

Big Bald Lake Cottagers Association

Annual General Meeting

Sunday October 5, 2025

Call to order by Matthew Speight was at 11.05 am.

Present:

Nancy and John Boyce

Rich Corbin

Elaine Hensen

Matthew Speight

Brenda Thomas

Randy Whatman

Ria Whatman

Matthew welcomed and spoke about the downsizing of Big Bald Lake Cottagers Association activities. Volunteers are required for the activities and communications. It was emphasized that you do not need to be on the Board to be a volunteer. As a result of the lack of volunteers it was necessary to focus on what activities and communications were important.

Matthew advised that he was stepping down as President of the Association as his home is currently for sale and he will be moving. Tabatha Dean will be the acting Interim President.

Matthew motioned for the approval of the 2024 Minutes. Nancy Boyce approved and Rich Corbin seconded. All were in favour. Motion carried.

Financial reports were reviewed by Ria. Sponsorship had not been sought this past year. Finances decreased as a result and due to the increased prices – the cost for the regatta increased. The association will look for sponsors for the 2026 Regatta for t shirts and food. Three or more sponsors are desired.

Legal costs were discussed which were as a result of the review of the by laws and changes made to the by laws

Ria spoke about membership. Emails have gone out for those who have not paid for the current year which is from July 1 to June 30. Membership is at 127 members in total with 85 paid. Most renewals are for a 3 year term.

Any contest suggestions are welcome. Nancy Boyce volunteered to do the google forms for contests.

Difficulties have been encountered with the current Face Book page. Mathews, Ria and Randy are to review and determine whether to stay with the current page or create a new page.

Ria and Randy have been doing the welcome baskets including procuring items, putting them together and delivering them. This has been quite time consuming. Ria asked if there might be area representatives who would be willing to do the deliveries in their areas. There had been road reps quite some time ago but not for some time. It had been suggested having a representative for the north side of the lake and for the south side of the lake or split with the board members. Suggestions or recommendations for their distribution are welcome. If you know of a new neighbour in your area please send an email to info@bblca.ca.

Rich Corbin reviewed the water testing. Five sites are tested at a cost of \$75 per site. The E coli levels were within acceptable levels. There had been concern due to the heat this summer where we experienced the highest temperatures since the water testing began. A location in the Big Bald Narrows was dropped as there had never been any issues there and the North East Bay location added due to the congestion, weed bed, rental activity and Canada Geese activity. The levels for this location were within acceptable levels but were high. Catalina Bay has been tested since the start and will continue to be tested due to the water flows from the bay into the lake and the congestion in the bay. Rich attended the Kawartha Lake Stewards meeting. Unfortunately not many people were in attendance. He encourages people to attend future meetings as they are extremely informative with respect to E coli and hot spots in our lakes. Rich will continue to do the water testing starting the July long weekend until Labour Day.

Starry Stonewort was discussed and its spread in our lakes. The Cottagers Association does not have the funds to do any sort of remediation. Cutting the plant spreads the seeds and the plant. It was advised that New York State is investigating the use of a boat that works like a vacuum and sucks the plant out.

Elaine Hensen inquired about the publishing of a new membership directory. This is costly and requires sponsors and is time consuming. The directory is available through the BBLCA website and is sorted by name and street. It is password protected. If you do not know the password please send an email to info@bblca.ca. Ria and Randy will send an unlocked version to members for their review and will then update and post to the web page.

Board Members:

Tabatha Dean – Treasurer, Vice President and Interim President

Ria Whatman – Membership

Lucianna Adragna – Environmental

Brenda Thomas – Nancy nominated to remain as secretary. Rich Corbin seconded. All in favour.

Meeting Adjourned at 11.43 am.

