

**Balsam Lake Association Inc.
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
August 11, 2013**

Present: D. Braniff (President & AGM Chair), K. Armstrong, T. Braddock, D. Erlandson, M. Lange, C. Lee, G. McKeown, C. Mather, B. Nixon, B. Peel, J. Taylor.

Regrets: R. Bird

Approximately 25 attendees plus Directors

1. Meeting Called to Order at 9:10am by D. Braniff

Welcome and approval of the 2013 meeting agenda. Motion C. Mather, seconded by T. Braddock.

Carried.

2. Minutes 2012 AGM presented for approval by C. Lee for R. Bird (Secretary). T. Braddock motion and B. Peel seconded. Carried.

3. 2012 Financial Report

Treasurer G. McKeown presented the Financial Report for the fiscal year ended February 28, 2013.

Opening Balance March 1, 2012	9380.31
Revenues	3786.78
Expenses	3815.13
Closing balance February 28/13	9351.96

Motion to approve P. Robinson, seconded P. Zaborowski. Carried.

4. Guest Speakers

1. Mayor of City of Kawartha Lakes (R. McGee) spoke to a new initiative for economic development. He also covered budget savings with increased City efficiencies, and improved policing and Lake Management Plans. He recognizes that the Trent Severn Waterway faces deep financial cutbacks and there is an inquiry into the high water levels of 2013 spring. The Mayor introduced Councillor S. Strangway who also attended the meeting.
2. A very detailed presentation was given by Lance Sherk, Director of Economic Development, City of Kawartha Lakes, on water technology partnership with Sir Sandford Fleming College. This is a new program based upon knowledge and demonstration capabilities within the City. The Project is entitled WRAIN – Water Research and Innovation Network.

Web Final

3. The Asst Superintendent, Jason Dwyer of Balsam Lake Provincial Park, discussed the Management Plan for the Park with the final draft due this autumn or early 2014.
4. Kelly Sherman of Kawartha Conservation discussed the Blue Canoe Program. This stewardship program promotes best practices for water management for landowners. A 2012 Watershed Report Card for Balsam Lake was "B" for surface water and "A" for forest/wetlands.

5. BLA Business

5.1 Terms of office for the Board. The Board proposed that the new term for Directors is to begin after the AGM in August of each year, and will run from Sept 1 to August 31 of the following year. Motion to approve C. Mather and seconded by G. McKeown. Carried.

Two new Board members were presented to fill current vacancies. K. Armstrong from Killarney Bay and M. Lange, Homewood Association. Motion to approve by Jeff Taylor and seconded by Paul Zaborowski. Carried.

Slate of Directors was presented by D. Braniff. For 2013 standing for re-election were D. Erlandson, C. Lee, B. Nixon, B. Peel and J. Taylor. Motion to approve slate G. McKeown and seconded by T. Braddock. Carried.

D. Paterson Presentation (*in absentia*) for Service to Board by D. Braniff. Doug served the BLA 2001 to 2013 including President and Past President.

M. Townsend. Recognition of service presentation (posthumously) by D. Braniff. Murray served for over 20 years on the BLA Board, including as President and Past President.

5.2 Freshwater Summit 2013 Report by B. Peel. Third year for the event and second year BLA attended with a booth at the Lion's Park, Coboconk. Plans are to attend the 2014 event.

5.3 Website & Lake Levels Report. B. Nixon. A new 2013 website is online and BLA is looking for comments and items. Lake levels were presented in graphic form at the meeting. It seems that water levels since the 1980's are rising earlier in the spring.

5.4 Hazard Marking Report. J. Taylor. Joint effort between J. Taylor and D. Erlandson for the third season. There are four sites marked during boating season. However, it was cautioned that boaters should continue to use their charts to move about the lake. Volunteers are needed.

5.5 Water Quality Testing Report. D. Erlandson. There are seven sites being monitored and five additional sites paid for by road associations. Data is being used by the Lake Management Planning team for Balsam Lake and data is also posted on the BLA website. No concerns for the 2013 results so far this year.

Web Final

5.6 Freshwater Mussels Project. C.Lee A new study is taking place to raise awareness about native mussels in the Lake and this study will help to identify species and populations in the Lake. Study supported by OMNR Species at Risk.

6. New Business

Boat Noise. B. Hicks. The level of boat noise seems excessive. The Mayor responded that residents should call the OPP and noted that in 2013, with increased City funding, there are more marine patrols. In addition, excessive noise is not an infraction.

Website Inquiry. K. Couchman. Could Kawarthawaterfront.com be added to the BLA website? There were no objections to the request.

Road Safety. B. Morris asked that "Watch for Children" signs be posted around the Lake. City officials directed residents to contact their Councillor.

Adjournment. 11:20am. Motion to adjourn J. Taylor. Seconded T. Braddock. Carried.

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