

Minutes: PaBIA Spring Directors' Meetings, Friday, May 4th, 2012

at The Boulevard Club, Toronto.

Directors present: **Ed Garner, Hilde Clark, Terry Clark, Dan Kuhn, Leslie Taylor, Cam Richardson, Nancy Rogers.** Unable to attend: Sandy Boeckh

President's report: Ed Garner

PaBIA must encourage co-operation between Wards 1 and 3, both on Council and with the residents, and include the Sturgeon Bay Association in our discussions. We must make efforts to have Wards 1 and 3 Councillors work with us. We must also get our Village liaison, Diane Penfold, more involved.

Cottage Patrols Ed had circulated Bruce Tiffin's proposed contract for 2012 – 2015 and information for discussion purposes. It was decided that Ed and Nancy Rogers would prepare a counter-offer, keeping the Directors informed before any presentation is made to Bruce.

Ojibway Club There was discussion of the separate roles of the Club and PaBIA and the way we currently interact financially, in preparation for the afternoon meeting with some of the Club Directors. PaBIA's continuing role as a community service group would be stressed.

Annual General Meeting The meeting will follow the same format as 2011 – a pancake breakfast in the Ojibway Club dining room, with the meeting to follow, with the focus on new initiatives, with no reports on any items already published in the Yearbook. The portfolio chairs will be introduced to explain what they do. Hilde will send out an e-newsletter reminder of the meeting. Part of the video produced by Bill Rhodes might be shown of the work done to place the PaBIA channel markers. The value of the cottage patrols should also be stressed. Ed will ask those in attendance to let us know if anyone would be interested in assisting in our marketing, desktop publishing or secretary's positions. Following the meeting, the Directors would be available for discussions or questions at separate tables.

Ed asked each of the portfolio chairs to come up with 5 questions, connected to the value of each portfolio, which would be used to generate discussion during breakfast, about PaBIA's services to our members. These would be sent to Leslie Taylor and Faye White and printed prior to the meeting. Prizes would be awarded.

Member Activities: Leslie Taylor

The AGM will be held as outlined above.

Dan Kuhn is working with Faye White on the planning for the August 18th 'Dock Swap' event to be held at the Community Centre in the Village.

Member Safety: Dan Kuhn

The Marine Patrollers, Nigel Joyce and Andrew Honsberger, have been hired and are both new to the positions. MP Supervisor, Scott Sheard, is researching sources for a new MP boat. MP will continue the regular testing of the PaBIA fire pumps. The stewarding of the GBLT properties and Crown Land will also continue and perhaps expand. This has become time consuming. We should be trying to find volunteers to help with cleanups.

Dan has been contacted by an OPP officer connected with their drug education program and related security concerns. An article might be included in an issue of 'Connections'. It was felt a program would be more appropriate for the Village. Ed Garner will ask Diane Penfold for input.

Environment Chair: Ed Garner in Sandy Boeckh's absence commented on the great written reports we always receive from her and also noted the hope that news on the environment in the future may become more positive.

Governance Portfolio: Terry Clark

Pontiac Islands The last agreement with Martha Hall Findlay, terminating the lease with PaBIA for Pontiac Islands, has been completed. It will give PaBIA some funds that will compensate for the loss of the lease payments which would have been made and will cover the legal costs of the transfer of the islands to the GBLT. Last year was the 100th anniversary of the cottage on Pontiac Is. A plaque to be mounted on the cottage is being planned. Martha will be holding an Open House during the summer.

Succession Plan The By-Laws contain the expectations for succession: volunteers as committee members, who may become committee chairs and later Directors. We continue to need to find new people to get involved. The portfolios may also need to be re-organized if they are not defined as we currently need them to be. This process should be a focus of a meeting in the summer to generate a list of names of new people to get involved and identify who in a portfolio might be eligible to move up or move to a different position to get exposure to other roles. There should be 'understudies' for each portfolio chair. Leslie Taylor suggested that papers could be circulated at the AGM asking for volunteers' names and their interests. Leslie and Faye White might host a rendezvous which would have a PaBIA focus.

Communications: Hilde Clark

Yearbook: Webcom (yearbook printer) can provide a full colour yearbook in 2013. Hilde has been told that there should be no price change, but this needs to be confirmed. The paper would be a different thickness so the number of pages possible would be a concern. There was some discussion about the possibility of a less expensive way to distribute the books. We could have a check-off box on the 2012 membership form for those who would be willing to pick up their envelopes at the Ojibway.

E-blasts: Hilde needs help in planning the weekly e-blasts sent out during the summer. She will distribute forms to all Directors with calendars. Tuesdays are the deadline days for information to be included.

Government and Regulatory Affairs: Cam Richardson

The Georgian Bay Association (GBA) is making an effort to bring all the members of the 'GB5' – GBA, Georgian Bay Forever, Georgian Bay Land Trust, Georgian Bay Biosphere Reserve and Eastern Georgian Bay Stewardship Council – together. GBF and GBLT are charities, none is pan-Georgian Bay. Each has a different focus but there should be some consolidation.

The GBA is making an effort to assist its member associations to increase their memberships thus increasing GBA funds.

The Township of the Archipelago would organize a 'Deerhorn type conference rather than the GBA as was done in the past. The time, place and name for such a conference have yet to be determined.

Cam will send the internet link for information about Great Lakes Week 'Taking Action, Delivering Results', being held in Cleveland, September 10 – 14.

The proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Zoning By-Law are mainly 'housekeeping items' to correct wording but will also include sheds, decking and other definitions of structures to be included in the total square footage limits. PaBIA is in favour of this clarification.

Treasurer's report: Nancy Rogers

There are 47 memberships unpaid whose listings are included in the Yearbook, which is not unusual at this time of year. Yearbook advertising sales total \$24,159, an all-time high, which will pay for the printing of the books and mailing costs.

We have secured funding from the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines for the \$2/hr wage subsidy for Marine Patrol and will have \$5,000 support from GBLT.

The new Cottage Patrol contract will be an increased cost, yet to be determined.

The meeting was joined by TOA Ward 1 Councillors Terry Desmasdon and Greg Andrews and Ward 3 Councillors Gary French and Ken Williams, as well as Tom Scoon, new Land Use Coordinator

Ed Garner pointed out that because PaBIA has members in both Wards 1 and 3, we serve both seasonal and permanent residents, and that we consider Pointe au Baril to be a single community.

Cam Richardson reviewed the wording for the proposed CZBL amendments relating to floor area, lot coverage and structures. PaBIA is in agreement with the tightening up of the definitions.

Terry Desmasdon and Greg Andrews described the continuing problems of garbage being left outside the fence at the Transfer Station during off-hours. Cameras will be placed to try to identify people doing this. We will continue to publicize the rules for trash, recycling, etc. It was suggested that staff not tell people to just drop bags of trash on the dock when they are present as this gives the impression that this can be done any time. Hilde Clark will include an item in a 'Connections' issue to remind our members that they must have their TOA cards to use the Transfer Station and Site 9.

PaBIA requested that a bulletin board, perhaps 4' x 6', be included in the plans for the outside area near the new washroom facility at the Village, for the use of all community service groups. Terry Desmasdon will communicate with Jeff Rowan, in charge of the new landscaping, about this.

Greg Andrews is concerned about boat safety and wake size in the main channel and at the S-turn. TOA Council had a meeting with the OPP in February. Members must inform the OPP when incidents occur. Charges can be laid under the Canada Shipping Act.

The meeting was joined by Ojibway Club President Mike Douglas, Communications Chair Rowan Marsh, incoming Communications Chair Celia Milne and Secretary to the Board Judy Hurlburt.

It was felt that there might be a lack of knowledge of the history of the relationship between PaBIA and the Ojibway Club, a partnership of long-standing. PaBIA provides services to the whole community (exclusive of our Cottage Patrols for property of members only). We would like to work together with the Ojibway to continue to serve the whole community. We can publicize Ojibway events that are open to all in our e-newsletters. PaBIA would be willing to allow the Ojibway to survey our PaBIA only members.

PaBIA was concerned by the requested increase from \$2,000 to \$3,000 in payment to the Ojibway for our regattas being held there. Revenues in the food concession, grocery store and gift shop during those events benefitted the Ojibway. PaBIA agreed a few years ago to pay for the renovations to the old post office building so it could be used as our Marine Patrol office. This saved the building from demolition and space has been allotted for a window display of artifacts related to the post office, in support of the Ojibway Historical Preservation Society. PaBIA does all the work in producing the Yearbook and pays for all the books, including those copies which go to those who are members of both organizations. We provide advertising space free of charge to the Ojibway's revenue producing events and services. Our initial agreement with the Ojibway was that yearbooks would be provided at no charge to Ojibway only members. At that time there were less than 80 such memberships; now there are 224, a 300% increase and a value of \$2,623.

It is hoped, that after further discussion, the Ojibway Club and PaBIA could continue to provide these services to each other without charging each other.

Those named above were joined by PaBIA Committee members David Anderson, David Ballentine, Reid Bowlby, Sted Garber, Shelagh Grant, Stewart Metcalfe, Gord Phippen, Nancy Regan, Scott Sheard, Graham Smith, Doug Hall and invited guests Bob Duncanson – GBA Executive Director, David Sweetnam – GBF Executive Director, Peter Cooper – GBLT President, Mark Carabetta – GBLT Executive Director, Ian MacLeod – Sturgeon Bay Association President and Mary Perdue, Bayfield-Nares Association President.

Meeting of PaBIA Directors, Committee members and Guests

Ed Garner thanked everyone for attending and introduced the new PaBIA committee members: **David Ballentine** (GBA representative), **Nancy Regan** (Forest and Wildlife), **Tom Scoon** (Land Use) and **Stewart Metcalfe** (Membership).

There will be two new events during the summer: the Dock Swap at the Community Centre to raise funds toward the purchase of a new boat for Marine Patrol and the Boat Rally.

Even though the next municipal elections are in 2014, we are already planning ahead for them.

Dan Kuhn reported that boating safety continues to be a main focus and was featured again in the Yearbook. Our Marine Patrol checks the GBLT properties in our area as well as several Crown Land areas. We need volunteers who would help with these efforts.

Leslie Taylor welcomed **Stewart Metcalfe** to her portfolio. PaBIA continues to need new members. In an effort to communicate what PaBIA does and get more young people involved, we have offered a free, one year 'e-membership' to people who are Ojibway only members which entitles them to receive all our e-newsletters. The AGM will once again begin with a pancake breakfast at the Ojibway.

Cam Richardson thanked **Tom Scoon** for joining his portfolio as Land Use Coordinator. Cam also reported on work being done by GBA.

Hilde Clark includes links in our e-newsletters to the groups represented by the guests present. She invited submissions of news items, photos, information for the 'Connections' newsletters in the off-season as well as the weekly 'e-blasts' during the summer.

Terry Clark reported that the transfer of the Pontiac Islands group from PaBIA to GBLT is now complete. The stewardship and management agreements to govern the islands will hopefully be prepared this summer. Martha Hall Findlay, who has taken over the stewardship and management of the properties, is planning an Open House gathering at the 100 year old cottage.

Terry briefly described the reorganization of the PaBIA Board which now consists of 7 portfolios and 8 Directors, with committee chairs serving in each portfolio. We recruit from the committees for the Directors positions so must all continue to recruit new volunteers for the committees. We need new members. In an effort to communicate what PaBIA does, we have offered a free, one year 'e-membership' to people who are Ojibway only members which entitles them to receive all our e-newsletters.

Reports from guests

Ward 1 Councillor Terry Desmasdon reported that the waterfront revitalization project in the Village is almost completed and includes a new washroom facility building.

Ward 1 Councillor Greg Andrews described the boating safety issues of larger boats and larger wakes. The need for courtesy and consideration for others' property and safety was stressed. Council has met with the OPP and has requested more frequent visits to our area.

Ward 3 Councillor Gary French spoke about the endowment program for the West Parry Sound Health Centre and its fund raising for capital equipment. The Township has two constituencies with its permanent and seasonal residents. Wait times at the Health Centre emergency department are much longer during the summer. We must support our local Nursing Station which takes a load off the Parry Sound facility.

Ward 3 Councillor Ken Williams, reminded us that the TOA Website is kept current with information about Phoslok use and the blue-green algae in Sturgeon Bay. The Pointe au Baril Lighthouse property and buildings have been declared surplus. The Township has plans to take these over, if considered a heritage structure. They will know more about that in future.

Bob Duncanson, GBA Executive Director, handed out an excellent summary of the organizations that form the 'GBS' and information about the GBA activities during the last year. Because of recent political changes, there are fiscal challenges, with both federal and provincial off-loading and critical

environmental changes are being ignored. While the Great Lakes have been said to remain a focus by the federal government, it is believed that developers will have a larger voice. GBA must remain at both levels of government to make sure we're not ignored.

David Sweetnam, GBF Executive Director, also pointed out that government support is being lost by cuts to budgets. There is little or no data for the northern part of the Bay. International, federal, provincial and municipal water testing protocols have finally aligned.

A causation study has begun to find the reason for the increase in aquatic plants, believed to be an impact of invasive species and climate change. Quagga Mussels have outcompeted Zebra Mussels. Round Goby eat Quagga Mussels and this concentrates the botulism bacteria. This has resulted in bird die-offs of fish eating birds. The question of why blue-green algae blooms in some areas and not in others is being studied. A scientific advisory panel has been formed which has increased their stature with Great Lakes groups. Water levels are always topical. The final International Joint Commission report has been issued.

Mark Carabetta, GBLT Executive Director, pointed out that as a charity, the GBLT depends solely on donations. Through the American Friends of Canadian Land Trusts, US citizens can get US tax receipts for donations of Canadian land. GBLT now has more than 100 stewards as well as neighbourhood committees. Stewards take ecological inventories and monitor appropriate usage of properties.

Peter Cooper, GBLT President, thanked PaBIA for our support.

Mary Perdue, BNIA President, described her group's efforts to involve younger people by asking members for the names and contact information for their adult children and renters. They now have a Facebook page. The cover for their Yearbook is chosen from a photo contest held each year.

Ian MacLeod, President of the Sturgeon Bay Ratepayers' Association, reported that a grant has been applied for from the Ministry of the Environment for the blue-green algae remediation program. This is now being reviewed by the Ministry of Natural Resources.

Meetings adjourned.

Nancy Rogers

Recording Secretary