**MPOA** **Annual General Meeting** held **Saturday June 28th, 2014** at the Barrie Township Hall in Cloyne , Ont.

Board members present: Arndt Kruger, Fran. J. Bates, Dean Brookes, Richard Colden, Dan Crawford, Vern Haggerty, Jim Oborne, Murray Russell.

**A. Kruger, MPOA President, started the meeting** by introducing the Board members present and noting that L. Arkilander and P. Rollins had resigned. He thanked them for their service on the Board.

**Special guests in attendance were introduced:**

 Bud Clayton, Mayor of North Frontenac (NF);

 Henry Hogg, Reeve, Addington Highlands (AH);

Both Mayor Clayton and Reeve Hogg made brief remarks to all those who were present. The Board was complimented on it’s work in producing the new Membership Directory and it’s progress with the Tapping’s Landing dock extension. All those in attendance at the AGM were encouraged to vote in the upcoming local elections.

**PRESIDENT’S REPORT: Arndt Kruger.**

-noted that the **Minutes of last year’s AGM** are available for viewing on the website and requested their approval as recorded. Motion approved (Bob Reid) and seconded (Russ M).

-noted that the Board has had four business meetings and two teleconference calls over the past year.

-referenced completion of the MPOA Membership Directory update.

-provided an update on the Board’s efforts toward

 I**ncorporation:**

1. As mandated at the 2013 AGM, the Board is proceeding with incorporation and has been working on improving the MPOA Bylaws in order to meet the requirements of the ‘Ontario Not for Profit Corporations Act’.

 (2) FOCA is willing to do the incorporation for cottage associations at a lower cost than were the Board to proceed with registering the incorporation on its own.

 (3) Legislation has not yet been passed and therefore further developments are on hold.

**Tapping’s Bay dock extension:**

-Arndt expressed thanks to everyone for their generous financial support for this initiative, including our MPOA membership who contributed, the Alpine Club, North Frontenac Township, Addington Highlands, and Northern Inc. . The Board has not yet achieved the financial goal which was set to complete the cost of this project and further financial donations are requested. Cheques can be made payable to: Township of North Frontenac, tagged with ‘Donation For Tapping’s Bay Dock’, and mailed to: PO Box 251, Cloyne, Ontario KOH 1K0. Building is expected to start sometime after mid July.

-noted that the Tapping’s Dock project is a NF project which has been coordinated by the MPOA. –Donation receipts will be issued by NF township.

-noted that NF has committed to looking after the upkeep of the Tapping’s Dock.

-noted that **Gypsy Moth** traps (and inserts) are available after the meeting at a minimal cost. A question from the floor asked whether Gypsy Moths were still an environmental concern in the Mazinaw area. In response another member noted that the type of trees on a property (ie. deciduous/ maple, oak) largely determines whether Gypsy Moths will present a concern.

**OPP Policing Costs:**

-A proposed model to pay for the OPP policing cost would increase the cost in the case of North Frontenac by approximately 350 percent. The new model could cause property tax increases of approx. $80.00 per $100,000 of property value. Typically, cottagers/ water front property owners will have to carry the brunt. There is also a user pay feature in this model. Further details can be found on the MPOA website.

-FOCA has raised the issue with the Ministry.

-Special guests in attendance were asked to comment on this issue:

Mayor Clayton (NF) noted that NF has written the Minister expressing concerns, and that there may be a possibility of an Eastern Ontario amalgamation which could lead to a regional policy for addressing this issue.

-A question from the floor asked township representatives whether they had some indication of the percentage of calls to police that resulted from visitors to Bon Echo Park (ie. as contributing to the increase in policing costs).

**TREASURER’S REPORT: Richard Colden, Treasurer**

**-**noted that $4080.00 had been raised from membershipdues between 01-04-2013and 31-03-2014.

$395.00 received from sale of Gypsy moth traps.

-MPOA pays a membership fee to FOCA based on the number of members ( $840.00).

-costs for MPOA representation in attending FOCA and Algonquin Land Claim meetings considered, Maps ( ie. Directory) printing costs, website costs considered, leads to an excess of $471.00 in receipts over disbursements.

-Accumulated surplus of $5,700.00 for the year.

-motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report moved, and seconded.

**WATER QUALITY: Vern Haggerty, Lake Steward;**  introduced guest Speakers:

**-Susan Lee, Watershed Monitoring Supervisor, MVCA.** Susan provided a slide presentation discussing aspects of the Watershed Watch Program, commented on nutrient and oxygen levels and invasive species in the lake, and took questions.

-**Eric Kohlsmith, Septic Inspector, MVCA**, provided an overview on septic system health and the MVCA’s Voluntary Inspection Program which focuses on maintenance and education. Eric discussed typical septic system problems and encouraged listeners to view the video “Poop Talk” available on the MVCA’s website.

**MEMBERSHIP AND COMMUNICATIONS: Francine Bates, Director, Membership and Communications**

- **Website**: the functionality of the website has been expanded since the pilot version of 2013 which includes

* (1) a secure page to be able to update your personal information (your id and password were sent to you from the communications@lakemazinaw.ca id)
* (2) the ability to pay your membership through PayPal.

-Please watch the News / Home page as it is updated timely with relevant information that affects property owners such as the OPP costs;

-noted the website visits peaked at close to 500 unique visitors and approx. 900 total visits in a month, up from 35 when we first launched.  This is an indicator that the website is being used by our 200+ membership.

-Reminder of the **Lost and Found** section.

-MPOA member **Photo Contest**. Deadline for submissions is August 15th. Three categories (Action; Landscape/ Nature; Photos taken by kids) . Voting opens August 16th. Prizes awarded. See website for details.

-the **new MPOA directories** were distributed at the meeting.  For those not able to attend, please refer to the lakemazinaw.ca website on ways for you to pick up your copy.  Any changes to information in the directory can be sent to communications@lakemazinaw.ca

-**Membership**:  Fran made the request to the attendees to please spread the word to their neighbours who were not able to attend the AGM meeting.  Membership fees ($20 per year) are due by July 15th of each year.

1. Renewing your membership:  we have tried to make it easy to pay your membership.  Please refer to the lakemazinaw.ca website for further details.
2. New members:  there is a new members form that can be downloaded and sent to communications@lakemazinaw.ca.

On behalf of the Board, Arndt Kruger offered **special thanks to Fran** for the extraordinary efforts she has made in moving this project ahead. It was noted that she devoted an inordinate amount of time to updating the MPOA directory. In addition, membership increased to over two hundred members.

**OTHER BUSINESS: Jim Oborne, MPOA Vice-President**

**-**Liability Insurance for the MPOA and its Directors. Jim advised that a draft application is in progress. Cost is the issue.

-noted that there are two vacancies on the Board; – Call was put forward for members to volunteer to be on the Board. Those interested can contact a Board member.

**-Algonquin Land Claim:** update: Reeve H. Hogg ( AH) met with the Minister last January. -no new negotiations have taken place. Pending further developments with the provincial government.

**-Township elections**: MPOA members represent a significant percentage of eligible voters and hence the importance of MPOA members voting in upcoming township elections was noted.

-By way of an initiative to stimulate voter turnout Jim Oborne has consent of the SDRA and the MPOA Board for a public ‘Town Hall’ type meeting for all candidates running in the elections. –Candidate biographies can be noted on the municipal website.

It has been suggested to J. Pauhl that the names of candidates be available by the 12th of September in order for candidates to receive questions in advance.

-This event would be co-sponsored by the two associations and held on Saturday, September 27th, at 3:00 PM in the Barrie Township Hall.

-Reeve Hogg noted the need for individuals to ensure they are on the voter’s list.

**MEMBERSHIP CONCERNS AND ISSUES: Arndt Kruger**

-As the Board is interested in obtaining appropriate insurance coverage, audience members were asked about their expectations of the MPOA board for the next year.

-a comment on the need for improved Cell Phone reception was noted. Bell is reported to be building a new tower on Buckshot Lake Rd which is expected to improve reception as of September.

-a request for support in approaching the MNR for a proposal that there be no increase in the cost of sport licences for Seniors was made.

-need for repair of the floodlight at Tapping’s Dock was noted.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**: None.

**ADJOURNMENT**: 11: 50 AM.