

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – AUGUST 13/2016 9 AM-12 NOON

Executive Present:

Teresa Martin, Dave Arntfield, Bernard Lalonde, Marcel Pronovost, Joanne Watson, Sue Martin, David Vandevenne , Michel Francoeur, Russ Rieger

38 participants

- Bernard offered to translate English to French and French to English whenever possible in the meeting.
This was a very nice touch and much appreciated.

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES – Michel Francoeur, Seconded by France Bergeron.

- The Mayor was late so we passed to item 4

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES

Teresa presented the Water Quality Initiative 2015-2016 (A Federation of Lakes Initiative)

1. Testing - This initiative is to monitor the premature aging of the lake.
Some of the findings were that the chlorophyll and phosphorous are in the right zone at this time.

Phosphate testing was done in six locations in the spring and total phosphate is a little higher but stable.

Lac St-Pierre is showing a carbon concentration of 3.55mg/l and Lac McMullin is showing 6.55 mg/l. The transparency of Lac McMullin is not good.

2. Weed mapping by ABV7 –

Note: it is important to know the difference between indigenous plants and the invasive weeds

ACTION – Teresa to put up a map on the location of the milfoil and picture of invasive weeds up on the Website and also locations like Tessier where Lake owners will see it.

ACTION - all lake owners are to continue to change habits to use non-phosphate products, no fertilizers; minimum of 5 meters of vegetation to the water; talk to your neighbours.

MOW LESS PLANT MORE

BLUE GREEN ALGAE

- Important to report this to - Teresa.martin@sympatico.ca

1. Two blue green algae sightings in the last 11 years on Lac St-Pierre.
A report of green algae bloom was recorded last year and was followed up with the ministry - no alarm at this time.
2. Lac McMullin had 4 sightings and has a problem with blue green algae and also the transparency of the water. This is a concern as Lac McMullin flows into St-Pierre.

Note: that after 3 sightings the ministry doesn't investigate.
99% is not toxic and it is usually gone shortly or moves to a different location.

ACTION - we are looking for a volunteer to do the same testing on this lake. Please let us know if anyone is interested.

INVASIVE PLANTS (Milfoil) - Melanie and Theresa

Melanie and Theresa attended a very important seminar in Montreal this year at the University of Laval, Quebec.

1. Milfoil - nitrogen is the key factor, grows in shallow water and it needs sun.

Future possibilities to help control the spread of milfoil:

- a) Short term -cover the affected areas with biodegradable jute
- b) Long term - manual removal using divers, as they have to pull it by the roots
- c) Oxygenation using aeration
- d) Lake Owners Association initiative - Buoy program, educate Boaters and cottagers.

INTEGRATED WATER MANAGEMENT - by Melanie Renaud

This was started 5 years ago
(Federation of Lakes initiative that affects all of the lakes)

The Federation now has charitable status therefore they can give receipts and they also have access to other grants.

www.federationdeslacs.ca

Very important organization because we are all connected therefore all affected!

Since 2012 they have done a review of 40 lakes in the region:

- . A description of water coming in from other lakes has also been reviewed
- . The presence of the beavers and other animals that affect lakes

- . A characterization of the spawn beds
- . An investigation of the fauna and plants

DIRECTORS' PLAN is to put together a committee to discuss needs and wants of our lakes.

CONCLUSION - characterization of plants and quality of water are available online. As well as a report on flower and fauna. A project of types of fish in our lakes is also to be initiated. An action plan is to be created in the near future.

Melanie mentioned the most important thing we can do for the water is to re vegetate – top priority.

The shoreline is the kidney of the lake – it is the filter to rid of unwanted material that might get into the water.

Melanie's presentation can be found online but only in French.

ACTION: suggestion – abbreviated version of important information should be bilingual.

INTRODUCTION OF THE MAYOR:

1. New initiative: increased fees at the boat ramp – this was very well received by the members!!!!

It was noted that Lac St-Pierre has been the leader in the region for the protection of our lake in the region and has continued to work with the Federation of Lakes.

2. The municipality will provide the federal government with a study to prove our concerns asking for grants to help our lake.
3. Money will be invested in the side roads around our lake
4. The culvert between St-Pierre and McMullin needs fixing and they are hoping to get Federal funding.

QUESTIONS TO THE MAYOR

1. Q - Christine Bellehumeur - there is a big problem with Canada Geese on our beaches and lake.

A - France suggested that a humane way to do this is to get rid of the eggs by coating them with vegetable oil. They make nests off the main land to hide from foxes etc. Melanie said that the geese could use loons' nest so you must be able to distinguish between the two

ACTION – need to put a picture up of the loon and goose eggs - Melanie

ACTION - The Mayor mentioned that the government is aware of this increasing problem and is looking into it. The Mayor has also asked the Quebec union to negotiate a legislative control of boats on our lake and the control of geese.

2. Q- Stan Thompson asked the status of the Auberge

A – The Mayor only knows that the owner has been to the municipality several times re: the hotel but is unaware of the situation at this time.

Mayor is also meeting with LaCite – we will have more information on that next week.

ACTION: Russ to provide the executive with this information

3. Q -What has been the response to the letter that went out by the municipality re fines if owners did not comply to the re vegetation of the shoreline?

A – Mayor said they have been soft on this because they are trying to educate owners.

Suggestion from the members – focus on the real violators i.e. the people that cut their grass right to the edge, use fertilizers etc.

Mayor took note of this.

4. Q – When cottages change hands can there be an information booklet given to the new owners?

ACTION: The Executive to prepare a one-page info sheet to be given to the municipality – with rules and info re joining the Lake Owners association.

5. Q – Kathleen – there is a problem with private boat launches letting unauthorized boats on the lake.

A – Mayor said they can't control this but they are trying as the Municipality has been speaking to these owners and asking them for their cooperation.

6. Q – Police Boat presence

A – Mayor is still trying to change the hours from Wednesday to Sunday – have to get agreement from unions and this is a problem.

7. Diane Law commented that when new docks are built it should be the responsibility of the owner to get rid of the old dock.

- She suggested that blue foam should not be used as animals chew it up and it spreads in our waters

- Bernard suggested that maybe when they get their permit for the new dock that they are told they are responsible for the disposal of the old dock

ACTION– the Mayor will look into this.

FINANCE

Marcel presented the financial statement and it is also available on the website. Marcel was thanked for his years of service and his contribution to the Association. He is our longest serving financial director. Great work Marcel!!!

Note: membership is down and **we need to all be active in recruiting new members**

2015- 200 members

2016- 125 members

(There are 450 cottages on the lake)

Approval of the finances were voted and approved by Janeau and Joanne Watson

BUOY AND BAY CAPTAIN PROGRAM

Sue Martin-Bush

Dave Vandevenne

Initiative of the executive of the Lake Owners Association.

The yellow buoys are placed to mark large patches of milfoil. Boat traffic is discouraged from coming into these areas to try and decrease the spread of the milfoil.

The white buoys (\$450.) are to explain what the yellow buoys are for.

The Association is looking for sponsors to buy white buoys and yellow buoys. As well we are always looking for new Bay Captains.

The Bay Captains are assigned an area of the lake to make sure lots of eyes are guarding the health of the lake.

Also for the management of the yellow buoys and white buoys.

ACTION: If anyone is interested please contact Sue Martin
susan.martin@sympatico.ca

ACTION: Betty Shields suggested that smaller community groups have an appetizer party and someone from the executive attend to explain the various programs and encourage lake owners to get involved.

New Bay Captain
Rose Macdonald roseroscounselling.ca
613- 744-4768
819-457-2956 (cottage)

ACTION: Sue Martin to follow up with Betty and any new Bay Captains.

MEMBERSHIPS Bernard Lalonde

- As of December last year we had 205 members.
- This year we are at 125
- Will send membership cards by e-mail
- You can pay by credit card, online, cash or cheque
- Must try to recruit more members, ask your neighbours and get them involved.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES – Joanne Watson

Held June 25th, 2016 – a superb event for the price

SAVE THE DATE – next social will be June 24/2017

It was a great success – great food, live music

Note: looking at putting in acoustic tiles into the venue to improve the sound quality.

FEDERATION DES LACS

Federation des Lacs is in the process of coming up with a new fee structures for the member lakes. Lac St-Pierre has paid \$300 interim amount.

We have suggested that they explore their charitable status to increase their funding as well. There are ongoing negotiations and we are awaiting results.

ACTION – Russ to update the executive

NOMINATIONS FOR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

4 new members were nominated and are as follows:

Shirley Tucker – Shirley_sat@yahoo.com

Gordon Boal – gdrboal@hotmail.com

Allen Emond – Carolyn.emond@sympatico.ca
613-236-6202
819-457-2679

Mary Louise Beauchamp – mlybeauchamp@gmail.com

***We would like to acknowledge the great contribution of past executive members – Michel Francoeur, Diane Treau de Coeli, , and Ginette Payant.
Thanks so much for all your great work***

Congratulations to our new members and welcome to the Association Lac St. Pierre Executive. We thank you for your service and help.

OTHER TOPICS:

COALITION of NAVIGATION -Allen Emond

The mission is to get the Federal Gov't to change the regulations to transfer authority to the municipalities and to establish standards that the municipalities can apply.

Alain proposed that the Executive should send a letter of support from the board and that the Executive should join the Coalition at a cost of \$100 for a corporate membership

Note: the Mayor personally supports this initiative as well and he feels his council would be behind this.

David Arntfield proposed the motion and Suzanne Laplante seconded it

Majority of the members agreed to Allen's proposal

The motion passed.

INCREASING MEMBERSHIP_–

Michael suggested that we set targets for new memberships
Post a big thermometer with objective
Signs posted at Tessier's

**“ARE YOU A MEMBER OF THE LAKE OWNERS ASSOCIATION
LEARN THE BENEFITS”**

ACTION: Dave Arntfield talked to the mayor about getting all the emails and addresses etc. of all the lake owners.

Mayor will look into this – he thinks we can at least get the mailing addresses.