

**Lake Matinenda Cottage Owners Association
Annual General Meeting
Saturday, July 30, 2022 at 11:00 a.m.
Matinenda Campground**

Meeting called to order at 11:05 a.m. by Tom Fitch, President.

Tom introduced the Board of Directors and our guests, Sally Hagman, Mayor of Blind River and Councilor Jennifer Posteraro and Deputy Mayor Paula Summers.

The minutes from our last AGM meeting in 2019 were approved by a motion from Dan Berthelot, and seconded by Paul White.

We held a minute of silence for those cottagers who have passed away since our last meeting.

Report from the President, Tom Fitch

Tom stated that we have had a busy few years and the Board has put a huge effort in working with the Town of Blind River to obtain an acceptable arrangement for the docking situation. He is thankful for the working relationship that has developed with the Town. We still have a way to go - the most recent update on the docks being that the docks we had been promised from the Town Marina are not in suitable condition to transfer to Matinenda. As a result the Town will be hiring a contractor to supply and install three sections to extend our existing docks and one tree/ladder style at the end of the third dock. Ramps from the Marina will be used to replace our ramps and there is work to be done to replace the timbers where the ramps and docks attach to the breakwall. Three board members met with Katie Scott at the Landing yesterday, when she assured us that this work would be started in this fall and that the Town will commit \$20,000 each year going forward for work to keep our Landing in good repair .

Internet infrastructure is due to improve for those cottagers with hydro. Joanne Matheson from Huron Shore and Manitoulin Island Community Owned Fibre Infrastructure is our contact person for this. We do not have any specific dates as to when we can expect this to start or happen.

At our meeting with Katie Scott this week, she promised that the Committee for Matinenda affairs, with members from the LMCOA Board, Ministry and Town Council, will be started up this fall.

Treasurer's report, John Moniz

The past few years have seen our dues collection fall significantly, especially in 2021. This year we have seen much more collected and are hoping that these dues will continue to come in. In 2021, we freed up our funds for availability, and presently they are not invested. The plan is to reinvest these funds if dues collection continues on its present trend.

Dues increase – Donna White

The Board has decided that the time has come for us to raise the membership fee for LMCOA. We have seen an operating loss many years, our costs are increasing and our fees have been the same for many years. Ongoing expenses like navigation lights, website fees, AGM expenses, postage, banking fees, and FOCA fee continue each year and to date,

our fees have not covered the expenses. FOCA conducted a survey of its membership and the average Association fee is \$20 to \$30 per year. For these reasons, our fee will increase to \$20 per lot starting in 2023.

Navigation Lights – Deb Menard

Deb asked for a show of hands for those who wanted our work on Navigation lights to be continued. The majority of those present raised their hands, we take this as our mandate to continue on upgrading the 10 lights we have presently and investigate their repair and perhaps new locations that are necessary. Don Udell brought a sample of his recommendation for a new light design - the lights we have now can provide 5 to 6 hours of light only if they have a full charge. So improvements are required. The design presented by Don would cost approximately \$300 per unit and would be a 12 volt system. Used coolers can be used to house the batteries which would extend their life. They would be able to provide an average of 12 hours of light. Don also warned all of us not to install red lights at our properties – as this colour is reserved for navigation. We should only be using white lights – like street lights. Deb requested volunteers to be in charge of navigation lights and Bill Ryan and Deb Menard volunteered.

Website report – Paul White

Traffic on our website is low and we should be using this website much more to our advantage. We should be posting all of our documents, reports, minutes etc on the website. In the past, many would send pictures that were enjoyed by all and this can continue. Paul urged all of us to use the website – www.matinenda.ca. Paul is in the process of having repairs done to the back side of the site that will allow us to communicate and send messages directly to the Board.

Voting in October Municipal Election – Elaine Bouchard

Municipal elections are being held in Ontario on October 24th. Canadian cottage owners and their spouse are allowed to vote. Online voting is in place, so we can vote from our homes. You must be on the voter's list, if you go to voterlookup.ca – you can verify that you are on the list. With approximately 100 cottages on Lake Matinenda owned by Canadians, this could translate into 200 votes, which is significant for a Town the size of Blind River.

Guest speaker - Sally Hagman – Mayor of Blind River

Sally confirmed that nominations for Town Councilors are still open until August 19, 2022 at 2 p.m. Sally assured us that the dock situation is on the front burner for Town Council. She outlined some of the limitations that have been affecting this project – such as Engineer shortage, product availability, contractor shortage. There are some projects that have moved forward for the Landing, such as the Defibrillator installed at the Dock Shop, the Dock Shop being operational, dumpster replaced and the bathrooms installed at the landing. Still pending, is the revised scope of work for the retaining wall and the new dock extensions all of which should be installed by the beginning of 2023, resulting in approximately 25 new boat slips for public use. Interpretive panel signage is still planned and the Town is committing to a \$20,000 each year in Town budgets going forward. The new signage at the Dock Shack requires some direction from the LMCOA.

Questions:

Herb asked if there was any availability for overnight parking on the occasional basis. Sally replied that communication with Bruce is required and it can be arranged on a temporary or emergency basis. There was discussion of an emergency situation where there was no parking available when there was an emergency – Bruce Spratt confirmed that he can always be contacted and arrangements will be made for these situations. It was suggested

that signage should include Bruce's phone number and we should post it on our website. In the event of an emergency and no parking availability, a boat could be tied to another boat and a note left describing the circumstances.

John Moniz asked about bulk pickup and Sally confirmed there is no bulk pickups offered by the Town free of charge. Arrangements can be made with the Town in advance and there is a fee for this service. Sally suggested that the Association could arrange bulk pickups as a service to cottagers.

Sally was asked why there is no recycling depot here at the Landing. Sally said she would look into it.

Existing docks require repair – and Sally said that she was aware of it. A discussion of the bumpers on the breakwall ensued. It was suggested that the bumpers be installed vertically as opposed to horizontally and that extra protection of the breakwall be installed in an area where working barges and boat can dock without damaging the breakwall. Also some of this breakwall damage is happening in the winter, and snowfencing could help prevent this damage. Bruce Spratt informed us that he has discussed the bumper issues with Karen Bittner and hopes to come up with a solution with them.

It was suggested that the handicap pole requires repairs and that NO SWIMMING rules be enforced.

The bear-wise garbage can has been moved into the parking lot because the public was filling it with garbage that should be going in the dumpsters. It was suggested that it be reinstalled back close to the docks and that signage be placed to inform public of its proper use.

Sally stated that for any complaints and problems we should be using the Town website where there is an online complaint form. Don Udell stated his experience with this process is that responses are very slow and sometimes non-existent. In this case, Sally recommends that we contact Karen or Katie at the Town directly.

There was a question about the Land Use Permit renewal. Sally stated that the process for renewal is ongoing.

New business;

CB at the Landing – Tom asked for a show of hands of how many were wanting the CB antenna to be up and running at the Landing. Few raised their hands, but Herb stated that he relied on this for guest communication.

Ruler or measuring device at the breakwall to indicate water height – can we ask MNR for one – there used to be one in the past. Don Barill said that he had spoken to someone at the Ministry and we need to followup

New Board

Don Barill, Deb Menard and Elaine Bouchard are remaining on the Board. We require new Board members. Claudette Trudeau, Anne Marie Sullivan, June Krupka, Billy Jo Martin and Judy Dimarco were put forward as new Board members. Jerry Behnke moved to accept the nominees as new Directors, seconded by Claude Bouchard.

Meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m.