

NOTICE

**DALHOUSIE LAKE ASSOCIATION INC
GENERAL MEMBERS MEETING
July 10th, 2010, 10:00am
Mera Building, McDonalds Corners
Con. 9a School House beside Twp. Garage**

Minutes (Draft)

1) Call to Order

Judy called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for attending. 42 members were in attendance. Judy introduced Christine Stewart, director at large, who is taking a turn at chairing the meeting.

2) Introduction of Executive

Christine introduced the members of the executive present.

3) Minutes of Previous Meeting Aug 15, 2009

Christine read the minutes and it was moved by Bob Spratt, seconded by Ron Jones that the minutes be adopted as read. Motion carried unanimously.

4) Financial Report

The financial report was presented by Pat Jones, treasurer. The bank balance is \$4,230.63 as at July 10th, 2010.

5) Introduction of Guest Speakers

Christine introduced the guest speakers and each was given an opportunity to make a 15 minute presentation on the subject of taxes.

- John Hall – President, Lanark Highlands Ratepayers' Association

Mr. Hall advised members that after becoming concerned about the high level of taxation in Lanark Highlands he decided to do some comparisons with other townships in the county. After discovering that taxes in the Highlands are the highest of the six rural municipalities, he prepared a flyer and distributed it to all residents in the township. The flyer pointed out the discrepancy in the taxes, the higher costs of governance and administration and higher level of remuneration for council members.

The flyer also invited concerned residents to get together to form a ratepayers association and on Feb 11th, 2010, approximately 160 residents met and the Lanark Highlands Ratepayers' Association was formed.

Mr. Hall then presented several documents summarizing the information in the flyer as well as a second flyer produced by the association. He also advised that the ratepayers association plans to be involved in the election process by possibly hosting an all candidates meeting and distributing a questionnaire to candidates and publishing responses. Members were advised that not only do seasonal residents have the right to vote in the municipal election, but they can vote by mail.

- Tom Derreck – Chief Administrative Officer, Township of Lanark Highlands

Mr. Derreck advised members that he did not feel a statement in Mr. Hall's documents that 'the mayor and 3 councilors have set their remuneration and other allowances near the top end of the scale' was proper for the ratepayers association to make as he feels it is a political statement. He also pointed out that he feels the document showing a significant increase in management and support staff is unfair. He explained that the increase in the planning department was the result of the township losing 2 senior employees with several years planning experience.

6) Water Levels

Judy Hall is the lake steward and she discussed the low water levels in the early part of the summer. We had very little rain in the spring and that coupled with very little snowfall in the winter resulted in low water levels in the reservoir at Crotch Lake. MVC felt it was necessary to hold back water to ensure adequate levels in the summer.

Concern was expressed that such low levels are a detriment to the lake's health.

7) Web Site

Judy advised that the web site is up to date and members should check it for upcoming meetings and events. Information is also posted on the bulletin board at Dalhousie lake restaurant near the boat entrance..

8) Lake Water Testing

Judy will look into water testing at the inlet and outlet of the lake for e-coli and phosphorous to be done mid-summer.

9) Flotilla Report

Judy reported that the July 1st flotilla was a success this year with the Floyd McQuatt family and Tom Mes family tying for the prize of a gift certificate at Dalhousie Lake Restaurant.

10) 50/50 Draw

The 50/50 draw brought in \$38.00 and Yvonne Cousineau was the winner of \$19.00

11) Adjournment

On a motion by Pat Jones and seconded by Joyce Spratt, the meeting adjourned at 12:02 pm