



ONE LOVE FOR AYLEN LAKE

**Aylen Lake Community Association
Annual General Meeting August, 11, 2018**

Call to Order

President Rene Bertrand called the 2018 Aylen Lake Community Association General Meeting to order at 9.:35am

There were 34 voting members in attendance.

Adoption of 2017 Annual General Meeting Minutes

Moved by Alicia Carruthers and seconded by Anne Wittiker: That the minutes from the 2017 AGM be adopted.

Motion Carried.

Business Arising from 2017 AGM Minutes

1. Constitution – ALCA was mandated to have the constitution changed to allow advertising. Rene reported that the constitution has been amended and signed by the executive.
2. Membership drive – ALCA was mandated to execute a membership drive using various methods. President Rene reported that several membership drives were conducted via electronic newsletters and on the Aylen Lake Facebook page. A mail out membership drive was also conducted.

Presidents Report

Rene reported that he will not be seeking re-election as his two year term has ended.

He shared his thoughts and concerns:

Let me tell you a short story. Last May long weekend I traveled 4 hours from the Toronto Pearson airport having flown back from a work assignment. My flight had been delayed several hours and I arrived at the landing on Monday morning at 7:30 am looking forward to enjoying the lake. Here is what welcomed me. On the lower parking level 3 trucks with their trailers taking a lot of space parked right where the "no trailers" sign is located forcing me to park at the top of the second level; 2 boats parked at the main dock probably having spent the night and the final touch was a pile of garbage right under the AED!

The maturity of a community is a reflection of how it takes care of each other and respects the law. At that moment, I decided that I would not continue to be part of an association that is trying so hard while people are more concerned about what works for them. There is a visible apathy here and it saddens me. Unfortunately the cottagers that need to hear this are probably not here today!

There are over 240 cottage families on this lake. This year's regatta was attended by a least 160 to 175 people. The association had a tent, visibility and 2 volunteers to recruit and not 1 new member signed up. Nor did anyone offer to pay their dues. Our current membership is 60 with 2 associate members (friends of Aylen Lake). 25% is extremely low and many of the members are from years and years ago, that means that 75% of the cottagers are not seeing the value.

It is one thing to be a member but the survival of an organization like the Aylen Lake Community Association relies on the volunteers that step up to help serve the community. Actions speak louder than words!

The association has always counted on a small, aging group of dedicated volunteers to step up (you know who you are) and I applaud you. You have dedicated 20+ years and some of you are now in your 80's and want to pass the baton. But who will step up to replace them? We need to increase our membership and renew our volunteer base with more young and strong people and we have not been successful at this.

We put forward several initiatives over the past couple of years that required volunteers.

- Lake Stewardship

- Emergency calling tree with lake section contacts

- Recruitment of new members and volunteers

- Getting revenue out of advertising on our website and newsletters

But nobody came forward except one.

There are many people on the lake who are very passionate about some issues. For example, the year

the Algonquin Land Claim started, membership grew to 80%. It seems unless there is a crisis, we stick to ourselves and the only things we contribute are suggestions that “someone else should do something about this”, “ALCA (the 2 or 3 people) should look into this”.

The Ayleen Lake Community Association is a community association, you are ALCA. Everything you would like to be done or addressed simply can't be accomplished by the 2-3 volunteers who are the executive.

My 2 year term is up and I am proud of what I have done to serve this community over that time. Thank you so much to Kathleen, Joe and to the few others who tirelessly worked on your behalf and on behalf of everyone who comes here to enjoy this beautiful lake regardless of contribution.

I say farewell.

Treasurer's Report

Kathleen reported that the financial records can be found on the back of the agenda.

The financial records for July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018 have been audited and found to be in order. The balance on account as June 30, 2018 was \$1,735.20.

This fiscal we reported a loss of \$425.62; compared to a profit of \$680.40 from last year. This is largely due to a decrease in membership from \$3,374.61 last year to \$2,508.29 this fiscal which is a decrease of \$866.32.

As of June 30, 2018 membership is at 28%.

Some good news to report is the Regatta was a success and brought in \$2,577.46. After expenses we profited \$1,931.08. The loonie table brought in \$1,417.00, food sales, \$781.93, 50/50 made \$170.50 and the cupcake sales \$200.00. All in all it was a great day!

Moved by Heather Gates and seconded by Alicia Carruthers; that the 2018 finances be adopted. Motion carried.

2018 Regatta

Kathleen reported that the 2018 Regatta was a great success! The weather was spectacular and there was a great turn out.

A big thank you to all the volunteers who pulled together to make this day possible.

Kathleen took time to acknowledge the volunteers:

Thank you Duell family for the spectacular opening!! What a show they put on!

Caira Gaffney was back with her face painting. Caira raised \$65.00 which she graciously donated to the St. Francis Memorial Hospital.

The Bertrand/Wittiker cupcakes were back again this year! Thank you Elaine and Anne for all your hard work, they sold out again this year. AND they were delicious.

Thank you McNevean family for the coming out to do the fish pond, the Ogilvie family for the ball toss and the Star family for the nail driving!

Thanks to all our cooks; Bruce Dick, Winston Rogers, Mike McCormack and David Purvis.

Thank you to our crew on the food sales; Nancy, Sean and James McCormack.

Thank you Heather Gates, Margaret and Shirley-Anne Ogilvie for your hard work at the Lonnie table.

Thank you to our race convenor Connie Dick and her crew for running and organising the water races. We appreciate all the hard work that goes into making this such a success.

To our fabulous MC Debbie Nystrom who brings her enthusiasm and spark to the day's events – Thank you.

Thank you Elaine Bertrand and Anne Wittiker for operating the ALCA booth and the 50/50 tickets.

Thanks to our beach clean-up crew; Jill and Joe Vermaire, Bruce Deniston and Peter Witt.

Thank you to everyone who came out early to help set up. I apologise I don't have all your names but you were a huge help! We couldn't have done it without you.

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Lonnie table. The prizes were amazing! This event raises a substantial amount for ALCA and is greatly appreciated.

Thank you to Rene for his help and new ideas for the Loonie table.

A big thank you to any volunteer who I may have missed and finally a big thank you to all our participants who made the 2018 a great event.

Township of South Algonquin Report

Mayor Jane Dumas and CAO Holly Hayes were both present.

Holly reported that she has attended many AGM's and states that membership seems to be low everywhere. She encouraged us to keep trying to pull together.

Garbage Pick Up

Holly acknowledges that there has been some confusion with regards to garbage pick-up. Floyd has been trying his best to accommodate everyone but that has not been sustainable. She advised that we must stick to our allotted schedule and that no dumping prior to our schedule time can be permitted.

Question: Floyd was arriving at 10:30 instead of 12:00. Is that going to continue?

Answer: Holly advised that it is not going to continue. The garbage truck will be there on Sundays from 12:00pm – 4:00pm and 2:00pm – 3:00pm on Wednesdays.

Question: Could the truck come earlier on Sunday's?

Answer: Holly advised that our 12:00pm - 4:00pm time slot is coveted by other lakes and that if we change to an earlier time we will not be able to get it back.

Holly advised that if there are concerns or complaints regarding the garbage to please contact the Township office.

It was discussed that the garbage pickup times could be posted at the Landing. Holly commented that she visited the site and there is already a lot of signage which is very busy. Perhaps we could post it on our webpage.

Holly expressed again that absolutely no dumping at the Marina can happen. There is no way of knowing when it was left and this not only looks unappealing, it also encourages animals. A statement was made that we need a consistent message about the garbage. Holly has informed her staff that there is no dumping and that the hours of garbage pick-up stay the same. ALCA will put out communication as well to ensure consistency.

If you can't meet the truck then ask a neighbour or take it home with you. No dumping is permitted and it is against the ByLaw. Ayleen Lake has garbage pick-up twice a week which is a lot more than most other communities who are biweekly.

Question: Is recycling a consideration?

Answer: Holly reported that it has been extensively investigated but it is just too expensive.

Question: Does the Township have an interest in seeing the surveyed crown land lots for sale?

Answer: Jane responded that yes they do as this would be an increase to their tax base but there will be no land for sale until the land claim has been settled.

Holly announced that Joe Vermaire was acclaimed as our new councillor. She warned that much of our society mistrusts and abuse our politicians. Joe cares about Ayleen Lake please don't abuse him. Use him wisely.

Jane thanked Bill Rodnick for all his hard work over his term as councillor and being the chair of the finance committee. Jane shared a humorous story of a time when she and Bill travelled to Smith Falls on business. She was driving and got caught in a round-a-bout. Jane had never navigated through one

before and was stuck not knowing how to get out. Bill was laughing all the while trying to explain the rules and get her safely out.

Jane advised that it's been a busy year and they have been focused on the closing of one school and having a new school open in an existing school to accommodate the shortfall. She reported that there has been a baby boom in South Algonquin and she is pleased to say that they daycare options are improving. She spoke about rural Health Care and thanked us for our support to the hospital. Our health model will be used in other rural communities.

Question: Concerns about road. Will the speed limit increase to more than 60km/h and will there be a centre line?

Answer: Holly reported that there will be more guardrails and that there will be reduced speeds in some of the blind spots. Speed is based on design. It won't go up but could be reduced in areas.

There was a comment that the trucks are going too fast. Holly will speak to them concerning the speed.

It was mentioned that there needs to be repair done to Gaffney Rd where the truck went down the embankment. Holly is aware and they are determining what will be done. Needs more vegetation for stability and the road may be widened from the other side.

Question: Will there be consideration to the North Road?

Answer: Holly advised that there is a drainage program every year but if there are specific concerns we need to inform the Township mid-September when the budget is being reviewed.

Jane said it's been a good year and to please use the office. Work through Holly for any of your questions or concerns.

New Business

1. ATV's – it was reported that again ATV speed is an issue on the North Road. Joe advised that this is an issue for the OPP and they should be contacted. They were contacted to attend our Regatta and are there to help patrol the safety of the lake/roads. They will come if requested.
2. Cell Phone service – does ALCA have any information on why there has been a decline in service? No ALCA is not aware. Please contact your distributor directly. Joe advised that having his business on the lake he is very interested in better service. He will look into a better service option. Can the Township do anything? Jane reported that they have talked to Renfrew County area and they have advocated in the past. They are aware of the issue. She advised that the Federal Government recognises that consistent reliable cell service is a human right. In our area it is neither affordable nor reliable. They are advocating for better.
3. 911 Service – It was advised that there was an emergency for boat access. They had the address for the landing and by the time the resident arrived from boat access at the landing, the ambulance was waiting. Joe commented that everyone should know the GPS position of the landing. It was commented that last year in an emergency a boat access property gave their 911

address and the dispatcher had difficulty finding the address. Holly advised that this should not be the case. Call the Township and report your address to Tracy Cannon and the township will work on the issue. Tracy will contact dispatch to investigate.

4. Membership drive – Comment was made that when Hydro came to the lake they went door-to-door. Alicia Carruthers said she could volunteer to do a membership drive. Rene commented that we build an emailing listing of 212 emails and only 45% actually open the email. Another comment was that perhaps we should only be sending the newsletters to paid members. The issue with that is how do non-members receive a reminder to pay their dues.

Motion by Cam Hubbs and seconded by Marilyn Baker; that we send the newsletter to members only. Amendment to motion: to send email to everyone advising that going forward only members would be receiving email notification.

Motion not carried.

Executive Nominations and Elections

The term of Rene Bertrand is ending and Rene is not standing for re-election.
Joe Vermaire is stepping down.

Kathleen thanked both Rene and Joe for their support to ALCA and presented them with a gift of thanks.

Joe Vermaire opened the floor to nominations.
Nominations for new ALCA executive put forward.

Dick Russell nominated Alicia Carruthers.
Tom Brinkerhoff nominated Heather Gates.

There were no further nominations. Alicia Carruthers and Heather Gates were elected by acclamation.

Adjournment

Moved by Sharon Conners, seconded by Bruce Dick; that the meeting be adjourned.
Meeting adjourned at 11:10am

Aylen Lake Community Association			
July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018			
INCOME		\$	4,469.54
Donation		\$	10.00
Membership 2017		\$	1,263.74
Membership 2018		\$	1,184.55
Membership 2019		\$	60.00
Regatta 2017		\$	1,951.25
EXPENSES		\$	4,895.16
Bank Charges		\$	94.02
Fire Pumps		\$	4.00
AED		\$	111.87
FOCA		\$	352.50
Insurance		\$	2,007.72
Maps - waterproof paper		\$	37.06
Food / Regatta		\$	300.00
Trophies/ribbons/metals		\$	693.31
Marketing, shoal markers repair, AED		\$	1,294.68
Loss 2017-2018		-\$	425.62