

APPROVED MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT LAC BATAILLE BEACH JULY 21, 1996

The President called the meeting to order at 10:05 am.

1.0 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Proposed by: Jacques Lavasseur **Seconded by:** Annette Moisan

UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

2.0 ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF JULY 9th, 1995

Proposed by: Simon Veilleux

Seconded by: Tom Hayes UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

3.0 PRESIDENT'S AND TREASURER'S REPORTS

3.1 President's Report

France Joncas informed the meeting that:

- The Executive sought the services of FAPEL to provide a report on the aging of Lacs Bataille and Rhéaume. An overview of the findings will be provided by David Kerluke.
- Mayor Durand would be attending the meeting at 11:30.
- Five municipalities have joined together to form a local police department. The police chief has been hired and the municipalities are now in the process of hiring 19 full-time officers. The police headquarters is currently under construction and is located on Edelweiss Drive (at the junction) in La Pêche.

Other issues are as follows.

3.1.1 FAPEL Study

David Kerluke accepted a request from the President to brief the meeting on the FAPEL study. Mr. Kerluke informed the meeting that the quality of Lacs Bataille and Rhéaume has deteriorated over the past couple of decades with primary signs being the increase in algae, slime on the lake bottoms and new weeds in the lakes. After discussing concerns of the Executive with the Quebec Ministry of Environment it was decided to seek out the services of FAPEL, who have experience in assessing the quality of the lakes and who were recommended by the provincial government. Mr. Kerluke indicated that FAPEL has conducted two-thirds of its study and that they were primarily looking for signs of nutrient loading which did not necessarily mean faulty septic systems.

Mr. Kerluke outlined the process of lake aging which is natural and irreversible. Ultimately, the lake will die but this can take many thousands of years. Two types of nutrient loading accelerate the process: nitrogen and phosphorus. These nutrients fertilize the algae and as the algae die they sink to the bottom and subsequently require oxygen to decompose. This requirement for oxygen depletes the oxygen in the lake and leads to or accelerates the lake aging process.

Preliminary indications by FAPEL ar that the aging process for the two lakes has been accelerated but can be brought under control by three key measures:

- (i) revegetation of the shoreline;
- (ii) monitoring of drainage ditches that could contribute to run-off into the lakes; and
- (iii) monitoring of new developments.

The report of FAPEL and its recommendations will be made available to members for a fee.

A question was raised regarding the value of stocking of the lakes and whether dredging the lakes could help. Mr. Kerluke indicated that FAPEL would be making recommendations regarding stocking of the lakes and that the costs of dredging are prohibitive. In addition, what is required is oxygenating the lakes and that dredging would not accomplish this. A comment was made from the audience that the running of power boats contributes to the oxygenation of the lakes and therefore has some benefit.

3.1.2 Clear Cutting

France Joncas informed the meeting that the Municipality has tried to amend a provincial law respecting a 100 metre restriction on clear cutting around waterways. Public reaction has been swift and vigorous and as a result the Municipality has struck a committee of ten citizens to come forward with a proposal. The committee is proposing that the current restriction of 100 metres be lowered to 30 metres. The proposal is also suggestion that if a person cuts less than 100 cords per year that they be exempt of forest management plans as is now required. A public consultation is scheduled for August 6, 1996 at the Hôtel de Ville.

3.1.3 Recycling

France Joncas informed the meeting that the municipal recycling project has been an unqualified success and that collection for the summer was surpassed at this date. However, she indicated that there is need for an additional \$25,000 for this project.

A question was raised as to why the garbage does not have to be separated. Ms. Joncas indicated that the program has a secondary purpose of providing meaningful employment for some of the community's youth and disadvantaged.

3.2 Treasurer's Report

David Hodgkin outlined the report for the meeting. Comment was made that the Association cannot continue to operate at a deficit. The following questions were raised:

Is it possible to have the Municipality collect membership fees voluntarily for the Association? France Joncas indicated that this would be difficult and would likely result in a fee for service from the Municipality.

Who decides on the stocking of lakes and should we look at not stocking at current frequencies? Mr. Hodgkin indicated that the Executive decided on the stocking and that FAPEL has been asked to provide advice on frequencies and the type of fish.

4.0 MEMBERSHIP

Concern was expressed by many attending the meeting over the level of paid members and the need to consider means of reminding lot and cottage owners of the value of the Association. A phone campaign was suggested and participants were asked to give their names to David Hodgkin immediately following the meeting.

5.0 GUIDELINES FOR BOATS ON OUR LAKES

France Joncas informed the meeting that following the vote on this issue at the last Annual General Meeting, the Executive received a petition from the Safe Boaters Group. The Executive determined that the petition needed to be addressed and approached the Province regarding next steps. Quebec advised that changes could be made to the proposal by the Municipality. Ms. Joncas made the following points:

- The process followed by the Association was legal.
- The Executive determined that changes could be made in light of the petition received.
- A two-tiered speed system is not enforceable.
- The Municipality refused to proceed with the amendment due to financial constraints and enforcement problems which have resulted on MacGregor Lake.
- The Municipality wanted to know the position of the Safe Boaters Group and was informed that they agreed with changes developed by the Executive.
- The Province is reviewing boating regulations and as a consequence the Municipality could be required to provide enforcement.
- The Executive formed a Safety Committee made up of two boaters and two non-boaters and is chaired by Simon Veilleux. The Committee is looking to erect speed signs in strategic locations on Bataille and Rhéaume.

A question was raised over the difficulty for skiers to return to shore in a perpendicular fashion. Mr. Veilleux informed the group that the Committee has reviewed this problem and asked that skiers respect, as much as possible, the protection zone and that common sense was the most appropriate behaviour in these cases.

Another point focused on the fact that the Association had chosen a 60 metre zone when the Coast Guard booklet provided to attendees called for a 30 metre zone. Ms. Joncas indicated that FAPEL would recommend a 100 metre zone but feel that we would be erring on the side of caution with a 60 metre zone: 30 metres is the recommended minimum.

Suggestions were made for establishment of boating etiquette for the lakes and for a reduction of the noise levels caused by boats after 6:00 pm. It was agreed that natural restraint and common courtesy were essential. Also cottagers with visitors/renters should inform them of the need to respect the other people sharing the lakes.

Proposed by: André Fortier **Seconded by:** Tom Hayes

THAT a protection zone extending **60 metres** from the shore in which all motorized water craft are limited to a speed of **10 km/h**. Water skiers taking off on a trajectory perpendicular to the shore and leading directly from the 10 km/h into 60 km/h area are exempted.

THAT beyond 60 metres from the shore the maximum speed is **60 km/h**.

ON skiers returning, the **60 metres shore protection zone** should be respected to the greatest extent possible. Skiers should use common sense when infringing upon the 60 metres protection zone in those narrow areas where passage at 60 km/h is possible.

CARRIED

In addition, the Safety Committee has recommended that signs indicating "10 km/h Maximum" be installed at six locations identified on the attached map, as well as the guidelines be widely distributed and that all owners be reminded annually.

6.0 RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ASSEMBLY TO THE EXEUCTIVE

France Joncas asked if there were any issues that the members wished to have the Executive pursue on their behalf. The Executive was informed by the members that they had been extremely busy in looking out for the interests. No recommendations were presented.

7.0 OTHER

7.1 Appreciation

France Joncas expressed appreciation and gratitude, on behalf of the Association and its members, for the untiring work and thoughtful insights of the Past President, Odette Surch. There was warm recognition of her valuable contribution by all in attendance.

7.2 Roads

Questions were raised regarding the changing of the colour of municipal road signs and the significance from the perspective of whether or not the Municipality would be responsible for those roads. It was noted that if a road sign is blue the road is private, while if it is green then it

is a municipal road. Mayor Durand was in attendance and agreed that there is a colour designation as described but he ws not aware of a change of designation from municipal to private responsibility for a section of road around Lac Bataille. He indicated that he would follow-up in three weeks.

8.0 ELECTIONS

France Joncas indicated that there were several lake representatives vacancies respecting Bataille, Barnes, Chevreuil and Rhéaume. As well, the Secretary's position on the Executive was vacant.

Proposed by: Odette Surch **Seconded by:** Irma Bigras

THAT Dawn Lucas be a Representative for Lac Bataille. **CARRIED**

Proposed by: David Hodgkin **Seconded by:** Irma Bigras

THAT Simon Veilleux be a Representative for Lac Rhéaume. **CARRIED**

Proposed by: Simon Veilleux **Seconded by:** Neville Miller

THAT Laurent Roy be a Representative for Lac Rhéaume. CARRIED

Proposed by: Laurent Roy **Seconded by:** Tom Hayes

THAT Paul Stringer be a Representative for Lac Barnes. CARRIED

Proposed by: France Joncas **Seconded by:** Odette Surch

THAT David Rideout be a Representative for Lac Louise. **CARRIED**

Proposed by: Irma Bigras **Seconded by:** Anne Moisan

THAT Camille Brisson be a Representative for Lac Maskinongé. CARRIED

Proposed by: France Joncas **Seconded by:** Camille Brisson

THAT Irma Bigras be a Representative for Lac Bataille. **CARRIED**

Following the voting the attendees expressed appreciation for the work done by the Executive. One member sought views from interested people on the possibility of establishing a car pool.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

David Rideout Secretary

