

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION OF L'AMÉLIORATION DU LAC MANITOU, ET SES ENVIRONS HELD ON JULY 20, 2013

The President called a meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. He reported on the new AALM Website, which will include all AALM information; payment of dues, etc. Thanks went out to Matthew Stotland for setting up the website and all the hard work that was done in this regard. An invitation was sent out to all members that the AALM would like information photos and any other relevant matters to be submitted so that they can be posted on our website (aalm.ca).

It was moved by Danny Miller and seconded by Dick Harling to waive reading of the Minutes of the previous annual Meeting. It was proposed by Peter Cohen and seconded by J.P. Charest that the Minutes of the previous meeting be accepted.

BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

Dick Harling reported on the by-law Committee which was set up by the City. The by-laws were in fact recommended and adopted by the City, and should be in effect shortly. Regarding the problems on rue Fyon, it was reported by Mr. Ross Jones that a good job had been done by the road Committee in this regard.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Treasurer, Geoff Harling, reported that as at the year end on March 31st, 2013, the Association had a cash balance of \$7,500.00. The assets of the Corporation, namely its dock and property are evaluated at \$1.00, and the property is taxed on a municipal evaluation of \$30,300.00. The Association had no other liabilities.

The income of the Association was down from 2012 from \$4,000.00 to \$3,300.00. The expenses during the year related to \$2,000.00 for the 100 year celebration. The average annual rate of expenses of the Association is \$4,500.00 per year.

A motion by Danny Miller seconded by Norm Malus approved the financial statement. Passed unanimously.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The President reported that we have just completed a very busy year. AALM needed a fresh start and to rebuild its membership and a website. In addition, there was a need for certain standing committees which were created; revision of the by-laws took place, and the Association will constitute a new historical committee shared by Jack Cushing and Julia Bourke.

On motion by George Richer and seconded by Elliott Berzan it was proposed to dispense with the reading of the new Constitution. On motion by George Richer and seconded by Elliott Berzan, the new Constitution was unanimously adopted.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

Julia Bourke, the Chairman of the Committee reported on its activities which met often with its 22 members and established its mission with respect to education, ecological awareness, etc. In the coming year, the Committee expects to assist in the building of the AALM website. An invitation was sent out to any new members wishing to join the Committee. A more detailed copy of the report is attached to these Minutes.

TRAILS COMMITTEE

Michael Prupas and Peter Clarke, the Co-Chairmen, reported on the Committee's activities. The Committee is one year old, having been established in July of 2012. In its activities, the Committee has brought together both sides of the lake, and has formed trail maintenance groups, which include the Nantel and Laurentian Trail. In November of 2012, a large group of members of the Committee turned out to clear the trails for the Winter activities. In addition, the Committee has collected a series of older maps which it has consolidated into one master. The Committee has worked with the City to have the historic trails entered into the Urban plan. To date, this has been successful.

The Committee has and will hold outings and hikes on the trails. Its future activities include cleaning up the trails after last Winter's storm, which created some devastation. The Committee will look into the question of mountain biking trails.

Michael Prupas elaborated on the importance of the Committee. He explained the idiosyncrasies of our lake with respect to other properties where, in particular, most of our trails extend over private property. As a result of the fact that no legal right to cross the trails exists, and owners are, to some extent, free to block the trails, the Committee is actively working with owners of the properties in order to encourage them to open their property with some limited use (no motor vehicles etc.).

The Committee has set up a protocol for trail use which it would ask each person wishing to participate to sign. The protocol will confirm an indication to respect the general rules and courtesies that have been set up with respect to the trail use.

Access to the Committee's maps will be limited to those persons who have accepted trail protocol.

A motion was made by Michael Prupas, seconded by Peter Clarke to accept the Committee's report, as well as the Committee protocol, adopted unanimously.

It was announced that the next trail clearing day would be November 2nd, 2013 (this was subsequently altered after the meeting to October 19th, 2013).

ROAD COMMITTEE

The Committee chaired by Peter Cohen and George Barker reported the various road repairs which had been done on the lake. It was reported that substantial repairs have been made and in general, the roads were in better shape, but some problems still exist.

Further problems were reported, and a discussion ensued with respect to the Chemin Fyon problems. Jimmy Ross Jones thanked the Association and the City for endorsing the Committee's proposal regarding Chemin Fyon.

WATER SAFETY REPORT

The President reported on the publication of the boating rules which will be published on our site. He mentioned that the best way to control water safety continues to be respect for other boaters and peer pressure. The Association is fortunate in the fact that we do not have any serious water safety problems on the lake.

The Association made some recommendations to the City with respect to parking by non-residents on the beach area, as well as use of the lake by non residents, particularly, by fishing boats owned by non-residents. It would appear that the City decided not to proceed on these recommendations.

WATER QUALITY REPORT

A report was made by John Patton that samples around the lake were all in "A" classification. Some spikes occurred, but these were not considered to be serious. Some "hot spots" around the visible beach were rated a "C". The Committee will continue to monitor the water quality and report back. A map will be available on the website.

Geoff Harling reported on new developments with the MRC regarding testing of lake health and quality. It would appear that a partnership with MRC and the province to map out water quality. Lake Manitou has been included in this study which covers a three year cycle. Samples are to be taken over this period. The Association will attempt to take over the monitoring of the tests for both fecal coliform and other substances. It was suggested by J.P. Charest that owners of older homes should check the quality of their septic tanks more frequently.

MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor began his report by reporting back on several questions which were raised:

1. It would appear that the transmission line which was to run through Ivry was just that, and will not be happening. The City will be monitoring this situation;
2. Regarding mining concessions; a draft bill was proposed by the Government, which will transfer decision making on the concessions to the local MRC; this Bill is to be tabled in the House in October or November of this year;
3. Regarding lake access; the Mayor reported that a meeting of the Executive of our Association met with the City Manager J.R. Dufresne with suggestions for controlling access to the City beach, and parking. The Mayor reported that this was discussed in Council and decided to proceed cautiously in that the City sought to avoid any public relations embarrassment. The Mayor reported that the parking signs on the beach property have "worked well". He further reported that an electronic gate would be expensive and not necessary. The Mayor reported that some small boats owned by non-residents have to pay \$150 per day. He reported that some fishing boats are allowed on the lake free. The Mayor further reported that the concern was the problem of infestation of bacteria on the lake, largely from boats that have been on other lakes and carry the bacteria with them. The Mayor indicated that the City wished to assure that the boats coming on our lake were clean, however, no concrete measures were mentioned.

The amendments to the By-laws were introduced to Council, and will be law within 90 to 180 days.

The City is in agreement to recognize the Nantel and Laurentian trails in the Urban plan. This will give the City some legal authority.

The Mayor reported that Chemin Fyon is looking better, and safety markers have been put up and will be replaced if they come down. The road is narrow in some areas, and will be monitored. The City will encourage more growth in the area and will have a structural engineer look at the wall close to the Saltzman property.

Moreover, the Mayor reported that Claire Richer, a long time Councillor, as well as Mme Raymonde Lefrançois and Pierre Vérot have indicated that they will not be re-running for a Council seat in November. The Mayor mentioned that Arnaud Holleville, Ms. Julie Wilkins Barber and J.P. Charest have accepted to replace them. Mr. Holleville comes to Council with a great deal of experience as an inspector with water quality experience.

The Mayor further reported that 0.2 kilometres that goes to Cedar Crest and Chemin Fyon will be paved shortly. Furthermore, and subject to budget, further paving will take place, including 0.5 kilometres up to rue Colibri.

This year has been a quiet one for both fires and break-ins of homes.

THE CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

Mr. Stephen Takacsy, President of the newly formed Conservation Manitou reported on its activities. Mr. Takacsy reported that the concept of the Committee was to preserve the environment, including McCall Island and other areas and prevent same from overdevelopment.

Similar to other areas in the Laurentians, taking inspiration from them, the Committee decided to create a Conservation Group with stewards to monitor the area. This became particularly necessary when owners of properties recently put up large parcels for sale on the market.

In the Winter of 2012-13, a Conservation Manitou was created along with the help of specialist attorneys who applied for a charitable tax status. This was accorded in record time.

The Committee is likewise eligible for grants and donations of land in return for tax receipts. An exemption from capital gain tax would also be available in some situations. It was reported that the Committee could acquire land for 50% of its value and offer tax receipts for the full amount.

Between the Adams and Campbell's commitments, the Committee will have approximately 100 acres locked up for preservation. In order to complete these deals, the Committee requires 1.7 million dollars. It has, to date, raised 1.3 million. The Committee is suggesting donations be made and that one of the stewards involved be contacted for further information. To date, and some of the largest donations have been from the Dobrin, McAusland and McLean families and foundations. Any persons donating \$5,000.00 or more, which may be done over time, will have voting rights in the Conservation Group.

Once acquired, the property will allow users to use the property for approved activities.

ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

Motion by Cortland Brown and seconded by Dick Harling, the previous Board of Directors and Officers were approved, with the exception of Jenny Patton, who indicated her resignation.

GOOD AND WELFARE

Our condolences were remitted to the family of the late John Dawson, who sat for many years as a Director of the Association. Danny Miller then reported on a possible upcoming Municipal election in November. He suggested that all persons turn out and participate in the vote.

Mr. Miller also reported on the Saint-Sauveur dance festival which is now in its 21st year. It promises an excellent presentation as in past years. The details are located on the festival website.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:10.