

**Minutes of the
TSLRA Annual General Meeting
Saturday, September 2, 2006**

1. **Introductions:** members/cottagers and representatives from Marmora and Lakes Council, Reeve and Deputy Reeve, introduced themselves.
2. **Minutes:** Barb Craig, Secretary was unable to read the minutes of the AGM of 2005. However, President Jack Watkins confirmed that he had previously read them and that they are available for reading on the web site. Moved they be accepted by _____ Seconded by Ben Harder. No past business to discuss.
3. **Treasurer's report:** Janet Watkins stated there is \$2,317.99. There is \$1,565.31 in a GIC and \$1643.72 in the current account. Charlie/Fred O'Neill moved that we buy a \$1000.00 GIC, seconded by Tim Agnew. Motion passed.
4. **Speakers:** Terry Clemens, Reeve of Marmora and Lake brought greetings from staff and council. Terry reminded us that the fall election is November 13th. We will each receive a mail-in ballot in order to vote. The returning officer is Frank Mills. There are several Major Projects taking place.

The first is a new Water plant costing \$3 million (\$1 million from the province, \$1 million from the federal government and \$1 million from the users of the sewage system).

The second is a new Sewage Treatment plant, also costing \$3 million (\$1 million from the federal government, \$1 million from the provincial government and \$1 million from the gas tax).

Third is the building of the connecting link around/through Marmora, financed by the provincial government.

Taxation Rates: Terry confirmed that assessment rates have been frozen for the next two years. Last year there were huge increases in assessment rates. The Provincial ombudsman is investigating the assessment process. Council will have to deal with any increased expenses through taxes.

Questions:

Flooding of the long swamp. This is a beaver problem, which is difficult to solve without killing all the beaver. Licensed trappers can be used, which is expensive.

Dust Control and roads: Need rain and then the grader will get to work. Currently calcium is being used to keep the dust down. It is half the price of previous treatments.

Ice Fishing: eliminating ice fishing is a ministry decision. Crowe Lake and Cordova Lake are investigating. Duane Welsh of the Cordova Store has mentioned ice fishing has been eliminated in the Peterborough area. Melanie stated that she would follow-up.

High Speed Internet: Shona asked when this will arrive. Terry said this has been approved by council. An estimate of \$120,000.00 has exists but the legal advisor recommends tendering through RFP's. The High Speed Internet Service will likely be in place by next spring.

5. Jack Watkins expressed thanks to Larry concerning the clearing of the roads so promptly after the big storm, mid August.
6. Councilor Rita Crimich, who has a cottage on Dickie Lake and therefore an interest in the well being of cottage country, expressed thanks for being invited to the meeting.
7. Marmora Medical Centre: Madoc, Stirling and Marmora happily qualify to be members of the Family Health Team. This means funding for front-line health care providers, such as physicians, nurse practitioners. Everything should be in place in 6 months to one year. Room will be leased from the municipalities in the area to set up staff. This is a very positive and exciting development. When in operation, there will be extended hours at the Marmora Medical Centre. At the moment, cottagers and others must go to Cambellford ER in off hours if they have a medical problem or emergency.

8. **President's Report:**

Property Values: Jack Watkins reiterated our concern with what will happen in two years, when the freeze is lifted. It is therefore important to remain active as a coalition of Ratepayers' Groups in order to monitor the situation. The Ombudsman report stated that MPAC was flawed and is currently being investigated. However, Jack stated that the ratepayers group is sharing information on this matter and is not politicizing. We will only continue to monitor the situation.

Storm Damage: Melanie reported she has a huge tree down which cannot be cut with a chain saw.

Jack suggested we send a letter to Hydro One to thank them for sending crews promptly and restoring hydro. Most of us had our hydro back on within 4 or 5 days. (Good considering that more than 150,000 people were without hydro in the province.)

John Bandy moved a letter be sent to Hydro. Seconded by Charlie McKinnon.

John Bandy stated that GEM had contacted a man who has a skidder and will remove trees. Contact John Bandy with your 911 numbers if you wish help with this. (h) 705-295-2592

Water Levels The beaver dam on the GEM property: Water levels were adjusted only in June this year. Now have a natural level due to evaporation. It was suggested the beaver dam be accessed to lower the water a little earlier in the year. eg. April.

Note: if the culvert between the lakes becomes blocked due to beaver activity, we are encouraged to call the municipality at 613-472-6942. This is on Municipality property.

Priorities:

Continue with WRAFT membership. It costs \$200.00 annually for membership fees. WRAFT lobbies under the umbrella of FOCA. We pay fees to WRAFT and not FOCA. Lois Tomc moved we continue to pay the \$200.00 annual fee. Seconded by Charlene Morgan.

Our new OPP Liaison rep is Jeff Brooks. Please report any thefts to the OPP office in Madoc.

Environment and Fisheries Report:

Melanie reported on water testing on the lakes. Not much change...water testing reports to come.

Purple Loosestrife: see newsletter.

Gypsy moths: make sure you scrape off the eggs, which look like a kind of sandy moss on trees. Each egg must be flattened. A gypsy moth caterpillar has 6 red dots on its back.

Fred O'Neill continues to put the oxygen tanks in the shed between the lakes each spring and remove them in the fall.

Newsletter: Rick Orchard

Contributions are welcome. Please email Rick with information, stories about the lake, news of interest. Info needed before July 1st of each year. Email address:
rorchard@thestar.ca

Photo Contest:

Winners: Lois Tomc for Pets or Wildlife, Fun at the Lake, Scenic and for Best overall photo.

Please note: we need more participants and winter scenes are suggested and encouraged!

Directors:

Kirk will continue as signing officer.
He has kindly agreed to maintain the web site.

Fred O'Neill moved that Chandler Cheddar be nominated as a director. Seconded by Ed Hoyle. Passed.

Draw for door prizes ensued. The meeting was adjourned and a barbeque was held.

Mini Executive Meeting:

Need a VICE PRESIDENT!!!

Need a secretary!!

Meet during the winter? Can do an electronic call.

Fred O'Neill has offered his cottage for meetings.