



BSRA Spring General Meeting  
Saturday, August 17<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 AM  
St. Peter's Church Hall, 73334 Bluewater Hwy

## AGENDA

1. Welcome & Introductions
2. Regrets
3. Introduction of additional items to be added to the agenda and approval of the Agenda
4. Approval of Minutes of Spring General Meeting
5. Treasurer's Report
6. President's Report
7. Reports
  - a) Water Quality (Jan Purvis)
  - b) Shoreline Management Plan (Sue Haskett)
  - c) Recycling and Garbage Collection (Robin Glenny)
  - d) Membership Survey (Jan Purvis)
  - e) Communications
8. New Business
  - a) Nominations for BSRA Board
  - b) Slate of officers for 2019-2020
9. Adjournment

## BLUEWATER SHORELINE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the BSRA Spring General Meeting of June 1, 2019 at St. Peter's Church Annex

Present: Robin Glenny, Sue Haskett, Jan Purvis, Dick Masse, Jim Moore, Jim Hall

The meeting was called to order by Robin at 9:30AM.

1. Robin welcomed everyone to the meeting, and introduced the members of the BSRA board. He also introduced Councillor - Alwyn Vanden Berg who would be speaking later during the meeting.
2. Regrets: Two: Jim Ferguson, Deputy Mayor was not able to attend (attending a conference for the Federation of Canadian Municipalities in Quebec City); and BSRA board member Deb Griffin.
3. The Agenda was approved as read (Motion by Dave Finney, Seconded by Greg Goudy).
4. Minutes of the August 18, 2018 Annual General Meeting were approved as read (Tom Hennessey/Barry Smith).
5. The BSRA Balance Sheet as at May 31, 2019 and Profit and Loss Statement for the period January 1 to May 31, 2019 were approved as read (Greg Lamport/Harley Johnson).
6. Robin Glenny presented his President's Report:
  - He indicated that shortly, those attending will be updated with individual reports by members of the BSRA board regarding recent events affecting the shoreline and its residents;
  - Communications. Communication by the BSRA to shoreline residents today is via our web-site and E-Bulletins. The BSRA Newsletter – in the familiar hard-copy paper format – is now electronic and goes out to all resident individuals who have registered to receive email communications from the BSRA.

Note that we are unable to add individuals to our database ourselves due to privacy rules, so we encourage the Presidents of each Shoreline Association to have members sign up – at the BSRA web site - to receive BSRA email communications. Alternatively, if Presidents have the email addresses of their members – each President could forward all BSRA electronic communications out to residents that way.

Finally, it would help a great deal throughout the year if changes to leadership in the Associations were communicated to us at the BSRA – such as the President, Treasurer and anyone else charged with maintaining contact with the BSRA; and

- Note that the BSRA's Annual General Meeting this year will be held on Saturday August 17, 2019.

7. a) Water Quality. Jan Purvis reported the following:

- ABCA carried out water quality testing for the BSRA at Ridgeway and Wildwood in 2018, and will do the same in 2019. The results will be posted on the BSRA web-site. The acceptable swimming standard is now 200 E. coli units/100 mL water – changed from the previous standard of 100 E. coli units/100 mL water. Results for the public beaches in Bluewater can be found on the Huron County Health Unit web-site;
- The Huron Clean Water Project is making a grant of up to \$2,000 available to eligible shoreline residents for repairs or upgrades to their septic systems;
- The International Joint Commission for the Great Lakes is holding a public meeting so the shoreline residents can “Step In and Speak-Out for Lake Huron”. The meeting will be held the evening of August 7<sup>th</sup> in Goderich; and
- The 2019 “Canada’s Changing Climate Report” is now available online.

b) Shoreline Management Plan. Sue Haskett reported as follows:

- BSRA’s Annual Meeting last August coincided with the ABCA Public Information Meeting, regarding the SMP update. Comments and questions from property owners were received by ABCA for a time period following;
- A draft of the SMP Update was presented to the Board of Directors of ABCA in November and a motion made to release to the public for final comments;
- On February 21, 2019, with some adjustments introduced by ABCA staff, the SMP Update passed. It is worth noting that, even though some Board Members had changed following the municipal election, the former directors who had participated in all presentations, decisions and motions were the representatives who voted;
- I checked with Geoff Cade of the ABCA this week to ask if there were problems surfacing because of the update. There are coastal engineers who are doing assessments that they have not received yet, but have had no negative feedback from those engineers. They have had a couple of parties who began discussions within the last few years, but without an application submitted, must now meet current policies. Somehow they were not aware of the SMP update in process; and
- You have probably at some point heard me say that applications were being submitted to ABCA without accurate dimensions, and often hand drawn sketches of the work to be done, which led to the list now available with the requirements of an application. As makes sense, in the interest of efficiency and being able to provide a permit in a timely fashion, an application requires everything submitted at the same time. I think we can appreciate that a property owner submitting an application, followed by the contractor’s plan 3 months later and payment weeks after that, does not contribute to efficiency. Moving forward, taking care of these things all at once will get your answer faster.

What can we expect in the future?

- The original SMP was 1994, the first update 6 years later in 2000, and this recent update did not begin until 2015. We can count on the next update in a much shorter time frame, more likely 5-10 years, and that the ABCA understands how much more effective a transparent and step-by-step process works.

What can we hope for in the future?

- While we recognize that, in the evolution of our shoreline, there are more and more year round permanent residents, there the turn over is something like an average of every 9 years. Those of us who have been around here for 25 or 30 years have learned a lot about the lake through experience, but very often potential purchasers are blinded when they finally find what they believe to be their dream property. I know there are some realtors who instruct potential purchasers to meet with the ABCA about the property prior to making an offer, and kudos to them, but otherwise there is really nothing to trigger the need to investigate erosion rates, to learn about natural processes or development guidelines. Currently, meeting with the ABCA for this sort of consultation is complimentary, but people do not know they should do this;
- ABCA staff are hoping to budget funding for education opportunities, possibly “lake days”, where information days might be held alternately in our area one year and the southern part of the shoreline the next year, to help newcomers. I would personally like to see something like a “so you want to be a shoreline property owner” or “shoreline purchases for dummies”. I hope the Municipality will support education as well; and
- In closing if you have questions, call Geoff Cade or his team. Unless your neighbour is one of those ABCA people, you are not likely getting accurate information that applies to your specific property.

c) Recycling. Councillor – Alwyn Vanden Berg reported the following:

- A number of matters of interest to shoreline residents have come out of Council’s work with the Bluewater Recycling Association. Significant changes are coming for those who practice recycling on a regular basis. The Blue Box however will remain, it is mandated by the Province and will continue to evolve over the next few years, due to provincial and federal changes;
- Up until now, much of our recycling waste has been transported to China for processing. China has announced that they are not interested in taking North America’s recycling – and will be phasing out this program completely after 2020;
- As a result of the above and the changes in packaging and peoples buying habits, other changes are being considered by Council that will affect solid waste collection and garbage; and
- Note that the BSRA web site has a list of what now can be recycled and what is no longer a recycled item.

d) Municipal Election. Robin reported as follows:

- For the first time in 3 elections, all Council positions in Bluewater were contested. This was also the first election to use both Internet and Telephone balloting;
- 43.3% of the total Municipal electorate cast ballots;
- In Stanley West, the total vote was 490 out of 1,508. The vote for each candidate was 52.7% for George Irwin and 47.3% for Taylor Van Aaken;
- The total percent of eligible residents in Stanley West who voted was 32.5% - the lowest of all wards;
- In Hay West, the total vote was 652 out of 1,632. The vote for each candidate was 61.1% for Alwyn Vanden Berg and 38.9% for John Gillespie;

- The total percent of eligible residents in Hay West who voted was 39.9%; and
- Prior to the next Municipal election, work has to be done to help increase the voter participation along the shoreline. The BSRA would like to schedule a short presentation at as many Shoreline Association meetings as possible this year. A schedule will be drawn up in the near future.

Questions and Answers. A number of questions posed by attendees about the presentations above (7. a), b), c) and d)) were answered by Robin, Sue, Jan and Alwyn.

8. Membership Survey. A survey to assess the current concerns of shoreline residents was distributed by Jan and completed by those attending the meeting. Extra copies of the survey were available for completion by associations at their own meetings, if interested. The results will be tabulated for discussion at the next BSRA Board meeting and a report will be brought back to the BSRA Annual Meeting in August.
9. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned (Greg Lamport/Harley Johnson).

Jim Hall  
Secretary