

GOLDEN LAKE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 99, GOLDEN LAKE, ONTARIO K0J 1X0
<http://www.goldenlake.co>

17th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

DATE: Saturday July 9, 2022 - Killaloe Public School

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

ABSENT: Robert Bryce

CALL TO ORDER at 10:00 am

Welcome from President Kate O'Hara, having served as your virtual president for the past two years! Welcome to all members and guests: Janice Tiejde; as well Dana Jennings (BV Township) and Jennifer Rasp (NAW Township) both have lots of pamphlets and handouts about their townships for attendees.

We posted notice of the meeting 30 days ahead (June 8th). Quorum is established.

Land Acknowledgement:

Golden Lake Property Owners' Association hereby acknowledges that today's meeting is taking place on the traditional unceded, unsurrendered territory of the Anishinaabe Algonquin people. It is protocol to acknowledge that we are guests and that we offer our thanks to the hosts.

OPENING REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR, KATE O'HARA:

My thanks to serve as your President, virtual or otherwise. It's been a very different and challenging couple of years. Floods were a tangible obstacle that we overcame in 2017 and 2019. Covid - not so much and it came with a lot of life lessons. I learned how resilient we are in the face of something that we could not imagine. I also learned the power of kindness, respect, connection and positive attitudes, all of which have brought us back here today. I've had the opportunity to work with an extraordinary group of volunteers, our board of directors, committee members, canvassers, corporate sponsors, local municipalities, and all of our GLPOA members. I personally could not have managed the past two years without their terrific support and perspective and common sense, and sense of humour all the way through it. I want to extend a very big thank you to each and every one of you, and I'm grateful

to be part of this wonderful GLPOA family.

Approval of Minutes:

Theresa Rasp:

Correction to 2021 minutes: in the land acknowledgement it should read "traditional unceded territory" instead it read "unneeded....territory".

Motion: To accept the Saturday, July 10, 2021 minutes

Moved: Rick O'Brien **Seconded:** George Wilcox **CARRIED**

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Livia Vodenicar presented the GLPOA financial summary for 2021. We had an increase in membership payments for \$1660. Regular members paying by cash. Additional members paid by e-transfers; a couple of them generously donated extra. The total of e-transfer was \$2720. A number of members paid via FOCA's credit card process, which we won't have the option to use going forward for a total of \$1520. We added on the option to do direct deposit for a total of \$340.

Our corporate sponsors were back last year, and paid by cash and cheque totalling \$4960, and new last year we added an e-transfer option for another \$1760. We had a couple sources of past income we couldn't enjoy over the pandemic. We had a bit of interest and bank charges discount totalling \$11.80.

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, 2021 balance:	\$15,288.97	(\$8,732.73 Chequing; \$6,556.24 Savings)
2021 Revenue:	\$12,982.30	
2021 Expenditures:	<u>\$ 8,483.58</u>	
Balance, Dec 31, 2021:	\$19,787.69	

MOTION: To accept the 2021 Financial Statements

MOVED: Allison Wood **SECONDED:** Don O'Reilly **CARRIED**

MOTION: To reappoint Michael Afelskie as auditor for 2022/23 operating year

MOVED: Rick O'Brien **SECONDED:** Theresa Rasp **CARRIED**

Kate:

Our thanks to Livia.

We now are introducing amendments to our constitution, which are minor - more cosmetic than anything else. We haven't made any changes since we first started in

2005. Thanks to George for the \$20 membership suggestion, and we hope if we keep the numbers up we will not have to change the amount.

First paragraph of the preamble, the last words of the paragraph say:

"Any issues that may contribute to the health, pleasure and comfort & security of those living within the described boundaries".

We are amending this to read:

"Issues that may contribute to the health, pleasure, comfort and security of those living within or having an interest in the described boundaries"

>>This is due to people that do not live here but have an interest in the property that they own here.

Under Membership - Item 5:

"The membership year runs from April 1 to March 31st of the following year. "

We are amending this to read:

"The membership year runs from Jan 1 to December 31."

>>This runs with our financial records.

Under Membership - Item 6:

"Membership renewal fees should be paid at the annual meeting or by cheque to the association address."

We are amending this to read:

"Membership fees can be paid in cash or by cheque at the annual meeting, or through the year by e-transfer, in cash or by cheque in person to canvassers collecting on behalf of the association or by cheque mailed to the association address."

>>We've cleaned this up to put in e-transfer, and that you don't have to pay at the meeting. Many have paid online by e-transfer and credit card which were handy options, especially in the last few years.

Under General Meetings - Item 2:

"All elected directors shall be nominated and elected at the annual meeting. The term of office is two years. Half the total number of directors will take office on an even year, the other half on the off year. To implement the staggered terms, a full complement of directors will be elected in 2005, and the directors will decide at the first board meeting who will be one-year directors. All elections of directors shall be made by simple majority of the quorum.

We are amending to read:

"All elected officers shall be nominated and elected at the annual meeting. The term of office is a minimum of two years. All elections of directors shall be made by simple majority of quorum."

Discussion around

- Finding people on the board. Initially the purpose of rotation was to get more people involved.
- There have been many changes around the lake and think this is the best way to do this. It's difficult to recruit board members; most of the board serves for a minimum of 8-10 years.
- It's hard to get people on the board and off the board! (Ie condo boards)
- Many boards have a minimum and a maximum term to serve; we are not at the point where we have so many volunteers that we need to have a maximum term
- Constitution says we need a minimum of 10 directors; we can't get 10 directors
- Are there stipulations in the by-laws to have the ability to remove a board member that is problematic? Chris replied that with the Elections of Officers it gives people the opportunity to vote, and there are individual discussions in the past when someone was not working out as a board member (board consensus)
- Dave: maybe next year we insert wording that allows board members to vote out other board members

Directors and Officers Item 1

"The board of directors shall consist of 10 Directors plus 7 Executive Officers". This

We are amending to read:

"The board of directors shall consist of a minimum of 8 Directors and 6 Executive Officers."

Directors and Officers Item 3

The officers shall consist of a President, Past President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Lake Stewart and Membership Director.

We are amending to read:

"The officers shall consist of a President, Past President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Lake Stewart."

MOTION: To accept the amendments as proposed

MOVED: Ron Rimmer **SECONDED:** George Wilcox **CARRIED**

Election of Officers: Ron Rimmer

I'm pleased to present the board for the 2022/23 term. The following people have allowed their names to stand for election for the following term:

Executive:

President Dave Clark	Rocky Point Drive
Vice President Sylvia Hiller:	Nien-Mar Lane
Secretary TBC:	
Treasurer Livia Vodenicar:	Golden Lake
Lake Steward Natalie Corbin:	Island View Drive
Past President Kate O'Hara	Island View 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:	Memberships co-Chair	Tramore Road
Alison Wood:	Newsletter	Hawkins Drive
Mathew Ingram:		Island View Drive

Mathew Ingram bio:

Mathew has been a long time summer resident of Golden Lake. He and his two brothers came to the family cottage on Island View Drive every summer while they were growing up, as did his mother Linda Ingram whose grandfather bought the land from the Thomas family. He agreed to join the GLPOA board because he loves and respects the lake and has spent so many years here. In his non-cottage life, Mathew writes for the Columbia Journalism Review which is based in New York; before that he wrote for Fortune Magazine, and prior to that, as a reporter for the Globe & Mail. Although he doesn't know a lot about invasive species, he is interested in learning and helping GLPOA understand what is required to keep our lake as healthy as possible. He and his wife Becky are proud parents of three, and brand new grandparents of one. Their doors are open to their extended family as they continue to enjoy their time together on the lake. If you have any questions or concerns about anything related to the fish committee or invasive species, Mathew is going to be your guy! If you have any information to share, please feel free to give him a shout as he paddles by - he'll be the one in the red kayak. You can always stop in and say hello at 199 Island View Drive.

Thank you Mathew!

Ron called for nominations from the floor.

The following three calls for nominations.

Are there any nominations from the floor (x3).

These would be additional nominations (not replacements) to the proposed slate of directors.

Q. Are the meetings virtual or in person?

Kate: the meetings are normally in person. There are 4 board meetings per year. The only one virtual might be the April meeting as not everyone may be able to attend in person.

Last call for nominations.

MOTION: To accept the proposed slate of officers and directors

MOVED: Ron Rimmer

SECONDED: Don O'Reilly

CARRIED

Door prizes

Kate acknowledged the mayors Janice Tiedje (KHR) and James Brose (NAW) and want to state our appreciation for the support of the Algonquins of Pikwakanagan. Howard Barnard was instrumental in being part of the board when it was forming, and has been onside ever since. We are very grateful.

Dave: Presented a volunteer hoodie to Eric Weckworth for his work with the shoal markings for the past number of years.

We truly appreciate the work of the many volunteers.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Corporate Sponsorships ~ Theresa Rasp

This past year I've had the honour of taking on Corporate Sponsors. I can't say enough for this fantastic group of sponsors. I'm going to talk about the number 42, the amount of sponsors backed us up in 2019. These sponsorships form a bond or contract - here's our commitment to you and now you do your work. We have such a great working relationship - they continually state how proud and grateful they are of the work being done by GLPOA. 2019 - 42 local businesses. 2020 - 42 local businesses yet again stepped up, and they had to go above and beyond. They protected us - PPE equipment, longer or shorter hours, pickup and deliveries. They made it easier for us. They employed us. They did everything possible to make sure that we could live our lives as well as we could with all the disruptions and health concerns. Skip to 2021 - 42 sponsors again. There wasn't a lot we could do in this time - mind our businesses, test our water, do what we could - but we couldn't get together especially with events. So come this year as they continued to meet our safety needs and again go above and beyond to make sure we're taken care of, lo and behold this year every single sponsor has signed back up. They are dedicated to GLPOA. Let's think about it: They put roofs over our heads, they provided us with renovations, rented peace and solace for a few days, they fed us, they hydrated us, they informed us, they entertained us, they clothed us, they financed us, they fuelled

us with food, water/libations, and gassed up our tanks. They've stepped up in every single way that they could touch our lives, and I think we owe them a debt of gratitude. They really made life as good as possible for us, and I think it was a job well done. Let's have a round of applause for all these sponsors.

My personal thanks goes to Jeff Raisbeck, who managed to get these sponsors on board and paved the way for me. And remember: Please shop local as much as you can. They were there for us so let's be there for them.

Membership ~ Tara Wallace

I'm very excited to be part of this amazing board! I have big shoes to fill - thanks Kate for everything you've done over the last couple of years. We want to give a big thanks to new and renewing members and canvassers. You've sustained us through two years of the pandemic and we are grateful for your support in the past and going forward. Let's look at the numbers: we finished 2021 with just over 300 paid members. Target for 2022 is 400+ members. We can do this! We are edging now towards 200. Canvassers are now going back door to door this year and will help us reach this goal. Please talk to your neighbours to get the word out! We need as many volunteers as it's very hard to get canvassers, and with the last two years with the pandemic getting people out to be around the public again and to go to people's doors. The more that people talk about it and know that people are coming to their doors makes it a lot easier for canvassers. You can become a canvasser - please let us know if you're interested. We're taking names every day. It's a great way to meet your neighbours and to be part of our GLPOA family.

One of our big challenges is to find new owners that have come to our area. In the past two years the pandemic saw many properties change hands and bring many new owners to the lake and river, whether as a resident owner or owners renting to others. If you have information on new owners please let us know. We'd be very thankful as it's hard to get hold of new people. Hopefully current members will tell new owners about all the benefits that GLPOA offers to pique their interest. GLPOA will continue to be the voice of the lake, because of our strong membership and support.

We want to mention that GLPOA was recognized by FOCA (Federation of Ontario Cottage Associations) with an honourable mention for the 2020 FOCA Achievement award at their 2021 AGM. We were chosen as one of four associations (out of over 75 submissions) for our membership's participation.

Looking forward to a good year and good things to come! Thank you.

Lake Steward ~ Natalie Corbin

My role as Lake Steward is not to head up these various committees but to be that middle person to say what is going on with these committees because all of these things interact, but there is much to do under each committee.

Hazard Markings: Dave Clark

One of the most visible initiatives that we have. Eric and I co-chair the hazard marking group. We are continually expanding this as more hazards are identified on the lake. This is driven by volunteers; we have approximately 20 volunteers that place markers in the spring and bring them in during the fall season. We really want to thank every one of them - it can be very difficult thing to do when it's raining or cold. We also want to emphasize that while we're marking a significant number of hazards on the lake, Golden Lake and River, there's a lot of areas where we could put out a thousand markers and still not cover everything so please encourage anyone - don't go right next to an orange marker. Be careful - this is a rocky lake and river.

The process: we want to get markers out before the May long weekend and pull them in after Thanksgiving...but this is volunteer driven so it's not always possible. If you see a buoy floating down the lake, feel free to give Dave or Eric a call and they'll try to find out where these are coming from. Next year we're aiming to have a marking system to make it easier.

Water Levels: Natalie Corbin

Our second summer of the water management amendment that we contributed \$3000 towards. We had a mild spring freshet when the snow melts in Algonquin Park and all around us, and that water comes in through different tributaries and came in at a balanced rate so we didn't have a huge influx of water causing flooding. Round Lake was kept lower so that the influx of water was able to be balanced better between Golden Lake and Round Lake. Don Bishop is our chair of this committee and does an excellent job of educating everyone on our Facebook page. Thanks Don! We did have an unusual spring this year where the ice actually pushed up a fair amount of the bottom in certain parts of the lake. The lake's winds change on a regular basis and it just happened to be this spring where the sand actually moved quite a bit. We are a river flow-through lake so this happens where we added a new buoy off of Island View Drive because suddenly it was less than two feet deep about 300 feet out. The lake is constantly changing. Don has excellent communication with Renfrew Power Generation (Sean at RPG). If anyone has any questions with regards to changes in the lake levels, Don is an excellent resource and answers quickly on Facebook. You can also message on our main email on our website.

Water Quality Testing: Natalie Corbin

We continue to use the Lake Partner Program. This is a free service provided to us by the Ministry of Natural Resources. This is a service that has actual real scientists and biologists checking our water quality testing. In the past we used to do this by ourselves, sending off to a lab, but there were no checks and balances. The Lake Partner Program provides this for us. If there are any issues on the lake they will address it right away. Historically our water quality on Golden Lake has been excellent. We are a flow-through lake so we don't typically have algae problems,

e-Coli or anything like that. We have a couple of volunteers (Tammy and Andy Joudray, Highway 60) have been testing our lake for the past couple of years, and Rob Bryce tests the deepest part of the lake. The Lake Partner Program tests for phosphorous, calcium and fluoride. Phosphorous is the main element; if the levels are up or down it means there's a problem but our readings have historically been fantastic. Calcium and Fluoride are secondary. (Natalie showed a Sensi disk on screen). A Sensi disk has a very long rope with measurements on it; once it cannot be seen it gives a marking and is tested once monthly. Because of our historical good water quality, we test once in the spring for phosphorous, calcium and fluoride. Lake Partner Program has a fantastic website (we'll put link on our website.)

Question from audience about weed beds disappearing in Ruby Bay Area. We are not aware of this being a problem. Dave Clark replied that with the lake changing constantly it could affect things like this ; the wind can bring up the weeds, which are perennials so they should be back.

Boating Safety: Natalie Corbin

Follow the law! There is a new buoy by the Island View Drive boat launch,; we're working with NAW on the boat launch, which is going to be used for swimming lessons this summer. We will be adding a buoy in that area; boats go through the channel very quickly so want to keep this a safe zone.

If you have any problems with boating safety, that falls with the OPP to enforce and not us.

Junior Lake Stewart: Dave Clark

The Junior Lake Stewart is a new initiative we are putting into place and what we're looking for approval for is not just the initiative but also an honorarium that would be part of it. We realized that young people who we want to engage can be active in the area/region, so we came up with JLS concept of 1 or 2 students, secondary of post-secondary, working under the mentorship of the Lake Stewart, and getting involved in a range of tasks: water quality testing, invasive species, hazard marking - wherever they can be of assistance and learn from it, as well as promoting safe boating, etc. We are interested in students looking to learn and contribute. A couple of benefits for them - we would sign off of volunteer hours, and provide an honorarium to help them with their education or interests. You will have seen an application we've posted but have no applicants as of yet. Posters are online. Anyone with children/grandchildren in that age range: please let them know about it. It is good resume building being involved in a number of initiatives.

Fish Committee - Natalie Corbin

We've lost our chairperson Sylvia Hillier, who is now the Vice President. We are in need of a chair for the Fish Committee. There are many initiatives that they're working on, and one that is a priority is have the adult walleye repopulated in the lake, which has been diminishing. We had a detailed meeting with the Ministry, who

agreed that a fingerling walleye is not the solution due to the high smelt population. Smelt are NOT an invasive species in Golden Lake; they are a sport fish. We can only harvest them based on what we can eat. An adult walleye transfer has to be from the same water system to survive, so they will go to the Ottawa River, perform an electrocution of fish, sort out the walleye, put them in our lake water, and transport here to Golden Lake. This is a huge initiative and we've been working with the Algonquins of Pikwakanagan in particular Nina Commanda, head of NR, phenomenal to work with. We have Harkness Labs coming to do a sonar to check the smelt this fall. These are what we're working on now, and we really need someone to step in as chair. The existing members have been doing this for a long time, and we really need active, involved people who fish and are comfortable analyzing fish. We give all of our information to the MNR, providing our creel and smelt harvest information. We're awaiting information back from them.

Please let us know if you know anyone that might be interested in this role! Simply email to our general GLPOA address (glpoainfo@gmail.com)

We continue to promote our Catch 'n Release at our boat launches.

Last fall the Anishinaabe Ministry did a sample vetting on the lake (Natalie did a post at the time). We are awaiting results, which typically take a year to be released.

The creel surveys are available at every boat launch. Even if you don't catch anything it would be great to get that feedback as well! This year we're doing a draw for surveys received - \$100 gift certificate.

We have been drawing smelt for over 10 years! Over 300,000 smelt are estimated to have been harvested this year. This is only what we know of (There was a lot of activity from people from faraway posting on our Facebook page).

Harkness Labs is looking for volunteers in August for their sonar testing. You would be driving around in a boat at night, with good calm weather a must. If you're interested please contact Dale Benoit-Zohr - she's a very active member of the committee.

Invasive Species - we are very lucky to have Mathew Ingram on board. He is going to help us to identify what invasive species we currently have. We are working with Pikwakanagan who has a small group every summer called the Earth Rangers who are going to help Mathew. There are lots of species to look for in the lake (ie phragmites, snails). We continually ask boaters to clean/drain/dry their boats. It's a province-wide initiative. We will continue our awareness program about prevention = making sure people aren't planting any invasive plants. Over to Mathew!

We are the lucky recipients of a \$5000 grant to pay a biologist to search the lake for phragmites however unfortunately there are no biologists currently available. phragmites are very long grasses, growing up to 8-10' tall with fluffy tops. They grow

like crazy and look beautiful - we don't want any on the lake as they take over quickly.

Question: Are we repopulating the lake with trout? We are open to this and trout are a natural predator to clean out the smelt population. Walleye is one of the fish species that are desired but it's not closed to just walleye for re-stocking.

Communications - Allison Wood

Question #1:

What is the GLPOA official website address? goldenlake.co. Everything is posted on our site.

Question #2:

How do I join the GLPOA Facebook group? This has exploded; approximately 1600 members. This is a great tool through the floods, Covid, if you're looking for information or to find someone. Create a profile, then go to **Golden Lake Ontario Property Owners** (this is our Facebook group). Click to join. This is private so an admin will review and approve.

Question #3:

What's the best way to contact the Golden Lake Property Owners Association? We have one general email address: glpoainfo@gmail.com. This goes right to Chris and he will source out to the most appropriate person.

We are very lucky to be able to communicate through all of these tools, but it's always best when we're in person!

Here's how we communicate with members:

- Our newsletters (winter and spring) and members receive in their package.
- Events including Spring Smelt Harvest, Poker Run (August) and our Volunteer Dinner Aug 26.
- Our board meets 5 times a year to keep on top of issues and opportunities
- Canvassing, which has finally come back in force this year; we always need some volunteers to help do part of a road/area
- Our AGM - which we're doing today!

MOTION: To accept Committee Reports

MOVED: Ron Rimmer **SECONDED:** Jeff Raisbeck **CARRIED**

Dave Clark introduced our guest speaker Dr Peter Heinermann who took us through his lengthy and impressive career and areas of learning: He began with a Bachelor of Science at Guelph University, Honours Fisheries, Bachelor of Education from University of Western Ontario, then moved on to do his Masters in Science and obtained his PhD at the University of Montreal. There he began to study the eco physiology of fish vision. He also worked as a Research Assistant at the University of Waterloo, and Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute studying Atlantic Salmon and Brook Trout, has been a project biologist for Bio Environmental Services out of

Georgetown, a secondary school teacher, a CEJEP instructor, a lecturer at the University of Montreal and then in his spare time had a 28 year career as the undergraduate coordinator in the Dept of Biology at the University of Ottawa. He is the author of more than 20 scientific publications and reports - and retired in 2019.

Peter's ties to Golden Lake go back about 32 years when his family first started attending Red Pine Camp. This tradition continues today! Peter has run a fishing derby at the camp dock as a catch-n-release session and they typically catch about 300 fish!

Peter then did a wonderful overview of various fish species, their habitats and predators, which is posted on our website.

Closing Remarks - Dave Clark

We appreciate the folks at Killaloe Public School for their help in letting us use these facilities.

As of today Ron Rimmer is no longer a board member or an executive; he's been with the association for many years and has held a number of positions with GLPOA. We've appreciated his calm, wisdom and guidance, particularly through the floods in 2017 and 2019.

Kate O'Hara has been the president through many challenges, including COVID which fundamentally changed so much, and she did a fantastic job! Our thanks goes out to Kate for all she did.

This association is fuelled through volunteers. We couldn't do all of our work without you. And lastly, thanks to all the members. We're hoping to get up to pre-Covid membership levels and continue to do good things and improve the lake.

MOTION: To adjourn this 2022 AGM

Time: 11:10 am

MOVED: Kate O'Hara

SECONDED: Don O'Reilly

CARRIED*

Dave Clark, President

Theresa Rasp

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

- 2022 financial report