

BLUEWATER SHORELINE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

GMB 411, R.R. 2 Zurich ON N0M 2T0

Minutes of the General Meeting, June 29,2002

1. The meeting held at St. Peter's Parish Hall, St. Joseph, was called to order by President Bob Campbell.
2. Jim Chapman reported that BSRA membership presently represents some 800 paid members.
3. Treasurer Bob Worthy stated that the bank balance on June 28, 2002 is \$893.00.
4. Doug Banks moved that " the Minutes of the previous Special General Meeting of May, 18, 2002 be adopted as circulated". Seconded by Don Brazier and carried
5. Action resulting from May 18, 2002 Special Meeting:
BSRA Executive sent a letter to the Bluewater Council on May 22, 2002 re: Taxation Inequity Relative to Services Provided to Shoreline Residents. It stated:
 - 1) This letter supplied update information on BSRA executive presentation to Council on April 28,2002
 - 2) Comments on passed resolutions of BSRA Special General Meeting of May 18,2002.
 - 3) Options available to Bluewater Council to resolve the inequity issue
6. Council actions to date:
 - 1) On June 18, 2002 Council approved the 2003 budget which approved that \$30,000.00 be put in reserve for use in 2003 towards roads along the Shoreline.
 - 2) As well, the 2002 mill rates do not reflect area rating for transportation services.
 - 3) The June 24,2002 Bluewater Council Meeting agenda included a report dated June 14, from the Clerk-Administrator re: "Ward and Council Size\Composition Review" upon discussion identified 2 possible Changes:
 - 1) The elimination of Wards entirely.
 - 2) The removal of voting by mail.
7. Bob Campbell stated that the establishment of the \$30,000.00 reserve fund is seen as a positive step by Council. Full credit should be given to Council for this action.
Bob noted that setting this reserve means nothing until Council takes action to spend this reserve.
8. The elimination of wards \ voting by mail would cause the BSRA to believe Bluewater Council is trying to Disenfranchise shoreline voters. This action would cause BSRA to consider legal action to go to the OMB (Ontario Municipal Board) to resolve these issues.
9. Bob Campbell outlined the implications of creating a Shoreline Ward which would include:
 - Establishment of a reserve fund, with a contribution of \$50.00 per BSRA member.
 - The law firm - Lerner and Associates have provided the legal advise and they are experienced with OMB hearings
 - The time frame to implement the creation of this Shoreline Ward.
10. John Gillespie reported that the BSRA made a conscious decision not to run candidates in the last election because of past experience in Stanley, that worked co-operatively with shoreline residents to resolve issues. John stated that we have not been successful in working with this Bluewater Council. John stated that there needs to be changes to this exciting structure. He felt the Shoreline residents need to look to the future regarding representation and a voice in environmental issues.
11. There was much discussion from the floor regarding the implications of creating a Shoreline Ward, with comments from the Bluewater Council members regarding Council's position.
12. Bob Campbell stated that the creation of a Shoreline Ward is not a hostile act towards Bluewater Council but an action towards building a real community with a positive attitude to work together.

Action Taken to Create a Shoreline Ward:

- 1) Doug Banks moved that BSRA establish a separate fund for the purpose of financing. Seconded by John Gillespie and carried.
 - 2) Doug Banks moved that BSRA member associations be requested to contribute to the above fund an amount of \$50.00 for each member of that Association. Seconded by John Gillespie and carried.
 - 3) Doug Banks moved that the BSRA Executive Committee in consultation with legal counsel, be authorized to take appropriate action to protect the interests of shoreline residents including, where deemed necessary, initiating legal action through either the courts or the OMB (Ontario Municipal Board). Seconded by John Gillespie and carried.
 - 4) Doug Banks moved that BSRA initiate on behalf of the shoreline electors a petition to the Bluewater Council, pursuant to Section 13.2 of the Municipal Act, to pass a by-law redividing the municipality to create one shoreline ward consisting of those lands west of Highway 21 presently within Hay and Stanley Wards. Seconded by John Gillespie and carried.
 - 5) Jim Chapman moved that other shoreline property owners not included in BSRA member Associations be encouraged to contribute \$50.00 to BSRA reserve fund. Seconded by Bob Honeycombe.
13. Re: Petition,
It is very critical that signatures be collected as soon as possible and be sent to Bob Campbell by July 15,2002. It is very important that only qualified electors of each residence sign the petition, to avoid any legal challenges to this petition.
14. Bob Worthy reported that insurance coverage from Westlake-McHugh provided excellent coverage that includes stairs and laneways. There are presently 23 BSRA Associations who have joined Westlake- McHugh. There will soon be a cut of date set for joining. There are presently 7 Associations wanting Directors and Officers insurance.
- Paul Paton moved that the 7 Associations obtain Directors\Officers immediately. Seconded by Jerry Selk.
 - Bob Campbell amended this motion to state a motion be made to extend the date to July 15,2002 to apply for Directors\ Officers insurance. Seconded by Brian Laidler and carried.
15. Bob Worthy is working on behalf of BSRA members re long distance phone carriers and will keep us informed of any new developments.
16. Bob Campbell stated how much BSRA appreciated Mayor Bill Dowson, Deputy Mayor Paul Klopp Councilor Bill Martin for attending the meeting, today and for their involvement. Bob also thanked Bluewater Council for the Nutrient Management meeting held on June 4,2002.
17. Bob Campbell reported that we might need some of the reserve fund collected before the September 14,2002 deadline.
18. Jim Chapman announced that BSRA is trying to collect e-mail addresses from Association contact persons. Please Send a brief e-mail to Jim Chapman [Click here for contact email address](#). Jim will then have your e-mail address.
19. Next BSRA General Meeting is on Saturday September 14,2002 in St. Peter's Parish Hall, St Joseph.

Jean Irvin, Secretary

