



# Port Elgin & Saugeen Township Beachers' Organization

Annual General Meeting Minutes July 27, 2002

The Annual General Meeting of the Port Elgin & Saugeen Township Beachers' Organization was called to order by Cameron Yule at 10:00 am at the Lakeshore Recreation Centre in Port Elgin.

## **Attendance**

**General membership:** List on file with Business Manager

**Board Members:** Cameron Yule, Bill Martin, Phyllis Fagan, John Mann, Mac Campbell, Sally Thornton, Todd Aitchison, John Kyles, David Martin, John VanBastelaar, Peter Waldock

**Guest Speakers:** John VanBastelaar (Medical Centre Representative), Sgt. Preston (Police Services Representative), Mark Kraemer (Mayor), Gord Eagles (Town Works) and Peter Harrison (OCWA representative)

**Other:** Carol Dick (Business Manager)

## **Welcome/Introduction by Board President**

Cameron Yule began the meeting by introducing the attending members of the Board of Directors. He informed the members that Sally Thornton has resigned her position on the Board.

## **Approval of Minutes**

*John Mann Sr. made a motion to pass the July 14<sup>th</sup> 2001 AGM minutes as written.*

*Seconded by Kathy Finch.*

*Motion passed.*

## **Saugeen Shores Update**

Mayor Mark Kraemer spoke to the membership and outlined the various events and activities that have taken place around Saugeen Shores this past year. There were a few staff changes, including the new Police Chief (Chief Preston) and Gord Eagles, who has taken over for Ron Brown. He continued to say how fortunate the town was to obtain new staff members who bring with them a wealth of experience and ideas to this area.

He was enthusiastic about the World Youth Day that Port Elgin hosted involving over 1700 youth the previous weekend.

Mayor Mark stated that the Izzard Road/CAW water line extensions were completed and hook ups were underway. They are currently looking at the feasibility of connecting Fenton Dr. and Cutter Road. He thanked the membership for their support of the waterline project. Mayor Kraemer told the membership of the 2 bridge construction projects underway on the Gowanlock Rd and Turners bridge and various road improvement projects.

John VanBastelaar was praised by the Mayor for his hard work and dedication to the Medical Centre.

Cameron thanked the Mayor for attending the meeting and informed the membership that the Mayor was expected at another meeting and had to leave.

## **Waterline & Sewer Issues**

Cameron Yule introduced Gord Eagles to speak to the membership about the waterline and sewer issues as well as other projects underway in Port Elgin.

Gord began by giving the membership a little background about himself. He has lived and worked in the area his whole life and was with OCWA (Ontario Clean Water Association) for 25 years. He stated how the Public Works department has been very busy with all the various projects presently going on in Saugeen Shores. He addressed the waterline/sewer issue and stated it was a huge undertaking, both financially and work wise but there were many long term benefits. The Izzard Road and CAW portion of the project has been completed with the exception of hook ups. The Gobles Grove expansion is progressing with approximately 3.6 KM completed proceeding to MacGregor Park and then back to the off shoot areas. Gord told the membership that he has a schedule for work available to anyone who would like this information.

Gord continued on to tell the membership of the bridge replacement projects going on with two area bridges as Mayor Mark had mentioned earlier and of the major traffic study being done on HWY 21 because of increased traffic in the area that is due to be completed in September. From this study they hope to clarify the problems and find solutions. An environment assessment is being done on Port Elgin and Southampton's water treatment facilities. It will be a 10 month study with public input and review before it is completed.

Other issues the Public Works Dept. is dealing with right now are the possible water extension from Cutter Rd. to Fenton road early next year, a survey to be sent to Shipley Ave. residents concerning water/sewer, 6 current subdivision under development in the area, landfill and beach issues.

**Mac Campbell:** People on High St. have complained about a lot of trees being removed and a property on George St. being very disturbed.

**Gord:** Those trees were on CAW property and plans are being discussed as to how to proceed with fixing the area which will be a cooperative effort between the CAW, MOE and the town. Reeves will be doing restoration work in many areas once work is complete; there was some damage to be expected.

**Phyllis Fagan:** Will Shipley Avenue be guaranteed water and/or sewer?

**Gord:** A survey will be sent to residents asking yes or no if they want water along with an estimated cost. If yes then it's likely to be installed next year. Sewer is another issue and will have to be looked at carefully due to the cost. A pumping station would have to be installed.

**Member:** Will the pump be put on the beach?

**Gord:** Just north of the CAW is the most likely spot.

**Member:** If a pumping station is installed will sewer be available for Gobles Grove?

**Gord:** That is something that will be looked at. At this point that option hasn't been engineered.

**Member:** Are there any funds available from the MOE for the sewer installation?

**Gord:** No, there is funding available for water lines but not sewer at this time.

**Member:** Who is responsible for the upkeep of the beach? It should be cleaned up prior to the May 24 weekend.

**Gord:** Community Services and Public Works Dept. share the responsibility. Late spring contributed to the work not being completed on the beach.

**Member:** Why is the beach grass being cut?

**Dave Martin gave Gord a copy of the Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation report. (on file with the business manager)**

**Gord:** We have to find the best solution for our area to keep the sand in place on the beach. Just because it works in another area doesn't mean it will work here. This problem of sand migration is being worked on and you should notice a difference by next year.

Gord advised the membership of the household hazardous waste disposal day taking place on August 10<sup>th</sup> from 10 am – 2 pm.

Cameron thanked Gord for coming and told the members if they had any further questions they could speak to Gord directly.

## **Saugeen Shores Police Services**

Cameron introduced Chief Preston to the membership. Chief Preston thanked the Beachers' for inviting him and mentioned how the event was always the start off for his summer. He informed the membership of a few changes that have taken place since this time last year. Chief Paul Brown retired and Chief Preston took over for him. The Police Services are currently in a reorganizing state, looking at what doesn't work and what does and making changes. The dog unit was re-vitalized and they are trying to upgrade the use of bicycle patrolling. An officer must be trained properly. There have been changes in the information exchange between stations and in how we do our criminal investigations. A revamp of the in-house management system is also underway. There is now a VAP (Victim Assistance Program) in place, these people assist the police when necessary and frees up officers for other duties.

Chief Preston pointed out that vandalism is at a peak right now and encourages people to call either 911 or 832-2500 if they have a problem or see anything unusual. There has been a problem with people drifting out too far on flotation devices. The local Police Services do not have a boat and they must rely on the OPP in this area. Chief Preston mentioned that motorized vehicles are not allowed on the rail trail, but it is hard to police. They will be approaching council to request an ATV for this purpose. Vessels that are too close to shore are the OPP's responsibility, but if residents call the local police will attempt to identify the vessel/owner.

**Todd Aitchison:** Gary Smith offered an office at the harbour masters station to an officer to do paper work so there is a presence at the beach in the evenings. Do you have plans to go ahead with this?

**Chief Preston:** We have a plain-clothes officer at the beach who will call a uniformed officer if necessary. Our reports are computerized so an office at the beach wouldn't be of use. We are also doing Hotel-sweeps for under age and intoxicated persons to help control the late hour beach goers. Again members were encouraged to call if they notice problems.

**Member:** What are the regulations concerning ATV's on public roads?

**Chief Preston:** Only "for farm use" is allowed. We are having the same problem with motorbikes. At the moment we are working with three different by-laws in Saugeen Shores but hope to have one combined set of by-laws by next year.

Chief Preston brought magnets and boating safety pamphlets along with some other information he encouraged the membership to pick up before they leave.

Cameron thanked Chief Preston for attending and introduced John VanBastelaar to speak about the Medical Centre.

### **Saugeen Shores Medical Centre**

John VanBastelaar updated the membership on the new Medical Centre built behind the hospital overlooking Fairy Lake. It had now been completed and houses 5 new doctors with a couple of others being entertained. He thanked everyone for their support of this project and noted that in one year from today everyone in the area should have a medical doctor.

There is \$75,000 still left to raise and it is estimated that this will be done by the end of summer. The \$1.4M covered everything from the new building, furniture and equipment as well as a residential building purchased for the residents program.

John stated that the work had really just begun though, we must now focus on retaining and succession to maintain our health services system. Focus will be placed on a residency program as students are required to do 2 months of work in a rural setting and a nursing program will also be started. As a result of the new medical centre and it's activities the hospital will be able to offer more services.

Cameron thanked John for his presentation and introduced Peter Harrison, a representative of OCWA. (Ontario Clean Water Association)

### **OCWA**

Peter Harrison gave the membership a little background on the OCWA which was formed in 1994 which manages water treatment systems in over 400 communities including Port Elgin. The key issue in the Walkerton tragedy is that there were no real regulations, just guidelines and objectives. In August 2000, the Water Protection Act turned these guidelines into regulations and increased the standards. (ie. More frequent sampling) These requirements of course have increased the costs exponentially.

Peter mentioned that wells no longer in use must be plugged and forms filled out and submitted to the MOE.

**Peter Waldock:** It may be better to keep the well for watering the lawn and gardens.

**OCWA:** They would like to see the wells plugged but if is being used then it's not required.

**Peter Waldock:** I just want to warn people not to use the town water excessively as it will then put a strain on the septic systems.

**OCWA:** I agree that water conservation is a wise idea

**Member:** Are there any studies that show what effect chlorinated water has on a septic system

**OCWA:** It should have no ill effect

Cameron thanked Peter for attending.

## **Financial Report**

Carol informed the membership that the finances this year are looking good. She noted that through a direct mail campaign last fall we acquired 40 new members. If renewals continue to come in as expected we will have a balanced budget this year.

*Member: I make a motion that the minutes of the AGM be mailed to members three months in advance of the meeting.*

*Discussion:*

*Bill Martin: I would like to amend that motion to having the AGM minutes posted to the Web Site a minimum of three months prior to the AGM.*

*Seconded: Peter Waldock  
Motion Passed*

## **Nomination/Election of New Board Members**

Cameron informed the membership that Sally Thornton would be leaving the Board. John Mann thanked Sally for her years of dedication to the Beachers' and nominated Margaret Grottenthaler to sit on the Beachers' Board of Directors.

Cameron requested nominations from the floor. No nominations were made. Nominations closed.

*A motion was made by Bill Martin to accept Margaret Grottenthaler to the Board of Directors.  
Seconded by Todd Aitchison.  
Motion passed.*

## **Disclaimer/Mission Statement**

Bill Martin read the following disclaimer:

**I move that all acts, contracts, by-laws, proceedings, appointments, elections, and payments enacted, made, done, and taken by the Directors and Officers of the Port Elgin and Saugeen Township Beachers' Organization since the last Annual Meeting of the Organization as set out or referred to in the Minutes of Meeting of the Board of Directors or in the Financial Statement submitted to this meeting be hereby approved, ratified, sanctioned and confirmed.**

Peter Waldock read the Beachers' Organization Mission Statement.

## **Review of Past Year**

Cameron Yule updated the membership on the activities of the Board since the last general meeting. Much of the past year was devoted to the waterline and sewer issues. Our winter patrol went very well with no break-ins or damage to cottages over the season.

Cameron encouraged the membership to let their neighbours know about the Beachers' and to encourage them to join.

*A motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:45 am was made by Cameron Yule.  
Seconded by Dave Martin  
Motion Passed.*