

Loni Beach Residents' Association
Annual General Meeting 2008
Minutes

The AGM of the LBRA was held on Saturday, July 12, 2008 at 10:00 am in the New Horizons Centre in Loni Beach.

Memberships were available at the door, and attendees were asked to sign in. Those in attendance noted on attached. Approximately 50 people attended.

Lisa Squair, the President of the LBRA welcomed members the meeting. She thanked Marilyn Campbell for the coffee provided; and also thanked Kathy and Leeann Squair and Isabel Peterson for assisting with membership renewals and sign in at the door. She noted the agenda for the meeting was posted on the board.

Playground:

The play space behind the tennis courts has been developed and is well used. She thanked Tracy Moroz and Leeann Squair for for facilitating the project, as well as the RM Council for their support. *She noted that the 2009 budget for the RM might include some additional upgrades.*

Remembrance:

Lisa noted the passing of Dorothy Goldberg Yates, a long-time resident on North Lake Street. Dorothy was responsible for many projects for Loni Beach beautification, including the garbage can decorating contest. *Dorothy wanted a plaque to be installed on the tennis courts, to honour Sid Trepel and ? for their contribution, and Lisa reported that this will be done.*

Sewer Proposal:

Lisa noted that there were over 80 people at the July 9th, 2008 meeting of the RM Council when this project was brought forward. The proposal passed first reading of Council at that time, which also permitted the RM to borrow funds for the project. She noted that the cost is 100% the responsibility of the owners. Outside funding (i.e., government grants) is important, and she noted that Martin O'Grady, her husband, had already been investigating some funding possibilities, and she encouraged other members/residents to investigate possibilities too.

She also noted that communication was important – residents need to know the process, the timing, and the implications. She felt that the July 9th meeting offered a balance of the issues and concerns. There were 42 submissions at that time, and there is a possibility for more, because the number of objections received indicated that the proposal would probably go the Municipal Board for their review. Residents would have an opportunity to express their views, and she strongly encouraged all members to express their thoughts through any means possible – fax, e-mail, drop off to Council. Glenn Brooks, a Loni Beach resident and RM councillor, indicated that while information would be available on the RM website, updating was currently slow due to staff shortages. It was noted that the RM had sent out 4 newsletters and the LBRA had circulated one and would be circulating another. These are seen as valuable ways to get the information out. Brooks also noted that Council minutes are available, as well as the LI P (Local Improvement Plan) through the RM.

A question was raised about the Municipal Board process – would only registered NO voters be able to submit concerns? Yes. Some felt that this would mean that supporters had no voice. A handout was available, indicating the process for Local Improvements or Special Services.

Minutes of the 2007 AGM:

The minutes were to be read by the Secretary, but were not brought. *A précis of the proceedings was delivered. It was moved Ron Dormann/Brian Squair to accept. (I have in my notes that there was a motion as noted, and I think it was attached to the minutes, not the sewer project, although it could have been for the President's report...)* CARRIED.

Treasurer's Report:

Ron Dormann reported that as there were no events in 2007, there was little change in the account. The opening balance was \$2,425.09 and the closing balance was \$2,120.33. A \$300.00 donation was made to the Lake Winnipeg Research Consortium. He also noted that the LBRA loses about \$1/month for service charges vs. interest accrued, which he will pursue with the credit union. He moved his report for acceptance, and it was CARRIED.

Lisa asked if we should support the LWRC again in 2008. A suggestion was made to use that money for information activities for the sewer project. Members expressed support for the LWRC, noting that a healthy lake leads to a healthy community. IT was also felt that mechanisms are already in place for information about the sewer project. Leanne Squair noted that these mechanisms should be used as much as possible. She then moved, seconded by

many, that the LBRA again donate \$300.00 to the LWRC. CARRIED. IT was noted that the LWRC now has charitable status.

Martin O'Grady obtained a number of copies of Manitoba's Water Protection Handbook, which were available for members.

Further discussion on the playground:

Bikes should be brought into the playground and not left near the road. Lisa will investigate with Public works about the possibility of a bike rack.

Brian Squair asked about fencing. Lisa said that a fence would be put on the west side with a gate. A bridge may be need over the ditch, but this is not in this year's budget.

Isabel Peterson expressed concern about parking near the playground, noting that children's views of the road may be blocked. Lisa will contact Greg Elson to discuss signage. Vehicular speed and road conditions in that area were also noted as concerns. A member (I think it was Ron Lambert?) urged parents to talk to their children about road safety. He noted that the Bike Rodeo on July 13 on Centre Street would be a good place for children to learn about bike and road safety.

President's Notes:

Lisa reported that Brian McKenzie, the Council rep for Loni Beach, sent his regrets. Bill Barlow, another councillor who was invited to address the LBRA about water stewardship (He is chair of the LWRC), also sent his regrets. He has offered to do a presentation later if desired.

Lisa thanked the LBRA for the opportunity to serve as president for the past two years. She noted that she was stepping down as president, but would continue in the role of Past President. She also thanked Salin Guttormson for her strong role as Past President.

New Executive:

Leeann Squair (currently LBRA member) thanked Lisa for her service. She also thanked other members of the LBRA executive, including Gord Hahlweg for his work on the LBRA website, Ron Dormann for CFO duties, and Sheila Redekopp for her work on the LBRA newsletter. Leanne noted that many members agreed to serve in 2008 – 2009, including herself, Lisa Squair as Past President, Joan McConnell, Jeff Modjewski, Ron Dormann, and Sheila Redekopp. The Executive should have at least 7 members and she asked for volunteers/nominations. In response to a

question from the floor, she noted that no one is nominated to a particular position, but that the Executive decides amongst themselves who would do which position.

Pat Dormann volunteered, as did Ken ?????. Exec members were confirmed by the general membership, and a short meeting of the Exec was arranged for after the AGM.

Council:

Glenn Brooks spoke about his experiences as a part time council. He noted that the position was really full time, the Council was a good group who were working hard. Many aspects of the operation of the RM were being reviewed and changed. He noted that he is in charge of Public Works, and that a many new staff, including a new Public Works manager, Greg Elson had been hired. Staffing continues to be a pressing need. Currently there are 34 employees of the RM and 18 are in Public Works. He asked that residents be patient if service seems to be slow.

Drainage and ditches continue to be an area of activity. A survey person has been hired and Glenn hopes that this will help with the drainage situation. Glenn noted that drainage had more or less been neglected for 15+years. He will be calling for drainage committee representation sometime this year. From these volunteers, some members would be selected to serve on this committee. Glenn expects to develop a 3 – 5 year plan to address drainage issues.

The Council is engaged in many studies of the RM's operation, including garbage, utility rates, strategic planning, and vision

Glenn noted that Council minutes are no posted until after the following meeting as they must be approved by the Council before posting. He noted that an e-mailing list would be helpful for matters such as the sewer proposal. Sheila Redekopp noted that the LBRA has an e-mail list and encouraged residents to provide correct e-mail addresses to her. Glenn asked if the RM could use that list for e-mailing information. A short discussion ensued about legalities of releasing contact information (FIPPA concerns). IT was felt that if there were no objections, using this information for this purpose only would only be beneficial to residents. No one expressed objections at the meeting. It was moved by Isabel Peterson, seconded by Pat Dormann, to make this information available to the RM for this one purpose. CARRIED.

Glenn opened the floor to questions:

Al Millar: H noted an article in the Spectator about road construction in Pelican Beach. Glenn noted that the residents applied for an LID, and that some paving costs will come from the road

reserve fund. Al noted that Loni beach had contributed to that fund for many years, and that we should have access too. Glenn responded that there is only a small fund;, so only a small percentage of the costs will come from this fund; the LID will cover the majority of the costs. Leanne Squair asked about the amount of money in the road reserve fund. Glenn estimated about \$100,000.00 in total. He thought that the RM might be able to contribute some portion of this to road repair part of the sewer proposal, but was not sure. He noted that the proposal, as most proposals, required the creation of an LID, and taxation..

Someone, I think it was Mrs. Cantor asked about the fund source for additional staff. Glenn replied that the additional staff had been budgeted for in the Council's projections.

Someone, I think Gary Bunio? Asked about the funding proposals for the sewer. Glenn said that Joann King would be working on these at the appropriate time and could certainly use some help on this. Someone asked about the impact of the sewer on the ditches and roads, that is how much space will be needed, where will things go? Glenn invited Gary Bunio;, who is an engineer, to speak to this. Gary explained many engineering principles and practices, and confirmed that generally the goal is t use the least amount of space and distance for the resident connections to the mainline. The engineers have yet to determine all locations. It is likely that the lift station would go near the lines, usually n the centre of the community.

Glenn was asked about the current terrible conditions of the road. He noted that the RM would continue to patch until the determination of the sewer project is made.

Mrs Cantor asked about the well at the corner of their cottage on North Lake . Her impression was that many non-Loni Beach residents used it. She wondered if it should be free flowing, to add fresh water to the ditch. Gary Bunion answered, noting that in most years, running water to the lake is good, but this year, being so wet, the water was running anyway. Mrs. Cantor asked if the water was tested each year, and Glenn said yes. IF the wells are being tested, then why not open other wells? Glenn reported some leakage required that some be sealed. The well by the tennis court, for example, would need money to fix it.

Glenn was asked about the Bungalows of Loni Beach project (condos on Loni Street). He said he had not heard anything further about this project,

Leanne Squair thanked Glenn for his great update on the RM.

Information:

- The RM sprayed larvicide on July 10.
- A volunteer is needed to coordinate the Trash and Treasure Event
- Wally Johannson of the Heritage Gimli Committee has compiled information about historical cottages, and many from Loni Beach are featured in the photo exhibit at the Gimli Museum.

New Business:

- Civic Addresses: Please be sure to have your residence number prominently displayed. Green signs, which cost about \$35.00 can be ordered by a form obtained in the RM office.
- Sewer: The main concern about the sewer was the affordability, so we need to look more aggressively for grant funds. It was moved Lisa Squair, seconded by Gary Bunion that "the LBRA create a committee to deal with all sewer matters, pertaining to proposals, research, funding sources, and options. This committee needs to gather information on grants available, payment options, cost differentials on pump outs/year vs. sewer long term, etc. CARRIED.

Volunteers for a committee to do this were solicited and Don Cobb, Gary Bunion and Jeff Modjewski volunteered. Note: The Manitoba Municipal Act has dictated the cost allocation for property owners for sewer. How were LIDs set up? What is the equitable way to assess each property owner for the sewer? Why is it the same for a 50' lot or a 150' lot?

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at noon.