

# Baldwin Agnew Lake Residents Association

1500 Hardwood Road, McKerrow, Ontario P0P 1M0

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## Annual General Meeting

Sunday, July 21, 2024

10:00am to 12:00pm

Baldwin Recreation Centre

## Attendees

Paul Matte	Don Brickett	Keith Cheff	Steve Bender
Cleo St Onge	Christina Cheff	Jo-Anne Boucher	Jason Cote
Barry Vondette	Laurie Martin-Michel	Jean Carroll	Elias Saari
Jean McIndoo	Terry McIndoo	Denis Methot	Michelle Kallo
Rosemary O'Connell	Mark Lepine	Mark Landstrom	Will Land
John Prud'Homme	Nancy Boyer	Patricia Kuca	Billy Land
Arthur McDonald	Mona St Onge	Manon Goudreau	Jack Mullen
Ted McMillan	Denis Michel	Tim Goudreau	Haven Hinds

## Agenda

1. Approval of Agenda
2. Election of Directors
3. Approval of the new By-Laws
4. Treasurer's Report (Jo-Anne Boucher)
5. Rearing Pond Treasurer's Report/Update (Steve Bender)
6. Methods of Communication to membership (Email, Balra.ca, Facebook, signs, mail)
7. Open Discussion – thoughts and ideas for BALRA objectives

## Minutes

1. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was accepted as presented.

2. Election of Directors

- Steve Bender, Barry Vondette and Laurie Martin were thanked for their contribution in the past year.
- Will Land expressed interest in becoming a director as well as in the Rearing Pond.

The following resolution was passed.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Paul Matte, Jo-Anne Boucher, Christina Cheff, Keith Cheff, Jason Cote, Cleo St Onge, Don Brickett and Will Land are hereby elected directors of the Corporation, to hold office for the ensuing year or until their successors are elected.

### 3. Approval of By-Laws

- The Government of Ontario has updated and proclaimed the Ontario Not-For-Profit Corporation Act (ONCA) obligating BALRA to update and file new governing documents with the Ontario Government. New [by-laws](#) were proposed to the membership and a majority vote to pass them was successful. These by-laws were provided on the balra.ca website for review before the AGM. The following reasons were provided as to why members should vote for the new by-laws:
  - This was legislated by the government for all non-profit organisations to have general by-laws/terms of reference in order to continue operating.
  - It provides guidelines for how we operate and provides all members with clear definitions of our terms of reference/by-laws

The following special resolution was passed.

WHEREAS the Corporation was incorporated pursuant to the Corporations Act (Ontario) by letters patent dated February 1, 1994 and issued a certificate of amendment dated November 25, 2020 (the Letters Patent);

AND WHEREAS the Corporation is now subject to the Not-for-Profit Corporations Act, 2010 (Ontario) (the Act);

AND WHEREAS it is in the interest of the Corporation to make application for the issue of articles of amendment pursuant to the Act to amend the Letters Patent.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED AS A SPECIAL RESOLUTION THAT:

1. The Corporation is hereby authorized to apply to the Ministry of Government and Consumer Services for the Province of Ontario, or, if applicable, any successor ministry or agency of the government of the Province of Ontario with jurisdiction (the Approval Authority), for the issuance of the articles of amendment.
2. Any two directors or officers of the Corporation are authorized to execute an application for articles of amendment to be submitted to the Approval Authority, and to take any additional and ancillary action necessary to give effect to this resolution, including signing other documents and instruments, and approving such amendments to the application for articles of amendment as required by the Approval Authority in order for the articles of amendment to be issued.

The following resolution was passed.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the new organizational by-laws be approved as presented and that the existing organizational by-laws be repealed and replaced.

### 4. Treasurer's Report for 2023/2024 - Jo-Anne Boucher

- Financial report is to June 4, 2024 since memberships fees for 2024/2025 started to come in at the end of June.

- Going forward, year end will be on March 31 due to FOCA fees (due in January) and membership fees for BALRA starting in June.
- All members of BALRA are FOCA members and they are able to receive the benefits FOCA offers.
- Membership fees have increased from \$15 to \$20 due to increased FOCA fees as well as operating costs. Membership fees have not increased in many years.

The treasurer's report was accepted as presented.

#### 5. Rearing Pond Update for 2023/2024 - Steve Bender

- Very successful year for the rearing pond with 25,000 fry released in Espanola Bay - Agnew Lake on July 3rd, 2024.
- The windmill was a great addition to the rearing pond to help aerate and add oxygen to the pond.
- Steve is stepping down as pond manager and Will Land will be taking over his position.
- Steve Bender thanked all the volunteers that helped out with this successful year.

The rearing pond update was accepted as presented.

#### 6. Methods of Communication

- Going forward we will be using email to contact our members.
- We sent out a paper copy this time however it is very costly and time consuming.
- Billy Land suggested that members without email access could opt out of it and be contacted by mail.
  - Contact the Secretary, Christina Cheff, at 1500 Hardwood Road, McKerrow ON, P0P 1M0 if you would like communication by mail.
- What is the difference between the Township of Baldwin and BALRA by-laws?
  - Township of Baldwin by-laws are used to govern the municipality and all of its residents. For example, with respect to fire prevention, excessive noise, taxation and building permits.
  - BALRA by-laws are used to govern how we operate as a nonprofit organization. BALRA is an association of waterfront residents including both boat and road access that has been created to be a voice for its membership advocating for change in the Baldwin community. We help cottagers and residents of the Township of Baldwin be informed about what is happening on Agnew Lake.
- Mark Lepine suggested that the bulletin board/sign be updated and improved at Hardwood Road.
  - We have been trying different methods to quickly update the board and withstand the elements.
  - The sign at Springers Landing should be updated with the same or similar information as the sign on Hardwood Road.
- Denis Michel asked if members could be informed by email or on the [www.balra.ca](http://www.balra.ca) website of upcoming Township of Baldwin Council meeting agendas.
  - We will contact the Township of Baldwin office to improve the communication of future Council meetings.

**Action: Contact the Township of Baldwin to facilitate the communication of future Council meetings to BALRA members and Township of Baldwin residents.**

**7. Open Discussion**

- a) Short Term Rentals (STR): We participated in the production of a new Township of Baldwin by-law which was passed by Council but has not yet been posted on the Township's website.
- b) Township of Baldwin [Fire By-laws](#): This new by-law is currently being reviewed and feedback from members is welcome. Below are some key takeaways:
  - Allows campfires 1 hour before sunset and 1 hour after sunrise that are 10m away from any flammable material.
  - Requires a permit for all other fires unless using an approved method (i.e. 45 gallon drum in good condition).
  - You must apply for the permit at least 3 days before burning, providing the fire location and fire plan for emergencies. The permit must be approved by the Fire Chief.
  - Burning any brush in the summer months is prohibited and no permits will be given for this purpose.
- c) Magna Mining: What has been going on with Shakespear mine? Any update on reclamation of the old mine site? Are there any steps to be taken so that Agnew Lake residents can be informed?
  - In the past a letter of concern to Magna Mining was sent by both the Township of Baldwin and BALRA. A follow up letter is recommended through the Township as before; BALRA will facilitate this.
  - Rosemary O'Connell is concerned about a North Bay mining company dumping 30,000 tons of low grade radioactive waste near John's Creek which runs into Agnew Lake in the Township of Nairn & Hyman. The mining company is contracting the dump to another company.
    - We will find out more information. It was suggested to contact the Ministry of Environment and/or Ministry of Natural Resources to see if any company has applied for a permit to dump any materials in John's Creek.
    - Many members expressed interest in being informed about any information on this matter.
  - Jean Carol asked about the ribbons on trees on the Crown Land property beside her property.
    - Most likely prospectors. Magna Mining should be contacted to find out what they are planning with this property since it is so close to residents.

**Actions:**

- 1. Facilitate communication between Township of Baldwin and Magna Mining regarding current and future mining activity in the area.**
- 2. Keep members informed about the mining activity.**
- 3. Find out more information regarding the 30,000 tons of low grade radioactive waste to be dumped near John creek.**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00pm.