



G.O.R.A. – A.R.G.O.
Greater Otter Lake Residents Association
Association des Residents du Grand Otter Lake

23rd Annual General Meeting Minutes
July 13, 2019
Raymond Johnston Community Centre
Otter Lake, QC

1.0 Opening of Meeting

2.0 Verification of Quorum
Quorum established.

3.0 Adoption of Agenda
Motion made by Stephen Desabrais from Farm Lake to adopt the Agenda as presented seconded by Bob Cummings from Farm Lake and unanimously accepted.

4.0 GORA Board Introduction

5.0 Approval of Minutes from 2018 AGM
Motion made by Brenda Watts from Farm Lake to adopt the Minutes from the 2018 AGM as presented, seconded by Carlen Lafleur from Farm Lake and unanimously accepted.

6.0 Reports of Officers

6.1 Presidents Report

The President began by announcing retirement awards as tokens of appreciation to recent Past Presidents John Robillard and Dave Watts and Past Treasurer Joe Bones. GORA acknowledged their loyalty and hard work during their many years of service.

This was followed by an update on the boat washing issue. She noted that in March 2019, the Board wrote a letter to Council asking them to consider making boat washing mandatory with a bylaw and to consider restricting access to Farm Lake to help ensure boat washing. The letter was discussed at the April Council meeting which the President attended. It was decided that the issue would be taken up by a committee for further discussion and that GORA would participate as well. In the meantime, the President encouraged all GORA members to pass along the message to boaters coming from other waterways to wash their boats before entering the lakes.

The President then presented the results of the transparency tests that were done in 2018 on all four lakes and also thanked the volunteers who took the time every few weeks to do the testing. These included Stewart Wilson, Nick Cushman, and Kim and Gordon Robertson. She also noted that the results are posted on GORA's website. In addition, she was pleased to announce that the Municipality of Otter Lake had agreed to share the cost of the water quality tests done by RSVL.

The President also noted that new GORA signs with the new logo have been installed at a few different locations near the village. As for the GORA newsletters, the Board is moving away from paper-based newsletters and using email for transmission. She reminded everyone to be sure to update their email addresses as they register and pay their fees. She concluded her report by noting that GORA members have sent several messages to Council concerning the frequent blockages of the creek at Farm Lake (near the boat launch). This is of particular concern to those residents and cottage owners who experience flooding of their basements.

Motion made by Kerry McCann from Farm Lake to adopt the President's Report as presented, seconded by Leona Ryan from McCuaig Lake and unanimously accepted.

6.2 Treasurer's Report

Motion made by Stewart Wilson from Farm Lake to adopt the Treasurer's report as presented, seconded by Rick Fournier from Hughes Lake and unanimously accepted.

7.0 Mayor/Town Council Update and Member Question and Answer

Council Members that attended the meeting; Kim Cartier, Mayor and councillors; Robin Zacharias, Vicky Dubeau and Carlen Lafleur

Kim Cartier, Mayor gave a very informative update on a vast number of projects that have taken place throughout the year. Numerous roads have had new gravel spread; Calcium is available at the Municipal hall upon request. Composting has started and property owners will find a container at the municipal dump. On September 7th and 8th there will be a large item disposal weekend at the dump; no shingles allowed and there will be a charge for construction materials. Boat washing is going well; they can see that people are using the pressure washer located at the Municipal Hall. It is important to educate everyone on boat washing and it is a challenge to monitor all lakes. The Library is open 5 hours a week, WIFI is available and the hours of service are listed on the Municipal website. The Canada Day celebration was a great success. The recreation centre has been renamed to the Raymond Johnston Community Centre. The new walking trails have been opened at the Community Centre. The Municipality has hired 2 summer students to assist with children's activities and ground maintenance. The Mayor has confirmed that the MRC inspector has reviewed the Farm Lake Creek and at this time has found no visible obstructions. Volunteers are allowed to clean the shoreline and any garbage that is in and around the creek.

8.0 **Elections**

The following people were nominated to the board for the 2019 – 2021 term Jennifer Quaile; Susan Desabrais; Hélène Boulet; Paul Linneboe, Patricia Lindsay and Rob Kanasy. Motion made by Stephen Desabrais from Farm Lake to accept the nominations as presented; seconded by Gilly Presley from Farm Lake and unanimously accepted.

Motion made by Rick Fournier from Hughes Lake to accept the GORA Board as presented; seconded by Stephen Desabrais from Farm Lake and unanimously accepted.

9.0 **Members Question and Answer/New Business**

Doug Kirkpatrick complained about the boat launches and would like the Municipality to take responsibility for their up keep.

Motion made by Doug Kirkpatrick from Hughes Lake for the Municipality of Otter Lake to take responsibility for the up keep of all Boat Launches on the Lakes seconded by Terry Lafleur from Farm Lake and unanimously accepted.

10.0 **Adjournment**

Motion made by Tim Desabrais from Farm Lake to close the 2019 AGM meeting at 12:24PM seconded by Gail Presley from Farm Lake and unanimously accepted.

11.0 **BBQ**