clarity readings. For the E-Coli test program, six samples are taken each year from a number of locations and submitted to the laboratory at Fleming College in Lindsay.

Doug mentioned that algae 'growth pots' (Benthic Algae Garden) have been placed in Balsam Lake by Trent University as part of their studies.

These efforts were endorsed by all.

4.5 Voices of the Trent Severn Waterway

No report available.

4.6 BLA Web Site

No report available.

4.7 BLA Web Site Assistance

See item 1 above.

4.8 Lake Simcoe Protection Act (LSPA)

Bob Nixon noted that the Official Plan of the City includes the provisions of the LSPA for parts of the City in the Lake Simcoe watershed (west of County Road 48).

4.9 Service Acknowledgements

Donna Braniff outlined the service accomplishments for two retiring Directors, Bob Murray and Drew Davison, and presented Certificates on behalf of the Board.

5. Lake Hazard Marking

Jeff Taylor reviewed the costs, liability, maintenance, Transport Canada requirements, and logistics required for this program. He noted that the FOCA has ceased efforts in this regard, and that an anonymous marker seems to be the only viable alternative.

There was considerable support for the BLA to pursue this program. The insurance cost through the FOCA plan would be about \$55 per year for \$3M coverage per occurrence. However, the program must follow the Transport Canada guidelines. There was concern over who would benefit, locals who supposedly know the lake or transient boaters on the Trent Severn waterway.

The need to create 'no wake' zones was also mentioned.

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6. Lake Planning Study

Doug Erlandson noted that the City through Kawartha Conservation, have completed a study of Lake Scugog and have just started a plan for Sturgeon Lake. The BLA is a member of the Community Advisory Panel for the Sturgeon Lake Management Plan. All efforts in water testing on Balsam Lake will be compatible with Lake Planning Study requirements. There will be no work initiated on a Balsam Lake study until the Sturgeon Lake study is complete.

7. City of Kawartha Lakes

Mayor Ric McGee and Councillors David Hodgson, Stephen Strangway and Doug Elmslie were in attendance. Regrets were received from Councillor Emmett Yeo. The Mayor spoke on behalf of Council and the attending Councillors.

- The Official Plan has been endorsed in principle by Council, and will go to the Province by the end of August for approval.
- Facilities for broadband internet access will be upgraded as part of an Eastern Ontario initiative.
- Council has authorized the City to pursue becoming an “International Center of Excellence for Water Quality” to increase water quality for tourism, to help protect the environment in the long term, and as a source of economic development for the City.
- Municipal voting this year will once again be by mail, to give seasonal residents a better opportunity to cast their ballot. There will be no advance polls or polling stations.

8. Cottage Watch

Rajendar Sud of OPP Community Services described the Cottage Watch program that FOCA and the OPP have partnered to set up. It is not an OPP run program, rather it is managed by locals with OPP support. Guides and information pamphlets were made available to those interested. More information is available on the OPP web site.

9. Bear Management

Don Little of the Ministry of Natural Resources covered bear behavior under different scenarios, including audio clips of mature bear and cub ‘noises’. Although bears can be dangerous, they usually run rather than fight humans. Don also noted a number of things cottagers can do to live in harmony with bears, especially where food and garbage are concerned. Finally, he described the ‘do’s and don’ts’ when one encounters a bear. Balsam Lake is currently a bear hotspot.

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10. New Business

10.1 There are concerns over the behavior of anglers ice fishing in the Killarney Bay area. Ice fishing activity on the lake as a whole was not high in 2009-10.

10.2 There is concern over liability issues for those Road Associations who maintain private roads. The onus appears to be on the individual Road Association to prove diligence and to have procedures in place. More information is on the FOCA web site.

10.3 In response to a query about the Kingsview project near Rosedale, it was noted that the BLA is no longer involved in this project, and there are no outstanding issues with the City.

10.4 Some areas of the lake are experiencing a tremendous increase in the number of snails. Further information is available from the MNR, invasive species line. The infestation is likely cyclical in nature.

10.5 On-water concerns:

- There have been a number of incidents on the lake this summer caused by ignorance or carelessness of boaters, such as too being close to shore or travelling at excessive speed. OPP do patrol the lake, but not frequently enough. When checking boats, the marine officers have often been blunt and confrontational, which is contrary to mandated practices.

Action: Both Councillor Strangway and Rajendar Sud agreed to bring this practice to the attention of the OPP Commander.

- Boat operators must have photo identification on board in addition to the Operator's Card and a copy of the boat registration.
- 'Cigarette' boats operate too close to shore and with too much noise.
- The marked channel is often too narrow for large boats to easily navigate.

Action: The BLA will follow up on channel widths with Parks Canada.

- There are a number of trampolines and rafts in the water with no lights, signs, or indication of ownership.

11. Adjournment

Doug Paterson adjourned the meeting at 11:30, having thanked the presenters and Councillors.

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**Balsam Lake Association Inc
Statement of Revenue & Expense**

Fiscal Period March 1, 2009 to February 28, 2010

Opening Balance March 1, 2009		\$8,886.14
Revenues		
Interest Earned	0.84	
Membership Deposits Received	<u>3,035.00</u>	
	\$3,035.84	
Expenses Paid		
Atrens-Cousel Insurance Brokers	1,641.60	
City of Kawartha Lakes - Hall Rental - August 3/08	78.50	
Doug Paterson (FOCA AGM & Map Tube)	118.69	
G McKeown - Postage & Website Costs	125.90	
Kawartha Lakes This Week - Advert. AGM	283.50	
Barbara Peel (Lakeland Conference)	20.00	
Doug Erlandson (Lake Planning Guides)	60.00	
FOCA Annual Dues	226.01	
Ross Bird (Photocopies for AGM)	34.77	
Donna Braniff (FOCA Fall Seminar)	40.00	
Excess Revenue over Expenses	<u>\$2,628.97</u>	<u>\$406.87</u>
Closing Balance - February 28, 2010		\$9,293.01

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Bank Reconciliation

Closing Bank Balance - February 28, 2010	\$9,293.01
Income Statement Balance at Year End	\$9,293.01
Variance	Nil