

Draft Minutes for AGM August 28th 2022

Called to order:

Attendance: 15 members in person, 30 members on Zoom

1. Introduction 2:30

Caitlin started with explanation of the rules and Zoom functionality.

John Leech – The meeting will be bilingual. We will proceed with English but members are welcome to ask questions in either official language. We acknowledge that our Lake is in traditional Algonquin territory; we seek to nurture our relationship with our Indigenous members and neighbours, and to share responsibility for their homelands.

The agenda was adopted – John Shaughnessy and seconded by Doug Robbie. Carried.

2. La parole à nos invités /Remarks From Our Guests

Mayor Lamoreaux:

There have been staffing issues that have prevented us from enforcing by-laws around the municipality. We have a new inspector who is working on inspections and a sustainable development officer (Madelaine Rouleau) who are now working with the municipality.

The green fund is ongoing and the association is welcome to apply. Issues with the campground on lac Gauvreau will be addressed shortly. Water testing in Ruisseau Parent will also be addressed by the municipality. The bylaws are being reworked and various environmental bylaws will be reviewed and revised over the next year.

John Leech – The association has been testing water in the lake and at Parent creek. Phosphorus levels are higher in the creek than they are in the rest of the lake. We have not received our annual grant yet. The Mayor said it will be on the agenda at the next meeting.

Questions: - Are there other lake associations doing the same kind of work as ours? Are they pushing hard enough to improve their lake situations - are we pushing hard enough for change?

The mayor says, yes, there are at least a dozen lake associations that are working at varying degrees of engagement compared to Lac Gauvreau.

John Leech – There are periodic meetings with other Associations; next one is 15 Sep.

3. Compte rendu de l'Assemblée générale du 23 octobre/ *Record of the General Meeting held 23 Oct 2021.*

There have been no comments on the last AGM. Motion moved and seconded. Approved

4. Rapport annuel / *Annual Report*

The 3-year plan is posted on the website.

The association has met 6 times. We have developed our website and distributed guidelines for boating. Cathy said she did not receive the responsible boating guidelines.

Water testing – Our application to join RSVL was accepted. The association has been testing total phosphorus and E coli in the lake and at Parent Creek. Swimming quality is all good to excellent except for Parent Creek which is not safe. All results have been posted on the association website. There are cyanobacteria bloom concerns but nothing has been observed this year.

Cathy – Is the water quality changing?

-E coli – water is staying the same

-Phosphorus – is similar over the past couple of years

Rink – Turbidity (cloudiness) and floating milfoil was reduced this year. This may be due to the responsible boating guidelines.

John L – ABV de 7 has not been as available to us this year

Shoreline restoration – 15 properties were provided with over 300 plants.

Question Cathy – The lake is filling in.

John L – the speed of eutrophication is dependent on the nutrient level of the lake.

Stopping the flow of nutrients into the lake is the biggest action we can take to prevent eutrophication

Milfoil

The philosophy for preventing spread has been to keep people out of the areas to prevent spread.

The ministry of environment says we can remove milfoil from the lake using manual methods. The milfoil task force has tested a rake product that works well and removes the weeds by the roots. Unfortunately the rules about removal have been interpreted as meaning that a maximum of 25m² can be removed for the entire lake not per property. We are advocating to get a more common sense approach to removal.

Burlap has been difficult because mud covers the burlap and weeds grow on top of it.

Responsible boating guidelines have been created as a compromise between boaters and environmentalists. Most are following the guidelines but some are not.

Cathy – She understands the mud should be kept on the bottom but some areas of the lake have aerators to help break down the muck. Aeration would need to be done on a massive scale to improve water quality.

Rink De Lange – Aeration does not make a big difference even when done on a large scale. The primary goal is to reduce the amount of nutrients entering the lake.

Tom – Is the main source of nutrients from the creek?

John L – Yes. Shoreline restoration has improved things but the creek is the main source of nutrients. We have been looking into creating a wetland to filter out nutrients before they enter the lake.

Rink – Shoreline restoration is still a critical task to filter out the nutrients prior to entering the lake. We must also check the septic systems on the lake to make sure they are not contributing.

Question – are the geese eating the milfoil?

John L : - Not to a significant extent.

Rink de Lange – Geese are attracted to the lawns on the lake.

Cathy – Are we trying to discourage the geese?

Rink de Lange – This is not the natural habitat of the geese.

John L – Next year we will continue with our efforts and move towards more direct treatment of milfoil.

5. Administration de L'Association/Association Administration

Finances – Budget was reviewed. Financial Statement for 2021 and 2022 budget was presented. They will be posted on the website. Acceptance moved (John Shaughnessy) and seconded (Doug Robbie); carried

Thank you to John Shaughnessy for his efforts and service over the years. Christina McNiven will be the new Treasurer. The books were audited by Tom Booth last year.

Board of Directors candidates:

There are more candidates than there are positions on the board.

Voting will last for 48 hours starting Friday and Saturday of the coming week. An email will be sent to all eligible voters with biographies and instructions for voting. Motion passed.

Any questions from the candidates will be sent to them so they can answer.

The outflow creek has been blocked again. A message has been sent to the volunteer crew that unblocked it last year. (Note: creek unblocked on 4 September)

6. Divers / Other Business

No other business

7. Levée de l'Assemblée / Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Leanne Olson at 1549. Carried