

Mazinaw Property Owners' Association
Annual General Meeting, Saturday, May 29, 2021 10:30 am – 12:00 pm
Via Zoom

The 2021 Annual General Meeting of the Mazinaw Property Owners' Association (MPOA) was held via Zoom to comply with the current Covid-19 protocols and to allow as many members as possible to attend. 70 cottages registered to attend.

Board members present: Bob Reid, Amy Fraser, Rosemary Prevoe, Suzanne Sills, Vern Haggerty, Ian Philips, John Campbell, and Jamie Fraser.

The presentation slides are available on the MPOA website and should be used along with these minutes for a full understanding of the meeting.

Call to Order – Bob Reid

Bob Reid, MPOA President, called the meeting to order at 10:30 am, welcoming everyone and noting that this is the second annual general meeting to be held via Zoom and that the outlook for 2021 appears to be brighter. He then acknowledged a number of members for their contributions over the past year:

- Francine Bates for coordinating the spring newsletter
- Suzanne Sills for handling communications
- Ian Philips for his work updating and modernizing the membership files
- Vern Haggerty for his work as Lake Steward
- Rose Prevoe for providing steady financial management
- John Campbell for his work with FOCA
- Carol Colden for taking the minutes for the AGM
- Jamie Fraser for his liaison work with the NFLAA
- Amy Fraser for technical support for the AGM.

Amy Fraser provided a brief description of the meeting logistics for attendees.

Approval of the Minutes of 2020 Annual General Meeting

Bob called for the approval of the minutes from the 2020 Annual General Meeting as published on the MPOA website www.lakemazinaw.ca. The motion was put forward by Bob Reid and seconded by Vern Haggerty. The motion was passed unanimously.

President's Report – Bob Reid

A number of topics and concerns have been raised over the last year and Bob addressed some of them during the meeting. More information about each of these topics including maps and contact telephone numbers is available in the AGM slide presentation available on the MPOA website.

- Unauthorized camping – Camping along the water has increased over the last year possibly worsened by the Covid lockdowns. Some campers have cleared trees, cleared road access, built fire pits and even built docks. Addington Highlands (AH) has established a committee to work on bylaws and enforcement in response to a delegation from Skootamatta. North Frontenac (NF) has a bylaw prohibiting camping on township land. On Crown land, you are

allowed to camp up to 21 days and then must move a minimum of 100 metres and there are quite a few campsites available in our area.

- Algonquin Land Claim – Bob attended some meetings discussing the return of certain parcels of land to the Algonquins. The parcels about some park property but road access will remain open to the public. Management decisions for the parks will include provision for the land claims when they are next updated. The plan is expected to be completed in 10 years.
- Short Term Cottage Rentals – There is an increased demand for cottage vacationing resulting in more commercial rental enterprises. Over that last year Bob has received more than 40 complaints about inconsiderate and sometimes dangerous behaviour at rental cottages. Some cottage owners have expressed concern that any regulation not impact people who rent their own cottages for a few weeks to help defray expenses so it will be a challenge to balance the approach. Bob approached the township and was told they had received no complaints and suggested people contact the OPP. The OPP said they do not have the resources to deal with such complaints. Most cottagers must be contacting owners directly and not the township.
- Short Term Cottage Rentals MPOA Initiative – A motion was put forward by John Campbell and seconded by Bob Reid that a petition be circulated by email to MPOA members requesting that both NF and AH councils address the issue of Short Term Rentals. The motion received unanimous support.
- Hydro Rate Changes – Hydro One is moving 70,000 cottagers from a seasonal category to a density based formula. Mazinaw is considered low density so cottagers could see a large increase, up to 100%, starting in 2022. The rate increase may come in gradually over the next few years.
- Gypsy Moth Update – Expect 2021 to be a continuation of the outbreak in 2020. Pheromone traps (such as the ones made available by the MPOA in previous years) are useful to disrupt mating when the populations are low but are not effective when outbreaks occur. They are not being made available by the MPOA this year. Removal of egg masses may reduce local defoliation. Spraying may also help although some experts are concerned about adverse effects on other wildlife. Sticky tape on trees is not recommended as birds can be trapped on the tape. Additional information is available on the MPOA website.
- Mazinaw Lanark 2021 to 2031 Forestry Plan - The MPOA has joined with other lake organization to request assurances that logging will not impact cottagers. There are currently no plans to log on the Mazinaw or on parklands. There is logging planned around Shabomeka and Forestry reps have agreed to meet with stakeholders in the Shabomeka Leg Power trails to review the situation. The expectation is that the impact will be minimal but it will not be zero.

MPOA Membership Update – Ian Philips

- Membership information is a valuable resource and is necessary for much of the work done by the MPOA such as emails and the Lake Directory.
- MPOA now has an online database and an Excel spreadsheet with membership status actively tracked on both. The spreadsheet is securely stored online with access available only to MPOA directors.
- Currently, there are 67 paid members out of approximately 370 properties. Usually, there are 200 to 205 paid members.

MPOA Directory – Ian Philips

- The new directory is expected to be distributed in the spring of 2022. Updates will be collected between now and next spring.

- The new version of the directory will have 2 lists, one by last name and one by 911 address. Member information will include names, phone numbers and email addresses. No home addresses will be included this time.
- A high resolution picture is needed for the cover. Members can submit pictures for consideration.
- Members must update contact information on the website.
- Members should confirm their cottage location is correct on the Lake map on the website.
- A motion was put forward by Ian Philips and seconded by Rose Prevoe to approve the 2022 Directory and possible printing expenses in excess of advertising revenue. The motion was approved unanimously.

Lake Stewardship – Vern Haggerty

- The Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority did not sample the lake in 2020. They have confirmed they will be testing this year.
- Tests in 2019 for chloride show lake levels were well below the danger zone. Calcium levels are adequate.
- MPOA members should be aware of the phosphorus levels in the lower lake. The summer and fall readings in 2017 and 2019 were about 40% higher than acceptable levels.
- Some causes of phosphorus in the lake are natural such as decomposing leaves.
- Leaking septic systems also affect phosphorus levels.
- We should consider supporting mandatory septic system inspections. With voluntary inspections, 2% of systems fail to meet standards. With mandatory inspections, the failure rate rises to 10%.
- 2021 test results will be analyzed to determine if this trend continues.

Tapping's Landing – Jamie Fraser

- Thanks to Corey Klatt and the NF Development Crew for the repairs to the dock this spring.
- The road has been brushed and additional signage is pending.
- People are asked to pull over as far as they can along the road. Long term trailers should be parked at the end of the road. Additional no parking signs will be added in certain areas.

Treasurer's Report – Rose Prevoe

- In 2020-2021, the association received total revenue of \$5,235 from memberships, gypsy moth traps, sale of MPA hats and advertising. Total disbursements for the same period were \$4,772 including bank charges, gypsy moth traps, FOCA membership, insurance and the website leaving a surplus of \$463.
- The opening bank balance was \$11,299 and the closing balance is \$11,762.
- Rose Prevoe moved that the treasurer's report be accepted, Jamie Fraser seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

MPOA Facebook Page – Bob Reid on behalf of Suzanne Sills

- To join, search Mazinaw Property Owners on Facebook and submit a request to join the group.
- On Facebook, you can share information about the lake, buy and sell items, check the lost and found and see urgent updates from the MPOA board, medical/fire/police and from NF.

Elections to the Board of Directors

- Bob Reid called for nominations to the Board of Directors to replace retiring members.
- John Campbell from the Lower Mazinaw has volunteered to be the FOCA rep. Motion to confirm the appointment was made by Bob Reid, seconded by Jamie Fraser and passed unanimously.
- Gillian Van Kempen from Clay Bay volunteered for the Lake Steward position. Motion to confirm the appointment was made by Bob Reid, seconded by Jamie Fraser and passed unanimously.
- Jeanette Wilson from the upper lake volunteered to fill the secretary position. Motion to confirm the appointment was made by Fran Bates, seconded by Suzanne Sills and passed unanimously.

Other Business and Membership Concerns

- Some members have expressed an interest in learning more about cottage succession. Peter Lilico, a lawyer from Peterborough specializing in cottage succession, has been sponsored by FOCA to give a webinar on the topic. MPOA members are eligible to attend a webinar on June 23rd. Information will be sent via email.
- A member asked if the contact numbers in the slide presentation would be available on the website. The answer is yes.
- Concerns were again raised about the canoe rentals in the park. Bob will meet with the rental company to discuss a plan to increase use and safety information, possibly with a handout.
- A suggestion was made that the membership fee be increased by \$5 to build a reserve for dealing with lake issues. It was pointed out by other members that the association is a non-profit and all ready has a bank balance representing 2 years membership fees. The board will discuss for next year.
- Members were told that the current provincial government is taking power away from the conservation authorities. The MCVA has been doing a great job and needs our support.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Amy Fraser, seconded by Bob Reid and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 am.