

General Annual Meeting 2018

Sunday July 8 2018, 10AM

Municipal Hall of Bouchette

1. Word from the President

The secretary, André Patry, welcomes the assembly. He then introduces the executive committee sitting at the table and then asks the committee and the assembled members to elect a president for the meeting. Isabelle Poirier, seconded by Gilbert David, *propose André Patry.*

(is that correct André? The French text is not clear as to who Isabelle Poirier propose but from the next sentence, I assume it is you...)

André accepts the post and explains that it is more important than ever to have an Association that is involved and running smoothly especially now that there is now a new mayor and town council that are concerned about conservation and preservation of the local waterways and they have demonstrated their interest in their actions and decisions.

2. Agenda

It is proposed by Claire David that the agenda be accepted without changes. Motion accepted.

3. Reading of the minutes of the General Meeting of 2016

André Patry reads the text of the minutes. Isabelle propose to accept the minutes as read, without changes. Motion accepted.

4. Financial Report of Jacques Cyr, Treasurer

Jacques Cyr presents and explains the reports for the years 2016-17-18. A few questions were asked. It is proposed by Pierre Parisien, seconded by André Thérien to adopt the reports as presented. Motion accepted.

5. Membership and the "ROLRIV"

André Patry attended the annual meeting of RPEVG (which is an association for the protection of the waters in the Gatineau Valley). He registered our Association to become a member of the RPEVG at a cost of \$100. This membership provides our Association with access to the municipality's ROLRIV services - this will provide our Association with a list of all the property owners of Grand Lac Rond (Roddick Lake). Our Association can then use the list obtained to make all property owners aware of the information available on the Association website and to suggest to more owners to become members of our Association.

6. Website

André Patry mentioned that after determined efforts, he was finally able to create a website using the *votresite.ca* application. He presented an overview of the website on the large screen demonstrating the various features of the site and pointed out that there is still a lot of work to

be done, especially for the English component of the site. He mentioned that Lise Krueger had offered to translate some documents for the Association and he will be in touch with her. André also talked about the requirement to add the option of purchasing membership cards and making donations on the website however this major component can only be implemented by the provider of the website. The cost for that service will be \$500. André Thérien, seconded by Gilbert David, proposed spending the money to proceed with the expenditure.

7. Water Tests

Pierre Bergeron explained that with the help of Pierre Parisien they have been performing 22 tests annually to determine the water quality for swimming purposes and that the results will soon be posted on the website. Pierre offered that at this point tests are consistently showing good water quality for swimming.

8. Réseau de Surveillance Volontaire des Lacs (RSVL)

The RSVL is a Voluntary Lake Monitoring Network to which our Association is part of. Pierre Bergeron reported that with the help of Pierre Parisien, they have performed numerous water quality and clarity tests. He also personally entered the resulting information on the ministry website using the "Relais" service. A request to be reimbursed for costs of \$478 has been sent to the municipalities by the secretary. André Patry explained that the results of the program will be evaluated based on the recent results obtained and that the performance of the tests would likely be suspended for a few years, as per the recommendations of the Ministry. As they become available, all the tests results will be posted on our website.

9. Boat washing

The mayor of Bouchette, Gilles Bastien, spoke to the group to explain that the municipalities of Messines and Blue Sea have put in place boat washing stations and despite a few difficulties for enforcing use and imposing fines for non-adherence to the rules, the overall system is reported to work well enough. The mayor explains that they plan to install a new washing station near the Fire Station in Bouchette. This would be in addition to the seven (7) stations already put in place by the MRC (*Regional Municipalities*) with the help of the RPEVG (Association for the protection of the waters in the Gatineau Valley). It is to be noted that the RPEVG is currently working on making it mandatory, by law, to have owners wash their boats throughout the province of Quebec.

10. Water Level Stabilization

André Patry informed the group that with the help of Michael Lukyniuk the Association worked closely to work with the experts of the *Centre Expertise Hydrique du Quebec* (Quebec Centre of Water Expertise) in order to ensure that they take into account the needs of our lake while managing water levels at the 31 Mile Lake dam. For now, this seems to have given good results but at this time we cannot access if they will continue to take our needs into account.

11. Phragmite

André Patry provided information on the problem with phragmite (also known as common reed). He mentioned that the Ministry of the Environment allows the removal by hand of phragmite along shorelines. Although André reported that no special permission is required to perform this work, however, Pierre Parisien expressed concerns and asked for more information to ensure that no one will be subjected to fines. André Patry has agreed to follow-up and will post resulting information on the website.

12. Dust Control

André Patry reported that Bouchette has applied dust control solution on the roads within the municipality. Many residents have reported that they have noticed that all the main arteries have been well maintained this year. The mayor informed the group that there will be another application of the dust control solution in early August.

13. Restocking

Pierre Parisien, responsible for the restocking program, reported that restocking did not take place last year because the supplier did not have sufficient stock. He added that he was able to receive funds to support the program from various local businesses. He will be preparing an order with the hope of being able to spend close to \$3000 for the purchase of pickerels to restock the lake this year. Pierre is hoping that a number of fishermen will offer their services to help him with getting the fishes into the lake.

14. Use of the Narrows (Grand Chenal)

Jacques Cyr informed the group that the situation is still very chaotic, especially when alcohol is involved. He will be contacting the QPP (Quebec Provincial Police) for their help to see if they could attend to the location at least once during an upcoming weekend to assess the situation. Alain Decelle and his spouse, new owners of the property where the rock is situated and from which the youth like to jump, are very concerned. They have installed "Private Property" signs to no avail and they are concerned of potential liability should someone get injured.

15. Public Dock

Marthe Gravelle provided a summary of the file in regards to the planned project for the building of a public dock in Ste-Thérèse which was to have been built by the municipality. The project has been put on hold following changes in the recommendations made by *Abvdes7* (agency responsible to protect and improve the water quality of 7 watershed in its territory).

16. Fireworks & Other Nuisances

The mayor of Bouchette acknowledges that there seems to be an abundance of the use of fireworks in the area and he will investigate with members of the council to see if there are any measures that can be undertaken to restrict the use of the fireworks, as suggested by the Association.

17. Buoys

André Patry has reported that it appears that the buoys installed last year seem to have the desired effect and that most boats are respecting the speed limits indicated on the buoys in the designated areas. The buoys were removed in the Fall and André has reinstalled them for this season.

18. Lake Characterization

André Patry reported that a committee should be created to follow-up on the recommendations for the characterization of Grand Lac Rond. To this effect, he will be sending an email to seek volunteers to create this committee.

19. Grand Lac Rond Basin

The mayor of Bouchette, Gilles Bastien, talked extensively of the importance of controlling shoreline erosion along the banks of the Gatineau River including overall land management by better managing clear cut of wood lots and by developing better working relationships among

the various municipalities, organizations and agencies to ensure that funds are identified and applied to support protection programs.

In addition, he would also like to redefine the role of *La Sage (Society for the Environmental Management and the Management of the Basin of Lake 31 Miles)* to possibly expand its mandate to cover the full area covered by the watershed of Grand Lac Rond, which already encompass some of the area from 31 Mile Lake, upstream towards lake Pémichangan and its tributaries. The mayor also said that he plans on hiring a biologist to help with the management of the territory.

Denis Lacroix, President of the Lake 31 Mile Association, offered a review of the role of *La Sage* from its conception to now. He spoke of the problems in regards to controlling camping on the islands and how important it is to maintain monitoring of the situation. The mayor addressed the problem of the low numbers of young trouts in the 31 Mile Lake and it is expected that the moratorium on ice fishing will likely be extended for another 5 years. He reported that he has met with Mrs Deschênes, Minister of Forests, Wildlife and Parks, to discuss the situation and appears to have receive a favorable agreement. He concludes in stressing the importance in promoting the importance of the role played by *La Sage* and that plans are in place to build an administration office near the public dock on Lake 31 Miles. The group has received monies from Hydro Québec for this project.

20. Various

André Patry mentioned that he omitted to include in the agenda two (2) requests received to make changes to the Rules governing our Association, thus these cannot be presented at this time for voting. The changes being considered are as follows: 1) changes to the number of members necessary to be present at the annual meetings to obtain a quorum – to read the number of members present at the annual meeting, and 2) to revise the number of members necessary for the executive committee to five (5) members minimum. These items will be added to the Agenda for the next Annual meeting (2019).

21. 2nd Question Period

Bruno Paul reported that he has a real problem with Canada Geese and the problem they cause in polluting the lawns and shorelines. Someone suggested that laying a yellow rope in the affected area deters the birds.

22. Elections of the Executive Committee

Jacques Cyr was elected as Election President and Pierre Bergeron as scrutineer. Jacques asked for nominations.

? André...which post are we talking about...president?

André Patry nominated Alain Decelles. Alain accepted/elected. Isabelle Poirier proposed that all other members of the executive committee retain their existing position. All members accepted the proposal/elected.

23. Closing

At 12.15 it was proposed by Pierre Parisien, seconded by Pierre Bergeron, to close the meeting.