

# Baptiste Lake Association AGM Minutes

Saturday August 10, 2024

Birch Cliff Lodge

10:00 a.m.

1. Welcome – Marlin Horst The meeting started at 10:05.
2. Mayor Tony Fitzgerald to spoke about the Achievements of Hastings Highlands in the past year and the challenges.

He found it gratifying to be speaking at Birch Cliff, where he worked summers as a student, taught in Bancroft for several decades. He addressed that the Capital Budget passed at \$5.2 million, South Baptiste Lake Road is repaved and 1.8 million went to that job. There has been a gravel road solution for Maxwell Settlement. Raised taxes to put \$1.2 million back into reserves (had to take out 4.2) 420,000 for 2 trucks, the culvert on North Baptiste will cost around \$400,000. Cuts continue from the Provincial Government. The federal government must become included in the funding. In April, Tony had a meeting with the Minister of Transportation, to discuss the cost of \$30,000,000 to resurface the road from Combemere to Maynooth. Positive meeting. Created a relationship with the minister, which aided in solving a serious problem along Hwy. 62 where there is bridge work hindering traffic. Strategic Plan, second revamp, available online through the website. Tony spoke about the cell towers, 7 towers coming to the municipality. Also a provincial housing project is pending but the monies released went to large cities such as Ottawa, Hamilton and Guelph. He also alluded to the Fire Department plan, a 3-station format. Future projects include looking at removing certain fire station properties that are costing too much and are standing empty. Salary negotiations are concluding and of

course, raised salaries will again add to the deficits. \$10,000,000 must be added to the reserves for 15 years in order for the maintenance of the municipality to be safe.

A question about septic inspections was raised, as well as control of signs and lastly, roadside pickup garbage. Recycle cost \$300,000. Cost to close a dump = \$1 million. Septic inspections must be uniform, all lakes and each property must be inspected. One beginning step could be to disseminate information through the BLA. Would like to start one lake at a time, make the septic inspection voluntary. Perhaps to issue a certificate per each tank pump out, which would cover about 75% of the properties. The Septic companies could issue the information to help the municipality. Another question raised, "How much of our tax money stays in the Municipality?" Less than 70% stays in the Municipality. OPP costs are offloaded to the municipality.

### 3. President's Comments and Introduce Directors – Marlin Horst

Overview of the events: Well attended corn roast last year and we hope that this year's will be equally successful, our opening event was great, the canoe/kayak day was pleasant including a barbecue at Colemans, we are working on support for the fishery, because fish population health indicates the health of the lake. The Watersheds Canada organization is so supportive for the lake. Will be cleaning the fish spawning areas this fall.

Monitoring development on the lake. We are a cold-water Trout Lake. We need to keep this designation to prevent crown land from being developed.

Marlin is chairman for the Interlakes Group. Plea for having volunteers on the Septic re-inspection. Land Use Committee review group works with the Variance Committee. The Interlakes Group is not recognized by the staff of Hastings Highlands.

Information about the repair of the Dam. Should have started the work by August 12. The rainfall recently has changed the conditions temporarily. Communication with the MNRF is ongoing and transparent.

4. Minutes of the 2023 AGM as posted on the BLA website at <http://baptistelake.org/WS/Main/meetings.php> - Motion to Accept:

Allen Stephen, seconded by Beth Greenberg, all in favour, passed.

5. Treasurer's Report – Diane Jared: Motion to Accept made by Beth Greenberg, seconded by John Jared, all in favour, carried

A very extensive statement was presented by Diane Jared to explain the treasurer's report. A printed copy was distributed.

6. Waiver of requirement to have the financial statements for Fiscal year ending 2025/3/31 audited.

Motion to Accept: Marlin Horst, seconded by Gord Lang, carried.

7. Motion to accept New By-Laws: Motion to accept: Marlin, seconded by Eric Hooey, carried.

Not for profit organizations must comply with ONCA. (Ontario Not For Profit Corporation Act) Marlin took the FOCA bylaws and rewrote them for the BLA. e.g. Miss 3 meetings in a row, that director is to be removed. That provision needed to be removed to be compliant with ONCA.

8. Motion to comply with ONCA. Articles of compliance. The main article requires a number to describe how many directors. Amend our number of directors to range between 3 and 15. One class of membership. Also, a description of the purpose of the Association is clarified in the article Upon

dissolution, assets to be distributed to the next association. Motion to accept:  
Marlin Horst, seconded by John Jared, carried

9. Motions from BLA members (Must have been presented to the directors at least a week before the AGM). No motions were presented.
10. Nomination and election of new directors. Motion by Paul Dennis, seconded by Susan Latramoille, carried.

Directors for 2024-2025

Marlin Horst – President, Alan Steven – Vice-President, Diane Jared -  
Treasurer, Anne Coleman – Secretary, Shelley Pickard – Membership, Eric  
Hooey – Web Master, Paul Coleman – Newsletter, Beth Greenberg –  
Promotions, Hilary Phillips – Lake Plan, Gary Pirko - Fishery

11. Name a volunteer to sit on the septic re-inspection programme committee.
12. New business: Motion to adjourn by Marlin Horst, seconded by Gord Lang,  
Passed 11:47

Directors meeting after the AGM: To appoint Officers

- Alan Steven: Vice President,
- all others are same positions