

GOLDEN LAKE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 99, GOLDEN LAKE, ONTARIO K0J 1X0

<http://www.goldenlake.co>

16th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

DATE: Saturday July 10, 2021 – ZOOM teleconference

PRESENT: President Kate O’Hara, Past President Ron Rimmer, Vice President Dave Clark, Treasurer Livia Vodenicar, Lake Steward Natalie Corbin, Directors Chris Hamilton, Sandy Nash, Don O’Reilly, Allison Wood, Jeff Raisbeck, Sylvia Hillier, Secretary Theresa Rasp

CALL TO ORDER at 10:10 am

Meeting Host Chris Hamilton: Welcome to the 2021 Annual General Meeting of the Golden Lake Property Owners’ Association

Chris reviewed a few items about how the video meeting would run and some points of etiquette to ensure the meeting remains efficient and productive, including:

- all participants to mute their microphones during the meeting; only the presenters’ microphones should be on during each presentation
- everyone will be given the opportunity to ask questions at the end of each presentation
- everyone will have the opportunity to vote on various motions and to provide input during the board elections, with instructions when and how to raise hands virtually at the appropriate times.
- For meeting attendees who joined by phone only they can raise their hand virtually by pressing *9 on their phone. This will notify the host that their hand has been raised.

Chris then held a test vote to ensure everyone understood the voting process. Chris clarified that on any particular motion vote, we are only looking for dissenting votes and we assume that everyone is voting for the motion and will ask for anyone that does not agree with the motion to click on the ‘raise hand’ icon or press *9 on their phone.

OPENING REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR:

Kate O’Hara welcomed everyone to the 2021 AGM zoom meeting on behalf of our board. “We are grateful for those registering and attending this gathering. The meeting is being recorded, and the link will be posted to our website.

I wish to thank Chris Hamilton for his technical expertise in enabling this meeting to take place. I sincerely hope this is the final AGM meeting via zoom; I don’t know about you, but I can’t wait to see everyone in person. I’m counting on a full house at Killaloe Public School for the 2022 AGM, where we can get back to socializing and renewing personal contacts because we missed so much this past year. So onto the business at hand.

Acknowledgement

We, the members of the golden Lake Property Owners Association, will begin this Annual General Meeting by acknowledging we are meeting on unceded territory of the Algonquins of Pikwakanagan.

Declaration of Quorum

The first order of business is under the Emergency Ontario Act - we must conduct an AGM during COVID and use COVID conditions as best we can. So the first order of business is I want to consider the attendees that we have today to be considered a quorum.

MOTION: Consider today's meeting a quorum.

MOVED: Kate O'Hara SECONDED: Chris Hamilton CARRIED*

(*Chris ran vote as per methodology noted previously - no dissenting votes)

PREVIOUS AGM MINUTES APPROVAL:

Minutes of the 2020 AGM were posted to our website along with notice of the 2021 AGM.

MOTION: To accept the 2020 AGM minutes

MOVED: Theresa Rasp SECONDED: Dorothy Corbeil CARRIED*

(*Chris ran vote as per methodology noted previously - no dissenting votes)

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Livia Vodenicar presented the GLPOA financial summary for 2020 and YTD.

Financial records were reviewed by Michael J. Afelskie (retired CMA); he found all records were in very good order and he has no recommendations to make.

Jan 1, 2020 balance: \$17,251.29 (\$10,713.33 Chequing; \$6,537.96 Savings)

2020 Revenue: \$ 5,614.03

2020 Expenditures: \$ 7,576.35

Balance, Dec 31, 2020: \$15,288.97

Livia noted we kept only the Fish Committee funds into the savings account.

Primary revenues were through memberships (cash, credit card & cheque) and corporate sponsors for signs and billboards. Expenses include water testing, supplies for shoal marketing, advertising, audit costs, insurance and contributions to local food banks and OBSB as well as online & website expenses, FOCA membership dues and our portion of FOCA dues (admin fee for credit card transactions), and Fish Committee meeting costs. However this past year we decided to give our corporate sponsors a break and did not collect their sponsorship fees last year. Occasionally we have members pay more than the \$20 membership fee, and they typically decided to leave the excess amount as a donation or pay up past dues or prepay future ones.

Financial report attached.

MOTION: To accept the 2019 Financial Statements

MOVED: Livia Vodenicar SECONDED: Kate O'Hara CARRIED*

(*Chris ran vote as per methodology noted previously - no dissenting votes)

MOTION: To reappoint Michael Afelskie as auditor for 2021/22 operating year
MOVED: Livia Vodenicar SECONDED: Dave Clark CARRIED*
(*Chris ran vote as per methodology noted previously - no dissenting votes)
Treasurer's Report

Kate:

Thanks to Livia. I will now hand this over to David Lemkay, and he will run the Election of Officers for the 2020/21 and 2021/22 term.

Dave: It's my distinct pleasure to participate in this annual meeting, and I propose the Slate of Officers as follows (on your screen):

Executive:

President Kate O'Hara:	Island View Drive
Vice President Dave Clark:	Rocky Point Drive
Secretary Sylvia Hillier:	Nien-Mar Lane
Treasurer Livia Vodenicar:	Golden Lake
Lake Steward Natalie Corbin:	Island View Drive
Past President Ron Rimmer:	Hawkins Drive

Directors at Large:

Chris Hamilton:	Communications Chair	Rocky Point Drive
Theresa Rasp:	Corporate Sponsorships	Island View Drive
Sandy Nash:		Pikwakanagan
Rob Bryce:		Rocky Point Drive
Janet Cottreau:		Island View Drive (Red Pine Camp)
Tara Wallace:		Tramore Road
Alison Wood:	Newsletter	Hawkins Drive

Dave read biographies of our three proposed new directors: Rob Bryce, Janet Cottreau and Tara Wallace (bios attached).

Dave called for nominations from the floor three times, with the process for how to bring forth a nomination directed by Chris Hamilton:

Chris: "It's time to solicit new nominations for the GLPOA Board of Directors. If you have someone to nominate, please click on the "Raise Hand" icon, or press *9. I will then recognize you and unmute your microphone so you can say your nomination. I will wait for a few seconds for anyone to raise their hand."

After three calls from Dave for nominations, Chris confirmed there were no raised hands.

MOTION: To accept the slate of officers and directors as presented
MOVED: Dave Lemkay SECONDED: Ron Rimmer CARRIED*
(*Chris ran vote as per methodology noted previously - no dissenting votes)

Kate welcomed all new officers.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Lake Steward ~ Natalie Corbin

Shoal Markings: Very busy past few years for a small group of volunteers managing everything. Buoys go out every spring, marked with GPS system, storage is available so hoping volunteers will step up to help.

Boating Safety: Stay 10 feet away from every buoy as well as from shorelines. They can be low and shallow, so always check your map before going out if you're unsure

Water Testing: We've moved to the Lake Partners Program for testing as of this year. Two sites are tested: Tranquility Bay and the main, deepest part of the lake. We need a volunteer to take over testing in Tranquility Bay - done monthly, training is free and supported online.

Allows scientists to look for any key changes in water quality.

RCDHU tests the public beach areas for e-coli; Natalie checked with them to see if there's anything we can do to assist. They will post restrictions if required.

Water Level Committee - Don Bishop

Don expressed his appreciation for the work that Ron Rimmer did in both organizing and presenting information to the public in a compelling way. This past spring saw the earliest ice off from the lake - typically this is 4 days each side of April 20 - but ice was essentially gone on April 7th. Relatively mild winter and small snow pack were responsible for a successful spring melt.

On April 21 the levels appeared a bit on the low side, however they matched the higher level of RPG's license of occupation. On RPG's website you can see historical levels and receive a PDF of any info you need. On May 24 logs were added to slow the water through to Thanksgiving weekend. On June 26/27 there was a significant rain event that brought the lake up 10 cm. RPG responded immediately and took out four logs on June 28, 2 on June 29 and two more on June 30. Note that Brennan's Creek feeds into the lake and begins up in the Foymount mountains and on June 30 there were significant rain showers in that area that didn't fall on the lake itself. There are factors like this that affect our lake levels that aren't always obvious.

Shawn Cameron of Renfrew Hydro is an excellent communicator with us and understands our needs and wants. Ron reported earlier this year that water levels are exactly where we want them to be. Thanks for everyone's input.

Fish Committee - Sylvia Hillier

Appreciation for many committee members contributing their time and energies in unique ways due to their experience with fish-related matters, and to Ron, Katie and Natalie who jumped in to help when Sylvia was ill earlier this year.

Highlights of Fish committee who met on 3 occasions:

MNRF meeting: Full of data specific to our lake, the entire fish topic, what's in our lake and things to consider for our committee. What are next steps from this data? This information is posted on our website; anything you may not understand is easy to google!

Angler survey: Distributed through mailboxes posted at our boat launches and on our website. This creel survey will help us better understand what's happening in our lake.

Smelt Harvest: Event was a big part of this committee but we couldn't run this past year due to Covid-19 restrictions. The smelt population is quite high in our lake. Thanks to all who participated in harvesting smelt in the spring.

Virtual Seminars: Invasive Species & Boater Pathways and Fall seminar on all things we do. Recently we received information from Angelina (Pikwakanagan/Anishinabek Councillor of natural resources) and she advised that in collaboration with the Ontario Fisheries Resource Centre they will be conducting a Fall Walleye Index netting assessment on Golden Lake. More to come! They were successful in obtaining funding for the Earth Walker program, which resembles the Ontario Stewardship Ranger program that focuses on giving students experience, training and education in the natural resource sector and they've asked if they can help with some projects. This is a wonderful partnership!

Catch 'n Release Program: Look at any of our boat launches for more information.

Boater's Action Plan: things you can do to help our lake include buying bait locally instead of bringing it from an outside area.

If you are fishing the lake, please take a few minutes to tell us what you're catching, size, weight, where and take a photo! Send it through our website.

Membership ~ Kate O'Hara

We finished 2020 with approximately 270 memberships. As of this AGM we are closing in already on 200 memberships and a big thanks go to members who have renewed online by credit card, cash or by cheque and to new owners who have joined our community - welcome to our family! Welcome kits are being delivered as we become aware of new owners around the lake.

I can't tell you enough how much we appreciate our membership as we aim to get back to pre-pandemic levels of just under 500. I am hopeful we can reach 300 by the August long weekend.

Our new board member Tara Wallace will be co-chairing the Membership Committee with me for the coming term. My thanks to Tara for stepping up to take on this program.

Membership is one of our GLPOA cornerstones. Tara's personality and enthusiasm - not to mention her work ethic! - makes her well suited to handle this with me, and to take on the chair of this committee in the future.

We are fortunate to have a few canvassers who now feel comfortable to personally canvas their neighbours for membership. We are grateful for their help. If anyone else wants to canvas on their road, let me know. We welcome volunteers - and it's a great way to meet your neighbours and find out what's going on.

I am also sending out emails to owners as a gentle reminder that dues are still only \$20, and that investment gets you a pretty good return in benefits, information and becoming part of a group that is a 'gold standard' lake association.

Corporate Sponsorship ~ Jeff Raisbeck

We are very fortunate that the pandemic left our sponsorships' businesses fairly unscathed. Creative marketing has helped many businesses have a successful year. In 2020, our board of directors decided to waive the sponsorship due to the uncertainty and fallout of COVID-19 on businesses so we are very pleased to report that we have kept all 44 sponsors intact on our billboards and in our program. We've added a new feature "Spotlight on Sponsors", allowing them to submit a brief overview of their business' history and a summary of services supplied. Spotlights are randomly selected, and can be seen in our President's monthly email. Take a look at the Spotlights as there's some very interesting stories to read.

We want to thank our sponsors for contributing to GLPOA's Waterway marking system but also sticking with us in uncertain times, and to sum up we want to encourage our members to Live, Love and Shop Local wherever possible.

Theresa Rasp will be taking over Corporate Sponsorships with Jeff's departure.

Communications ~ Chris Hamilton

During the past challenging year we have worked hard to maintain our regular level of communication through two newsletters (Winter and Spring), about which we've received positive feedback. In addition, Kate has provided monthly updates in 2020 and 2021 to ensure that everyone is aware that GLPOA continues to be an active and responsible organization in spite of the pandemic. Thanks to Kate for keeping us all informed, and with such positive messages and insights, which is not always easy. During the course of the year, we occasionally have the need to issue important notices to our membership, done by email blasts, sent to over 500 email recipients. This is one of the reasons why it is important that we have your current email address. If you change your address, please drop us a quick email so we can update our email database accordingly.

Our Facebook group, which is called The Golden Lake Ontario Property Owners now has over 1000 members and continues to be a very popular forum for members to communicate with each other and with us on various topics. It's a good place to ask for recommendations on services and products from other members or to announce a special event or activity of interest to the general community. It's also a great forum for sharing those spectacular photos from local flora & fauna to glorious sunsets! We love to see those pictures.

On the technical side of things, we upgraded our website with SSL encryption technology this past year. This keeps our site visitor safe from data theft during visits by encrypting the data flowing to and from the server so be assured that your visits to the GLPOA website will continue to be safe and secure. We continue to dialogue with our internet service provider to keep us up to date on the latest services and technology available.

At this time Chris asked our audience if they had any questions for our presenters - now would be the time to raise your hand (using raise hand icon on computer screen).

Dorothy Corbeil: I'm curious about the water quality. What are the results from testing?

Natalie Corbin: We have not received results back yet. Our first testing was done around the first of June; Lake Partners posts results on their site and June 16th was the last posting of results. They will reach out to Natalie if there are any red flags.

MOTION: To accept the Committee Reports

MOVED: Kate O'Hara SECONDED: Livia Vodenicar CARRIED*

(*Chris ran vote as per methodology noted previously - no dissenting votes)

Questions submitted for AGM:

Kate O'Hara brought forward four questions pre-submitted for the AGM.

Question One:

Given that one of the major responsibilities of the GLPOA is to monitor the quality of water in the river and lake and to promote policies and practices that will preserve and enhance it, I'd like to see monthly water quality tests and reports from various points around Golden Lake vs one a year. That approach would allow a month over month trending to closely identify impacts that affect the lake, including seasonal factors.

Natalie Corbin: Reiterated that we are new to the Lake Partner Program and this is a monthly testing. We should see results posted shortly, but there are no red flags. Kate - if there were any red flags we would communicate to our membership.

Natalie - historically our lake has been very healthy. We've had occasional eColi issues but that is a typical lake problem.

Question Two:

We have had a series of incidents this year where a fisherman in an aluminum boat has been fishing close to our docks and indeed at times closer to shore than the end of our dock. While we have a rocky shoreline, we, our children and our grandchild do swim in the area where this person has been casting for bass. While the lake itself is not private property, it seems to us that a reasonable person would avoid the possibility of losing lures in shallow areas where people are likely to be swimming.

Can anyone suggest how best to discourage this behaviour? Thanks for anything you can suggest on how best to deal with this.

Dave Clark: Unfortunately this is an issue that a lot of us face. There is not a lot that can be done; the lake is public domain. We expect people would be courteous and respectful of your personal space but people don't always do that. We are looking at reviewing signage at the boat launches as possibly something we can add about the safety and courteousness. If someone is being unsafe on your shoreline you can report to the OPP, but unfortunately this is something that is difficult to deal with.

Question Three:

What is the status of stocking fish in Golden Lake?

This was addressed by Sylvia Hillier in her Fish Committee report.

Question Four:

I wondered if there might be some feedback provided as to how the GLPOA is working with Pikwakanagan to support reconciliation efforts? Is there a partnership? If nothing is in place, would there be a desire to establish something?

Kate O'Hara: With recent events this is tough for everybody. GLPOA has always worked well with - and respected - Pikwakanagan and all that they contribute to the lake and our association.

They have always supported our association, as we have in turn supported their traditions and businesses throughout the life of GLPOA. One of our founding GLPOA directors is Howard Bernard from Pikwakanagan. Sandy Nash of Pikwakanagan is a current GLPOA Director who has been an active board member for several years, and lately responsible for the Elders Lodge (where GLPOA has been fortunate to rent the Lodge to hold our board meetings). Angelina Commanda, a Councillor in Pikwakanagan managing their Natural Resources portfolio, is a member of the GLPOA Fish Committee. We continue to be engaged and informed on how we can best connect and be a part of the Pikwakanagan initiatives.

We are very cognizant of and fully support the efforts taking place - now and going forward - with respect to reconciliation. Additionally, we remain committed to providing a platform for communication and education with our members and local community via our website, Facebook page and email distribution.

We consider them partners inasmuch as we consider the three local municipalities bordering the lake to be partners, and will continue to do so in the future.

CLOSING REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR

Well, it's been quite a year. We thought 2020 was the only challenge we were facing as a society, never mind as an association. Little did we know that nearly 18 months later all of us would still be trying to manage the impact and effects of Covid and its variants. Quite a learning curve, to say the least.

This pandemic has tested our faith, friendships, and stamina - mentally and physically. We are all of us continuing to adapt to seemingly endless changes to vaccine information, vaccine availability, and government rules, regulations and guidelines.

The good news - it looks hopeful that we may be seeing a light at the end of this tunnel. More and more of us are being vaccinated (once and twice), with businesses slowly reopening and guidelines being relaxed to permit more physical gatherings.

GLPOA has adapted as best we can over the past year to keep the association as vital and active as possible. Thanks to technology we have held board meetings (via Zoom), and continue to communicate information to members by way of email blasts, our website and Facebook page. Again, I offer heartfelt thanks to our Communications Director Chris Hamilton, whose time and technical wizardry allows us to keep members in the loop and aware of our activities. Thanks also to Allison Wood for managing our Facebook page, where we have over 1000 members.

Our Winter and Spring newsletters are published online, with good feedback about information we provided. Thanks to everyone who contributed to those publications. Last summer we sent out monthly updates by way of email blasts, and we are continuing those updates through this summer season. Again, we have received complimentary feedback on this initiative.

And that's just the technology side of how we've done our business this past year. You have no idea how many phone calls have taken place among board members and committee chairs regarding GLPOA business. Sometimes we just picked up the phone to say hi - how are ya now? I know that sure helped me get through all of this.

I firmly believe 18 months into this life changing event called a pandemic - I can say "So far, so good." I want to thank each and every person on the board for getting us through a very different year. As the Pandemic President, I was worried about how we would manage. We need all hands on deck and got that in spades. You have no idea of my gratitude in being part of this team. You are the BEST!

As we have rolled with change through the past year, we continue to see changes - on the lake, and most directly, on our Board.

We warmly welcome our three new board members - Janet, Rob and Tara - and look forward to their contributions to the board. We are excited to have them in the GLPOA family. Thank you for volunteering your time and talent for the Board. Thanks to Theresa and Sylvia for taking on duties for Corporate Sponsorship and Secretary, respectively.

Our board is built on a solid foundation. We are fortunate to have a great crew of volunteers over the years who brought considerable expertise and enthusiasm to the table as we conducted our business. Three of those people are stepping down from the board at this AGM.

Rick O'Brien

Rick has been a membership canvasser, and most importantly our long time Treasurer. He took a bunch of loose paper and a bag of \$20 bills and turned them into a proper ledger and a record for the GLPOA as it's grown to what we have today. He was also a history book for this Board; when we needed information on past events, it was always "Let's ask Rick". And he would always have the answer.

Don O'Reilly

Don has been a membership canvasser, looking after part of his area on Rocky Point Drive, and he also knows an awful lot of people on the lake. But most important he is also our past past President, and the one who had to deal with the first flood experienced in 2017. Talk about a learning curve! He did us proud with his presence on the lake, coordinating information from our three local municipalities who are not exactly in sync with the first flood experience so we could get all the information out properly to members, we had Don at the helm for that. He's a longtime GLPOA booster, and his perspective and sense of humour have been a big part of GLPOA initiatives since he joined the board and we'll certainly miss his technical skills when he leaves.

Jeff Raisbeck

Well Dr Fun, I can't believe it's been 12 1/2 years. Starting with how you and your partner Jeff welcomed our association at the Sands for board meetings and then our very extremely successful Poker Run events. Along the way Big Jeff headed up the buoy marker program and you stepped in to head up our successful Corporate sponsorship program. You have built this into great relationships between GLPOA and some 44 sponsors, creating a high profile for each sponsor and for GLPOA. I believe our "Love Local" campaign has been a great benefit for the sponsors and GLPOA. I also have to thank you for all you did in recruiting our new board members. You're a great schmoozer with a generous heart and I owe you lots of cake!

We will be presenting Jeff with a proper farewell gift from the association. It's hardly adequate say thank you to these lads for how much their time, talents, expertise and enthusiasm have contributed to the strength of our board and the association for many years. Their passion for life on the lake is contagious, and will carry that on going forward. You will be missed at the meetings but the friendships will continue.

So we look ahead to a new term with hope and great expectations. Our first meeting as a new board will take place in August when we will set our new goals and initiatives for the coming term. We will continue to work for the benefit of our members as we have in the past. Stay tuned! I'm very proud to be part of this association; I'm very proud of the group we have formed to lead the association and the membership we have, continually growing now.

MOTION: To adjourn this 2021 AGM Time: 11:10 am
MOVED: Kate O'Hara SECONDED: Dave Clark CARRIED*
(*Chris ran vote as per methodology noted previously - no dissenting votes)

Kate O'Hara, President

Theresa Rasp, Secretary

These minutes are not official until approved by the Board by resolution and signed by the President and Secretary.

Attachments

- New board of directors' biographies
- 2020 financial report