

Friends of Charleston Lake Park

Minutes of Annual General Meeting, October 8, 2011, 10:00 am.

Held at Nature Centre, Charleston Lake Provincial Park.

Chair Steve Page opened the meeting at 10:00 am. Self-introductions followed. Attendance included 8 directors and 8 general members in good standing plus Acting Superintendent Ben Chabot.

The Agenda was reviewed.

Motion: by Peter Murray, Sec Andy Graham: That the agenda be accepted. Carried.

Motion: by Bill Hallam, Sec Cliff Redman: That the minutes of last year's AGM be accepted. Carried.

1. Chairman's Report: Steve

a) Membership: We have slipped a little in general membership, but we have increased corporate membership.

b) Trails: are in fine shape thanks to the efforts of the monitors and great cooperation from Park Staff. This is especially noteworthy respecting the major wind storms in June and August. A big "thanks" goes to Acting Assistant Superintendent Darrin Fox and his crew.

The Park now has a new set of floats for the Slim Bay Bridge thanks to a donation from the Charleston Lake Association.

Thanks to the staff of Proctor and Gamble, we now have some of the wood for another Blue Mountain bridge moved to the site. The rest will go in by snowmobile after freeze up.

Andy made a presentation to Township Council in September, asking them to have their staff enter into discussions about how the Blue Mountain road allowance might be maintained to facilitate access to the BM trail, and more broadly to get Council thinking positively about including BM in its trails policy and planning. We hope to meet with the Township staff to discuss these issues.

The Westside Trail reroute at the meadow will be a focus of next year's activities.

c) Store: The store had a good year. Our staff got out to help the NHE staff in order to diversify their experience. Our Store manager was excellent this

year. Total sales were about the same as last year. Thanks to Janice for her hard work.

d) Raffle: Tickets have sold well this year, up a little from last year.

e) Our barbeque event at the Settlers Weekend was successful, although it did not raise as much money as we had hoped.

f) Members Sheila Ballantyne and George Hurst have donated a print of Sheila's 'Tomahawk Rock' for raffle in 2012. They will help with a new fundraising effort involving art in the Park.

2. Financial Report: In Wayne's absence, Andy reviewed the statements. Motion: by Andy, Sec by Janice: That we accept the Financial Report to November 1, 2011. Carried.

3. Parks Report: Ben

a) We had a big year for infrastructure. One comfort station was replaced, yurts were installed and tent pads completed. This winter will see the other two comfort stations replaced and there will be animal proof garbage cans installed at the interior campsites.

b) The Sheffield purchase was completed.

c) The new reservation system is working much better than the old one.

d) The NHE program was very successful. Several new animal mounts were donated by a local cottager. Some tanned pelts have been added for people to touch.

e) Park usage is very satisfactory and right on target. There was excellent response from a growing number of new campers and US visitors.

f) The old rental canoes have all been sold and the revenue will be turned over to the Friends' treasury.

g) The new playground equipment will be installed this fall.

4. Election of Officers for 2012: Steve

Ten directors have agreed to stand for reelection: Wayne Ashford, Doug Bickerton, Duane Dillman, Andy Graham, Janice Hallam, Bill Hallam, Steve Page, Cliff Redman, Jim Wallbridge, and Ray Wilson.

There were no nominations from the floor.

Motion: by Steve, sec by John Luxton, That the slate of 10 directors be approved. Carried unanimously.

5. Strategic Plan for 2011-14: Prepared by Andy.

Steve: The Park Management Plan will be reviewed in 2017. In advance of that, the Friends should begin to prepare an argument for increased trails.

6. John Luxton's Project: In the first phase of a multi-year private project, member John Luxton has written a commentary on the Meadowlands Campground sites. This will be posted on our website - a camper's view of the actual camping sites in the Park.

7. Peter is retiring from the Board:

Steve reviewed Peter's contribution to the Friends since 1998. Trails in the Park, especially the Westside Trail, were in poor shape having been neglected after the Slim Bay Bridge had to be removed. Under Peter's guidance as Trail Master, Park trails improved immensely, and an effective monitoring system was established.

Peter was presented with a framed photo (taken by Ray) of himself on a hike in 2005.

Adjournment of the AGM was at 11:02 am.

There followed a brief coffee break with donuts and conversation, and some members went out for a hike.