

Crimson Lake Cottage Owners' Association

35th Annual General Meeting minutes

Recorded by Dick Gehrke

Greg McGrath called the meeting to order at 1:20 and welcomed a large gathering of Cabin Owners to the 35th CLCOA Annual General Meeting, iterated the logistics of addressing the chair with name, Block & Lot number (letter) and the meeting commenced.

Chairman Greg introduced Brian Carpenter (5P) who gave us a rundown on this years' road cleanup, July 2nd. Brian emphasized the comradery and social implications of the day and that it was not just a "work day" but great fun as well. Meet at 10 A.M. at the cooking shelter on main-beach, get our instructions and round out the event with Dave Kornder demonstrating his bar-b-q expertise after the work is done. Every-one is welcome!

Rob Warrender gave a run-down of our current finances, indicated memberships collected from 48 members today and called for a mover & seconder to his report. Kathy Mowat (9J) moved acceptance with Ivy Mewha (9H) seconding said motion and it was duly carried. Randy Saler (5L) and Kathy Mowat (9J) were approved as auditors.

The current slate of officers had all previously agreed to let their name stand for re-election and there being no movement from the floor, the existing slate of officers' stand for the following year. Motion to accept the existing slate of officers was made by Rod Gordon (10C) seconded by Melinda Setters (10A). Motion was carried.

Stephan Shenfield, Lands Manager for Bighorn / Edmonton District and Brendan Hemens, Director of Public Land Management presented on behalf of their government departments. Mr. Shenfield is a local gentleman and did the bulk of the presentation. The major part of his presentation focused on two issues, namely dock permitting (as in DLO's & TFA's) and the current status of the Boat launch which is currently closed for use.

Mr. Shenfield spoke of the Governments continuing efforts to modernize Crown Land Management issues generally. Differentiating between Alberta Parks mandate of concentrating on the "visitor experience" and his department as "Public Lands Management".

Questions arising from the presentations were varied and passionate, frequently lamenting, -- "It's been this way forever, why change now". Mr. Shenfield did a laudable job explaining that the government was attempting to actualize long-standing policies and though admittedly slow, their policies are meant to be ultimately fair for everyone. He said Crimson Lake isn't being singled out over any other jurisdiction but that it's our turn to come into compliance with existing policy.

Mike Griffith (9i) inquired as to jurisdiction of the lake. Provincial or Federal? Mr. Shenfield explained that the water part of the lake falls under the Federal Navigable Waterways Act, thus Federal, whereas the Province (Public Lands) is responsible for “bed & shore”.

Discussion then turned to explanation of the need for DLO’s period. It was explained that docks that were truly seasonal, (removed in the winter) did not have to do anything other than abide to the regulations for size, placement & construction materials & remove them for the winter. But that permanent & floating docks, if they were to remain in the water over winter, did indeed have to apply for a DLO.

Rick Alsip (10E) was rather adamant that the “laws” could / should be changed. He debated what constituted provincial jurisdiction & asked what if the dock had no attachment to shore or Lake Bed. Mr. Shenfield postulated that a non anchored floating dock would eventually come to rest somewhere on the Lake and then it would indeed require a DLO! Then he simply reiterated that they (he & Mr. Hemens) were the messengers and were alerting Crimson Lake Cottage Owners of the policy’s that are being implemented throughout the province.

Shirley McGrath (5i) wondered how DLO’s are monitored? Mr. Shenfield indicated that extensions are granted until March 2023. That the government operates under the “ask --- tell—compel” principle. As of March 2023, the formal process starts. We are currently being “asked” to acquire a DLO if we wish permanent or year-round floating docks.

Mike Griffith (9i) asked for clarification that the DLO formal process starts March 2023 and Stephan confirmed that point.

Greg McGrath (5i) spoke of his personal experience with the process. His thinking initially that he could go through the process and have a format in place for all to follow only to realize that the process is indeed rather complex, and that professional help would most likely be the best route to follow.

Kathy Mowat (9H) indicated that Snell & Oslund out of Red Deer (403-342-1255) can take the process to completion for anyone that might wish to use their services. Kathy indicated the cost of said service from Snell & Oslund was in the neighborhood of \$400, adding to that the \$900 application fee and the total cost would be in the \$1500 range. Greg mentioned some cottagers he spoke with confirmed the \$400 dollar amount and believes the cost varies in part on how recent a property survey was conducted and if the cottager had done some of the applications. Also that Bob Haagsma from Rocky (Mt. West Surveyors, 403-845-5974) has done some of the necessary surveys (side note: mine included, Dick Gehrke 9E) and is offering to take the DLO process thru to completion for those who might wish to use their services.

Mr. Shenfield reminded us that the cost of application for a DLO was \$900.

Jack Turner (7G) offered that Bob Haagsma was indeed offering similar services as that of Snell & Oslund and had done their survey. Ms. Turner wondered about acquiring a map of the survey that was completed for their DLO process. She wondered if that was the responsibility of the

Public Lands office to provide the report to them? Stephan suggested she contact Mr. Haagsma and ask that question as they would have paid Haagsma for the service.

A question regarding dangerous trees arose from the audience. Caroline Stuart (7C) brought the question of “shore to lease line responsibility” to the floor, wondering whose responsibility that was. Mr. Shenfield was not sure of “shore to lease” property but indicated he’d get back to the CLCOA with an answer. He indicated that off lease dangerous tree concerns could be brought to the attention of folks working at the store and they would report to the appropriate Parks authority. ‘On lease’ inquiries should be brought to the attention of Brett Hutickka, 403-845-8268.

A brief discussion ensued as to the property between shoreline & lease property that is designated public lands. It was noted the public doesn’t often access that land but in times past, there was a walking path along the shore at certain locations between the cottages & shoreline that the public did indeed access.

Our chairman Greg (5i) wondered whose jurisdiction the cottage road came under and again Stephan indicated he would find that out and get back to the CLCOA.

Randy Saler (5L) brought up the issue of the boat launch. He inquired as to a timeline when Cottage Owners might be given access to the Lake for power boats. Mr. Shenfield had no information as to a timeline. Randy asked if Stephen could request special dispensation for the Cottage Owners to organize a boat launch day / weekend. Mr. Shenfield wasn’t at liberty to give that authority but committed to take Randy’s suggestion to the appropriate authority and get back to the CLCOA.

Marsha Alsip (10E) brought up the issue of an entrance gate to Crimson Lake Drive but was reminded that this was a dead issue. The CLCOA already having received government notification that such a project would not be given approval.

Our chairman Greg indicated to the gathering that the CLCOA website was on life-support and needed a major overhaul. That a cost of approx. \$1000 was necessary to bring it up to speed and that it should be up & running by the end of June 22.

Greg also indicated that Darwin Park had created signage directed at “protection of waterfowl”, had donated \$244 to the cost of the signs and we could expect to see signage to that effect at Crimson & Twin Lakes thru this summer. The CLCOA logo is proudly displayed on the signage and the CLCOA reimbursed Darwin for the donation.

Rod Gordon (10C) posed a question regarding Bird Flu followed closely by a query about Monkey Pox with no information from the assembly forthcoming.

The meeting was adjourned at 3 P.M. Moved by Mike Griffith (9i) and seconded by Caroline Stuart (7C).