

**Twin Sister Lakes Ratepayers' Association
Annual General Meeting
August 9, 2003
Pomeroy Cottage Between the Lakes**

Jack Watkins opened the meeting with the introduction of cottagers as well as Terry Clemens from the MNR and Fire Chief Tony Brownson . Minutes of the last AGM were read. A motion to accept the minutes as read was put forth by Debbie Agnew and seconded by Tim Agnew. Passed.

Treasurer's Report: Kirk Johnson reported that the two accounts had a balance of \$2,788.81 (chequing account: \$1335.53 and investment account \$1445.87) plus \$400.00 from dues and a \$100.00 donation for a total of **\$3,263.62.**

Motion put forth to accept report by Terry Munro and seconded by Tim Agnew. Passed.

Directors: Bonnie Danes letter of acceptance was read. Jack nominated Bonnie, seconded by John Dove.

No further nominations were received.

Bonnie Danes appointed as director. Seconded by Tim Agnew.

A motion was put forth to elect new executive:

President	Jack Watkins
Past President	Ray Ash
Treasurer	Kirk Johnson
Secretary	Barb Craig
Directors	Hans Knoll Charlie O'Neill Bonnie Danes

Motion by Ray Hewgill to accept, seconded by Ivan Kinshella and passed.

Water Testing: Kirk reported that the results of E Coli testing would be more meaningful if the tests were done at the same time of year, and samples taken from the same locations, as the previous testing. Since previous testing was performed in late August, results of the E Coli testing would be available at next year's AGM.

Clarity Testing: Charlie Young spoke on lake testing, which he has done since 1970. Testing is done by a special disc. The water is clearer now, in 2003 than it was in 2002. No significant changes have been observed in over 30 years. The clarity testing has not been done on West Twin Sister since Henry did it previously.

Deputy-Reeve Terry Clemens updated us on **roadwork** that had taken place during the current year (2002-2003) and received thanks from Ray Ash who mentioned how much the association members appreciated the grading and smoothing completed by Ray Carman.

Logging operations currently under way in the area were discussed. Jack Watkins stated “the logging firm, without council’s permission, has randomly cut trees down along the roadway and left the trees and limbs at the side of the road. This has caused irreparable damage to the community and shows a disregard for the community property owners.” He said also they had “improperly widened the roadways to accommodate the long flatbed logging trucks.” Clemens told the group any damage occurring to their individual property frontages was their responsibility and provided the name and address and phone number of a contact at the logging company. Ray Ash stated he had tried to contact the company, but never has received a reply. Deputy-Reeve Terry Clemens said a local committee was being formed to look into the logging issues and that the municipality was seeking a performance bond from the logging company which would be sufficient to repair the damage to both roads and properties. It was suggested the executive write a letter to the MTO and the OPP.

Mr. Clemens reported that the public boat launch would be better maintained and that our request for a boat wash facility to protect the lake from the infiltration of zebra mussels had not been approved. Boats are meant to be washed when they leave the Trent System.

Marmora and Lake Bylaw Enforcement Officer Irwin Earle advised that three of the four **abandoned trailers** in the area had been removed or brought up to compliance with municipal requirements, while the fourth would soon follow.

Interest in the purchase of a **defibrillator** for the lakes was discussed, because it would take at least 20 minutes for First Response Assistance to arrive at the lake in an emergency. It would cost between \$2000.00 and \$4000.00. Fire Chief Tony Brownson who attended the meeting, spoke in

support of the purchase, but advised of the provincial training requirements for its use. Members voted to further study the proposal at the executive level.

Ian Crawford next spoke, mentioning

- the excellent ecosystem on the lakes and the need to prevent the introduction by transient boat traffic of unwanted species such as zebra mussels and gobie fish. He also mentioned a new threat from the dangerous Hog Weed which has been found in the Bancroft area. The weed, which originated in Asia, causes serious skin irritation and has been targeted for eradication by the MNR.
- our wish to maintain natural water levels on the lake. Previously **the beaver dam** located at the base of West Twin Sister Lake had been opened in order to lower the water level by several inches to prevent some docks and structures from being underwater in the early summer. This year, the GEMM Corporation, owners of the land in which the beaver dam is located, prohibited this action at the request of the Lake Association, resulting in a natural level which was supported by all but two of the members present. A committee will be formed to control the dam and will be recognized by the MNR, which will work with the group in both advisory and enforcement capacities, as being legally allowed to make changes to the Twin Sister lakes beaver dam system.
- In response to our request for an impact study concerning the negative effects of ice fishing on the lake, Mr. Crawford indicated that regional studies were currently being undertaken to assess the impact of such issues. It was suggested the executive forward a formal written request for a study “to determine the impact and prolonged effect of ice fishing on the Twin Sisters Lake Fish Habitat” to the Ministry.

A motion was made by Eleanor McKinnon to name the Park in Marmora (beside the new Information Centre) after Brian Goodchild. Seconded by Ben Haddar and passed.

Photo Contest Winners were announced

Honourable Mention for ‘Fun at Lake’ was Hans Knoll and Family.

Winner for ‘Pets or Wildlife’ was Christine Haddar.

Grand Prize Winner for ‘Scenic Views’ was Lois Tomc.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Lois Tomc and seconded by Tim Agnew. The meeting was adjourned, followed by a bar b q.