

## **McRae Beach AGM Sunday Sept 3rd 2023**

### **Executives**

Jane Kidner  
Maggie Thomson  
Lubke Storry  
Maria Vlachos  
Rita DeBellis

**Unable to attend-**Doug Atkinson

### **Members in Attendance**

Olga  
Michael & Sean  
Terry  
Dennis  
Gordon & Susan  
Rhonda & Gary & Ken  
ChrisThompson  
Carol Benson  
Bonnie & Fred  
Pat Roughly Josie  
Julie  
John F  
George &  
Bruce  
Roger  
Al Carter  
Larry  
Norm  
Rob D &  
Carl & Estelle  
Larry  
Rod Dobson  
Joe

**President-** Jane Kidner - Call to order Welcomes Executive

1.Motion to Approve the Minutes from Spring 2023

Approved by Estelle Seconded by Bonnie

Introduces Lee Simpson from the Lake Simcoe South Shore Residents Association . Very happy to hear an update from him at the end of the meeting so we can have more times for questions.

- 1. Treasury report Dues are down. We ran three very successful events this summer and all were virtually at no cost to community members. We can continue bring more social events like this with continued financial support from members paying their dues. Please pay your dues if you have not already done so.**
- 2. Roads and park reports- Justin Dol doing a great job with the landscape  
Very accommodating ie tree trimming etc.  
Bruce- lots of sea weeds on the shores of both beaches  
We will all pitch in to keep our beaches clean. If this is not working, at a later date we can consider whether we need to hire someone to take care of this for us.**
- 3. Social report  
Field day was enormously successful , great weather and a great turnout. Thank you to the many people who volunteered their time to run the event.  
Thank you to Pat for bringing back Bingo night! Two bingo nights were held this summer and both were very well attended and successful. We will be continuing the tradition next year.**

The Corn roast was also a great success. Michele and Les, the owners of The Messhall in Sutton ran set it up and donated everything. Thank you to Michele and Les for their generosity. Shed needs to be painted - volunteers usually do it . Rhonda & Olga volunteered to paint shed in October.

Introduction of Lee Simpson a representative from the Lake Simcoe South Shore Residents Association (LSSSRA)

Our activities over the summer since the last year we spoke to you - The initial plan was filed last year . 70 responses were given and the impact assessment agencies boiled it down to the following points to assess. There was supposed to be a 180 day window for them to file a detailed project plan. They had an option to opt out of that and they did opt out in June. They held an info session at the Sutton Library and it was not helpful. They said that they did not have to communicate their plans. They hired a company to make sure we are up to date with everything yet nothing has happened. Their strategy seems to be that they are hiding what their plans are. The environmental assessment may not be available to us until after they file the report. We have a gov't relations a communication firm to help us and we hope to require them to go through the appropriate complete environmental assessment. The fact that they are hiding information from us and not following the appropriate procedures may work against them. We are dealing with all levels of gov't but this is a federal matter so municipal and provincial governments are not able to help.

1. We want a full environmental assessment
2. Force a meaningful analysis of all the options.

Hatch is the company that built the ferry and disputes the argument that the ferry only has 2-3 years of useful life. The President stated their ferries in fresh water have a shelf life of 50-65 years . This one was bought in 2000. Only 23 years old. According to our research, a suitable electric ferry bigger than the one they currently have will cost only 28 Million. Alternatively, the existing one can be retrofitted and converted to electric for just 12 million. Both of these options are significantly less expensive than the \$400 Million it will cost for the bridge. Yet they are not willing to discuss these options.

We need to gain control of the situation. Our strategy is to get into the federal gov't and educate them and the ministers about these issues and the credible options that are available. Once this is filed we need those who are making the decisions to be educated and aware of everything.

We are looking for new members as there is strength in numbers. Please send us an email if you are interested in becoming a member.

#### Questions

Q: Is a Casino going to be built on the island?

After speaking to Friday harbour we were told this is very unlikely if not impossible because they can not get water and sewage on the Island . If these are not addressed then a hotel can not be built. The only way this will work is that the town supplies it and delivers it. This is a "showstopper" just based on the sheer cost.

Dept of Transport funds the ferry. We are planning to talk to those folks as well.

Q: How are you getting funding for the work you are doing now and how can we help with that?

There is a small group of us that are personally funding this. We are all the most impacted by this. We are deliberately not going out to ask just yet. But we are not saying no to e-transfers. If you want to contribute to the cause are welcome to it. [lakesimcoessra2@gmail.com](mailto:lakesimcoessra2@gmail.com) is where you are free to make a donation.

Q: When is the plan to build?

They want this running by Dec 2025 which means they want to start dumping rock this January. The bridge will 1.6 kilometres of rock and an 800 meter bridge that will be 65 feet to the peak.

We are trying to build good relationships to educate people and make sure that this will go through the whole environmental process. If we can hold off 2 years than we think we can achieve this.

Motion to close Gordon Lawson. Second Rhonda Wood

