NOTE THE FOLLOWING CHANGE IN MEETING TIME AND LOCATION

BSRA GENERAL MEETING: Saturday, June 3, 2017 at 9:00 am. Coffee ready at 8:30 am
LOCATION: Zurich Arena, East Street, Zurich ON

BSRA ANNUAL MEETING: Saturday, August 26, 2017 at 9:30 am at St. Peter’s Church Hall

BSRA NEWSLETTER – SPRING 2017

CHANGE IN TIME AND VENUE FOR BSRA’S GENERAL MEETING ON JUNE 3rd

The Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority (ABCA) is holding a public information open house regarding the updating of its Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) on Saturday, June 3rd from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon at the Zurich Arena. Read more about the open house below.

To facilitate your attending both the BSRA General Meeting and the ABCA Open House, The BSRA Board decided to move its already-scheduled general meeting to Zurich and to begin the meeting at 9:00 am. The agenda for the meeting will be posted on the BSRA website prior to June 3rd.

This change will enable you to attend both the BSRA meeting and the ABCA Open House and to hear the ABCA presentations – all in one location.

After last year’s difficult discussions about ABCA’s SMP, both shoreline residents and ABCA understand how important thoughtful input from shoreline residents is throughout the process. Take advantage of this opportunity to understand how the updating process will take place, to learn about the factors that affect shoreline management planning, and to demonstrate that you understand that the outcome of this updating process will affect your shoreline property.

ABCA HOLDS OPEN HOUSE TO RESTART ITS UPDATE OF THE SHORELINE MANAGEMENT PLAN (SMP)

There are new ways to find out about the 2015-2018 Update of the Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) by Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority (ABCA). Two public information open houses are to be held in June of 2017. The open houses run from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. noon on June 3 in Zurich and on June 17 in Thedford. Scheduled presentations on shoreline management topics begin at 10:30 a.m. each of the two Saturdays.

Planned presentations at the open houses are by Dr. Robin Davidson-Arnott, Professor Emeritus, University of Guelph, and by Fiona Duckett, M.Sc., P. Eng. of W. F. Baird and Associates Coastal Engineers Ltd.

There is also a new professionally-videotaped video posted online of a presentation by Dr. Robin Davidson-Arnott, speaking to the ABCA Board of Directors, on shoreline processes, climate change impacts on the Great Lakes, and shoreline protection. Information regarding the open houses and a link to the video is now posted at abca.on.ca on the Shoreline Management Page.
**HURON COUNTY HEALTH UNIT - WIND TURBINE INVESTIGATION**

The Huron County Health Unit will be carrying out an investigation entitled “Huron County Noise, Vibration and Light Disturbance Investigation.”

Public meetings will be held in the near future to explain the way the investigation will be carried out. This investigation will be open only to Huron County residents living within 10 kilometers of a wind turbine. Registrations to participate in the study will be received only once the investigation is launched. The survey format has been developed. The ethics parameters are being established in cooperation with the University of Waterloo. Completion of this stage will be followed by a media release announcing the start of the investigation. An announcement should be made soon. Monitor the Health Unit’s website for updates: [www.huronhealthunit.ca](http://www.huronhealthunit.ca)

**TURBINE AVIATION WARNING LIGHTS**

Northland Power, the constructors of the Grand Bend wind turbine project, have successfully tested the radar system to activate the aviation warning lights only when low flying planes are in the area. All documentation has been provided to Transport Canada. The system will be activated to operate automatically as soon as Transport Canada approval is received.

**WATER QUALITY TESTING PROGRAM IN 2017**

In 2017 water quality testing will continue at two gully/lake locations in Bluewater – Wildwood and Ridgeway. The funding for this has changed however. For the past ten years, this testing program has been funded by the Municipality of Bluewater through a grant to BSRA and ABCA carried out the program. This year, the funds for the program have been incorporated directly into ABCA’s budget. BSRA will continue to work with ABCA to ensure that this unique collection of water quality data continues. Test results will be posted on the BSRA website.

**NEWS FROM THE MUNICIPALITY OF BLUEWATER**

- New Staff: welcome to the recently-hired staff in the municipal office. BSRA looks forward to working with you as you carry out your various municipal responsibilities.
- 2017 Bluewater Budget: Bluewater Council passed its 2017 Budget in principle in March and will finalize the budget at its May 23rd meeting. Factors that contribute to the local tax levy include not only Bluewater’s services but also local education taxes, county taxes, the ABCA levy, and OPP costs. Exactly how much tax you pay depends on your property assessment. Expect a 2.74% increase in your 2017 taxes.
- Road Grant: in its budget discussions, Bluewater Council applied a cost-of-living increase to the Road Grant. For 2017 the maximum road grant is $3094.72. As always, invoices must accompany the road grant application. Applications must be submitted by November 30, 2017. Go to Bluewater’s website for the Road Grant Application Form: [municipalityofbluewater.ca>municipal services>forms and permits](http://municipalityofbluewater.ca>municipal services>forms and permits)
- 2018 Voting Process: in the 2018 Bluewater municipal election, you will be able to vote by phone or online. You will receive an access code by mail from Bluewater. This method replaces the previous mail-in ballot process.

*Watch for the Summer Issue of the BSRA Newsletter in August.*

*For monthly updates, sign up on the BSRA website to receive the BSRA e-Bulletin*

Sue Haskett  
BSRA President

Jan Purvis  
Newsletter Editor