



WIZARD LAKE WATERSHED AND LAKE STEWARDSHIP ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Jubilee Park, Sunday, September 7, 2014, 12:00 – 1:00 pm

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Harold Hofstra, Chair welcomed everyone and introduced special guests from Leduc County Mayor John Whaley and Councillor Tanni Doblanko and from the County of Wetaskiwin, Councillor Keith Johnson. Appreciation goes out to Carole Ellsworth for organizing the shoreline/community cleanup, the coordinators, and the volunteers who participated.

ADOPT 2013 AGM MINUTES

Moved/seconded Albert Faulkner/Chris Daniel that the minutes from the October 19, 2013 AGM be adopted as written. Motion carried unanimously.

CHAIR'S REPORT – Harold Hofstra

WLWLSA had a busy year with the following projects on the go:

REPORTS:

Nature Alberta Living by Water Home Site Consultation – Kate Daniel

The Homesite Consultation is the core program of the Living by Water Project offered to interested shoreline and watershed residents. Through the **free** and **confidential** Homesite Consultations, Living by Water informs residents about the ecology of their lake, the environmental concerns associated with their lake, and gives recommendations for how the resident can reduce their impact on the lake. To date, Nature Alberta has completed 656 consultations at 27 lakes throughout Alberta. In 2013, staff visited 119 households at Wizard Lake, Pigeon Lake, Sylvan Lake, Clear Lake, Pine Lake, Crimson Lake, Lake Isle, Island Lake, Gull Lake, Ghost Lake, Little Beaver Lake, Lac St. Anne, Spring Lake, and Sandy Lake.

This is the sixth year the Living by Water Project has been active at Wizard Lake and we are fortunate to have this informative and valuable program available to us. Four homesite consultations were completed at Wizard Lake this summer. To sign-up for homesite consultations for the summer of 2015 contact Kate Daniel at 780.985.3287 or catherinedaniel@xplornet.com or go to www.naturealberta.ca for additional information.

Invasive Plant Sampling - Alberta Lake Management Society (ALMS) – Carole Ellsworth

Larry McPherson has been our volunteer captain the past 6 years taking ALMS technicians out on the lake for water sampling. This year Wizard Lake was sampled for invasive plants as ALMS felt sufficient water data had been collected. With Larry once again at the helm, he took University of Alberta staff out on the lake taking samples. This was a very time consuming project and a big thank you goes out to Larry McPherson for volunteering his time and boat for this very worthwhile project. Fortunately results indicated no invasive plant species in Wizard Lake.

WLWLSA Website – Carole Ellsworth

Carole thanked Laverne Faulkner for taking over the responsibility of updating and maintaining the WLWLSA website. Carole encouraged everyone to visit the WLWLSA website www.wizardlake.ca for updates and information. Memberships and membership renewals can now be completed and paid online.

Area Structure Plan – Chris Daniel

Leduc County Council adopted the ASP in 2010. Ken Litzenberger, Larry Staples, and Chris Daniel represent WLWLSA on this committee. The focus group was recalled and met regarding the following issues:

1. **Riparian Setback Model:** The demonstration plot, expected to be placed on a reserve lot near Jubilee Park, was approved at an estimated cost of \$6,000-\$10,000. When Leduc County is ready to commence the project they will establish a committee.
2. **Top Of Bank:** Leduc County has finalized this complicated issue. Approval was given for dwellings in existence prior to July 6, 2010, the ability to rebuild on the existing site.
3. **Secondary Dwellings:** The amendment for one secondary dwelling per site was approved for those constructed after July 6, 2010. Secondary dwellings existing prior to July 6, 2010 are grandfathered.

Boating Advisory Committee – Chris Daniel

The Wizard Lake Boating Focus Group met on November 26, 2013. It was reported that 21 patrols were completed at Wizard Lake by RCMP and Leduc County peace officers during the 2013 boating season. Their statistics indicated that 60 boats had been checked on and off the lake, with 6 charges being laid - 5 for liquor and 1 for throwing garbage in the lake; numerous warnings were also handed out. It is felt that the increased police presence on the lake have made positive improvements with regards to boating safety.

Financial Statement – LeVerne Ellsworth

LeVerne thanked Bryan Mason for preparing the Charitable Society Report and the Financial Statements. The financial statement for June 1, 2013 to May 31, 2014 was presented for approval. Moved/Seconded Laverne Faulkner/Audrey Stein that the WLWLSA financial statement for the fiscal period June 1, 2013 through May 31, 2014 be approved. Motion carried unanimously. Copies of the financial statement were available at the meeting.

Nominations for 2015 Financial Review – LeVerne Ellsworth

LeVerne thanked Larry McKeever and Cathy Holman for volunteering to review the financial records for the fiscal period June 1, 2013 through May 31, 2014. This was their third year of reviewing the records. LeVerne requested volunteers for the review ending May 31, 2015. Audrey Stein and Cathy Holman volunteered. Moved/Seconded Laverne Faulkner/Kate Daniel. Motion carried unanimously.

Blue Green Algae – What Are Other Provinces Doing About It? Blake Bartlett

Blake shared some of the discussions he had this summer with Mayor Rick Pauls, Killarney-Turtle Mountain, Manitoba, regarding their blue-green algae problem and its impact on the community. Killarney Lake, once a thriving summer and tourist destination is now struggling financially due to the toxic blue-green algae keeping people away, businesses being hit with huge losses or bankruptcy, and the loss in real estate value for cottage and home owners. Blake provided copies of newspaper articles relating to this issue. Blue-green algae is not just an Alberta lake issue, it is a worldwide lake issue. Research continues in many provinces in Canada and around the world and there are some viable scientific solutions out there. It is time now for our politicians to consider the impacts toxic blue-green algae have on our lakes and communities and look at implementing researched solutions.

State of the Watershed Report – Harold Hofstra

Harold indicated that he will organize meetings this fall with Leduc County and the County of Wetaskiwin to address the SOW.

Correspondence – Paskapoo Aquifer – Harold Hofstra

A letter was sent to Minister Robin Campbell, Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development, Government of Alberta, to share our concerns regarding a Pigeon Lake proposal to pump fresh water from the Paskapoo aquifer to rejuvenate Pigeon Lake. A response was received from Minister Campbell appreciating our concerns. He indicated that although there have been enquiries about potential water sources being used to supplement Pigeon Lake the department has not received any applications to date.

Special Recognition – Carole Ellsworth, Founder, WLWLSA

The health and sustainability of Wizard Lake is Carole’s passion, and it was this passion which was instrumental in her being the founding member of WLWLSA. Over the past ten years Carole has been a very active and involved Board member. Carole is “taking a break” and not seeking re-election on the WLWLSA Board.

Speeches were delivered by WLWLSA past chair Laverne Faulkner and Mayor John Whaley, Leduc County, outlining Carole’s enthusiasm, the work and projects she has been involved in, the positive impact she has had on Wizard Lake, and in making our community a better place. Gifts were presented to Carole on behalf of the WLWLSA membership and Board. Carole’s presence on the Board will be greatly missed.

Elect Board Members

On behalf of the membership and Board of Directors, Harold conveyed appreciation to Walter Kolodychuk and Cathy Holman for their service and commitment to WLWLSA as they step down from the Board.

Board members Chris Daniel, Kate Daniel, LeVerne Ellsworth, Laverne Faulkner and Bryan Mason stand for re-election for a two year term June 1, 2014 to May 31, 2016. Moved/Seconded that Chris Daniel, Kate Daniel, LeVerne Ellsworth, Laverne Faulkner and Bryan Mason be re-elected to the WLWLSA Board of Directors. Motion carried unanimously.

Harold appealed to members to get involved. There are openings on the Board and members are urged to join in with the important work being done in and around Wizard Lake.

Door Prizes

Harold thanked the following for donating door prizes. Lots of people went home happy with great prizes.

Don Meadows, Wheels & Waves
Leduc County

Wizard Lake Marine
County of Wetaskiwin

Clint Cole
WLWLSA

Adjournment

Harold thanked everyone for attending and participating in the cleanup. Everyone was invited to stay and enjoy lunch. Meeting adjourned at 1:00 pm.