

SACIN

FILED

LONI BEACH PROGRESS

September 2002

The Newsletter is back! This year your Board intends to prepare three issues and to provide copies to all residents, members or not. We hope to thereby generate more interest and gain more members when our official membership drive begins next Spring.

WHO IS YOUR BOARD?

Following the July 27, 2002 Annual Meeting, your Board met and elected the following Directors and Officers:

President:

Salín Guttormsson 642-3492

Vice -President:

Larry Weber 642-5238

Secretary:

Bob Moroz 642-8111

Treasurer:

Bernice Emerich 642-5875

Environmental Issues Officer:

Don Cobb 642-5055

Roads & Signage Officer:

Rob Waldman 642-8486

Newsletter Contact & Special

Projects Officer:

Anne Loewen 642-7702

Past-President & RM Liaison:

Joan Guttormsson 642-8798

Your Board is enthusiastic and approachable – don't hesitate to contact any member with items of concern, comments or contributions.

WHAT HAVE WE BEEN DOING?

It has been quite the year what with the sewer hearings, the situation of the wells and the upcoming elections – more on those topics to follow. At this time, we can report that we have:

- brought our status as a Corporation up to date and we have Tim Samson to thank in that regard. Tim kindly arranged for the documentation and necessary information – all with no fees. Þakk Fyrir Tim! (And your membership, Tim, next year is on us);
- contacted MACO, the Manitoba Association of Cottage Owners and Joan will be attending its Annual Meeting in November to determine whether or not there is any benefit to joining this umbrella group. We think there will be, as MACO is currently addressing such areas as school taxes, sewage disposal, potable water and derelict buildings. In addition, through MACO, we have the option of purchasing liability insurance;



- hired one Christine Comte to assist with the preparation of the Newsletters, as well as various other administrative duties. Christine has also designed letterhead for our new stationary;
- approved a Resolution to create a Task Force, chaired by Al Miller, to collect data concerning liquid waste disposal and drinking water quality. Bob Moroz and Don Cobb are also named to this Force and Al will be seeking out at least five other volunteers. The purpose of this Force is to independently amass information as to the type of water and sewage systems in Loni Beach and to assist our property owners in understanding the relevant laws. The data will also be useful should (when?) the sewer issue arise again.....;
- determined it is highly unlikely spraying for Dutch Elm disease will be extended to Loni Beach. Note that both Dutch Elm and Spruce Bud Worm diseases are present in our area;
- applied for a membership with Staples, which could provide our Association with up to \$60/yr in "Dividend\$ Rebates" (yeeha!);
- discovered that this IS hope for a legal reduction of the speed limit from 50 km to 40 km. Last Spring, the RM of Gimli requested and was denied such a reduction, however, over the summer, the Highway Traffic Board conducted a review and unearthed an old by-law which may, in fact, still be enforced, with a 40 km limit. Reeve Chudd is to meet with a Highway

Traffic Board representative to sort this out and we intend to keep the pressure on;

- learned that the December 31, 2002 ban on outhouses has now been deferred for further review in August 2003 – this means that cottagers who use their premises in the off-seasons may continue to make use of their "biffies". Interestingly, this particular bit of important news did not appear in The Spectator until October 7, 2002 ...;



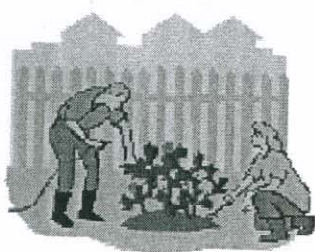
- participated in a University of Manitoba survey regarding the status and health of the volunteer sector and the Faculty of Social Work's results will be made available to us in early January 2003; and
- circulated two questions to all the candidates running for Reeve and Councillors in the October 23, 2002 Elections. The questions and responses are attached for you to review. Remember, this Election is a crucial one and your right to vote should be exercised. Voting could have been done by mail, (if a request was received by the Returning Officer by October 9, 2002), by advance poll on October 18, 2002 (Gimli only) or on Election Day in Gimli, Winnipeg Beach, Arnes and Winnipeg. The Winnipeg polls are located at West Kildonan Collegiate, St. James Collegiate and Glen Lawn Collegiate.

WHAT MORE CAN WE SAY?

To start, we can say "Hurray! The tennis court well is back and working like a charm". Many thanks to all of you who persistently called to request its return.

Thanks also go out to the RM, its administrative staff and to Danny Luprypa, Luke Zaborosky and Kevin Chudd, in particular, for their support and assistance with our first Trash or Treasure Day. By all accounts, it was a HUGE success and a lot of fun. We probably will not run this event every year, but perhaps every two-three years or so ...

We must also thank Glenn Brooks and Hans Wuthrich (of Minerva Farms) for judging Dorothy Goldberg's Annual Yard and Garbage Receptacle Beautification Competition. In case you missed it in The Spectator, Tiffany Stupack and Samuel and Baillie Shuster shared first place for their garbage cans, Brian and Sue Jacobson won first place for most improved yard and Glen and Pam Pollard received an honourable mention in that category.



LOOKING AHEAD – WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Some of the things we are considering are:

1. A community "Rain or Shine" Garage Sale at the tennis courts. Cottagers

would be able to rent a table for a nominal fee (or share one) and display their wares for sale under the comfort of a canvass tarp;

2. Changing, at the suggestion of a number of our members, the Annual Meeting from a Saturday to a Sunday morning; and
3. Resurrecting the Loni Beach barbeque to take place perhaps following the Annual Meeting or the Garage Sale or as a separate event.

SOS

We are attempting to complete our Association records but unfortunately, it appears a lot of documentation has gone astray. If any former Board members have retained anything, please contact Anne in Loni at 642-7702 or in Winnipeg at 772-5556.

LAST BUT NOT LEAST – THE MEANING OF "LONI"

One source has advised that the word "lón" means "Lagoon" in Icelandic and that "Loni" refers to the area named "lón" and farmed by pioneer Gisli Sveinsson. On the other hand, a rather famous filmmaker with roots in Loni Beach suggested some years ago that "loni" is the Icelandic word for "flowing water". (This is doubtful). Yet another interpretation comes from Gene Olson, whose husband is one of Gisli Sveinsson's grandchildren. According to Gene, the name "loni" means "little stream" and referred to the stream which ran south of Howell, behind the cottages now belonging to Joan Guttormsson, the Stirtons, the Redekopps, the Hahlwegs, the

Minuks and the Squairs, into the lake by
Cantor's.



Now, speaking of names, who knows the
origin of Howell and Vaughan?

This Newsletter was prepared by Salín, with Anne's assistance. Any feedback is
welcome and may be directed to Anne, whose telephone numbers appeared
earlier.

P.S. Do we have your correct address?

Have a great



ELECTION ISSUES

Question One: Should the sewer issue arise again in Loni Beach, what process do you see as being the most appropriate to address the interests of Loni Beach residents?

Reeves

Bill Barlow - The sewer issue will certainly arise again. A master plan for the whole municipality has been completed with an immediate focus on the new state-of-the-art waste treatment plant at the Industrial Park. How and when each hooks into that system is clearly a matter of some controversy.

In terms of process, one thing that must never happen is to have a solicitor or a consultant answering questions asked of elected officials by citizens when those officials are present. Solicitors and consultants certainly have a place but they are not the elected ones.

Citizens in a community need to feel a part of the whole not a part of a part. This means that developing a long-range plan for a community has to have input in a round table format from all its parts and from any citizen who wants input. Loni Beach is one neat place that has a particular uniqueness in the Gimli mosaic and it is a uniqueness that the whole community must work to protect and enhance.

On the sewer issue, the ideal would be a recommendation supported by the Residents' Association after a round table process. The recommendation would then come forward for Council debate and decision.

Kevin Chudd - I will work with the residents, through the associations, that I value and support, to build a consensus, identify the needs and determine if it is required or wanted. I will only proceed if there is a consensus. I expect councillors to work more closely with your associations in the future.

Councillors

William Feschuk -

- (a) There should be an environmental study.
- (b) The Municipality should supply each resident the environmental and engineering report.
- (c) The final discussion should be with participation of the majority of the residents of Loni Beach.

Lynn Greenberg - Send all Loni residents a registered letter outlining the total cost. The residents can then mail a response back to the RM. The Council should then make a decision on the residents' wishes.

Donna Harasymec - I believe that if issues arise that are specific to a certain area of the municipality, the residents, both seasonal and permanent, should be contacted in writing by their elected officials for their comments and opinions on the situation. A time limit for responding must be established. If a matter is extremely urgent to someone, it should be discussed personally with the individual and their elected representative. Based on the feedback, the newly elected council would be in a position to review the comments and hopefully make an informed decision that would be beneficial to the area and the entire community.

Marilyn Johnson - The RM of Gimli does have a long-range plan for the delivery of sewer services to those areas east of PTH 9. While this type of long-range plan is a necessary component of community planning, it must be done in consultation with the residents. Future proposals would have to be driven by the residents and the Loni Beach Association.

Doug Kozlowski - Should the sewer issue arise again in Loni Beach due to environmental/health concerns by the province/community or if a request for sewer services is received by a majority of the residents (over 50%), either one of the following two options should be presented for the residents to discuss and decide for councils implementation: A. That every property owner be required to install a holding tank. B. That a municipal sewer system be installed (a gravity system if possible).

Danny Luprypa - You will probably agree with me when I say that the recent Loni Beach sewer issue was a disaster. There is no question that further research was required prior to its initiation. In future, I believe that the process should be entirely "resident driven" prior to any implementation.

Daphne Markusson - I feel that public hearings would give residents the opportunity to voice their concerns. Any major developments should have the consensus of the residents it affects.

Ted Sherbrook - Sanitary sewage disposal requires a pre-established sewage system (which I believe is the case) adequate to service the needs of the Loni Beach residents, be they full-time or part-time residents. I believe that sanitary sewage disposal facilities are in place, servicing the Pelican Beach area, of which all residents were made part of and subject to, with cost factors involved. I believe that homeowners should have some input as to their desires regarding sewage disposal. Having said that, I am of the opinion that environmentally, we should recognize that a sewage disposal facility that is environmentally friendly should be seriously considered, thusly avoiding further future polluting.

Gil Strachan - Due to environmental concerns, the Loni Beach area will have to abandon septic fields. Gravity collection into the town system, similar to houses on 5th St.N. is best solution. Eventually all waste-water will go to regional treatment facility. Cost

should be compared to low pressure equipment or continuous expense of holding tank pump-outs.

Jack Valgardson - I believe the sewer issue will arise again. If and when that happens, a referendum would have to be called in Loni Beach. If it ever becomes a danger to the environment, holding tanks or sewer would become a necessity.

Frank Woods - The process to initiate a new sewer project is determined by provincial government regulations. The municipal government should make sure that all of the affected taxpayers are notified before the process is initiated so that all parties involved have an equal advantage to present their preference.

Luke Zaborosky - The residents of Loni Beach should determine this.

ELECTION ISSUES

Question Two: What is your view as to the possible expansions of the present LUD boundaries to include Loni Beach?

Reeves

Bill Barlow - Of all the internal governance models available for our new Municipality, a Local Urban District would appear to be the least effective. Fortunately, the Municipal Board Order for the new Municipality sets a "drop dead" date for the Gimli LUD and encourages the study of other governance models.

One interesting concept that I really like is the "special area levy" system of setting mill rates – that a mill rate system reflects the level of services that an area within a Municipality actually receives. In earlier merger discussions, the Town and the RM appeared to agree that this concept was worth pursuing. In July 2001, the RM backed away from this in favour of the LUD-on-town-boundaries concept. In short, I don't favour the LUD concept at all ... anywhere.

Kevin Chudd - I am not in favour of extending the LUD boundary to include Loni Beach. I support the LUD as approved. The LUD is an integral component to make the merger successful. This matter has been thoroughly examined and approved by the Town, the Municipality and the Province of Manitoba and is in the best interest of everyone to bring our community together for the benefit of all.

Councillors

William Feschuk - I would be able to answer this question if I had more input.

Lynn Greenberg - The Loni Beach residents should be consulted. The Loni Beach residents should have a vote, yes or no. Therefore, the final decision would come from the Loni residents.

Donna Harasymec - My personal views on the LUD are that if a council is elected that can govern our community effectively, then the LUD might well be dissolved by October 26, 2006. Everything is very dependent on the ability of the newly elected council to develop some long-range plans for the entire community that will be sustainable in the future. If that does not happen, then there are provisions in the provincial order that would allow the new council in consultation with the LUD committee to consider changes prior to March 31, 2006. These could include boundary changes and alternative service delivery options. Any changes would be subject to a public hearing and a report to the Manitoba Municipal Board.

Marilyn Johnson - The LUD is a new component of our Municipal Government. It is a provincially accepted and approved method of providing additional services to a specific geographic area. It will take sometime to develop and understand the pro's and con's of the LUD. Any change to the current LUD status must be done in consultation with all residents in the RM of Gimli. Any decision to be specifically included in the LUD would have to be made by the residents of Loni Beach.

Doug Kozlowski - I foresee no need for the present LUD boundaries to include Loni Beach unless the rural services are not being met satisfactorily and the majority of the residents agree that an LUD expansion is a better option for the residents. However, please remember that the LUD will be dissolved in four years.

Danny Luprypa - As far as I'm concerned, Loni Beach will be included in a LUD proposition only if they choose to do so. If the majority of residents that are impacted reject the proposal, I would aggressively support their position.

Daphne Markusson - The structure of the LUD was for budgeting purposes. This method allows the newly structured RM of Gimli to become familiar with the services and operations of the LUD that has now become part of the RM of Gimli. I do not anticipate any expansion of the LUD.

Ted Sherbrook - As Loni Beach is within the RM jurisdiction, my belief is that a lengthy governmental procedure would have to be initiated (if possible) with the aid and assistance of the RM to realize any reality of being incorporated within the local urban district. I ask a question - What would be the intention, if in the event it was possible?

Gil Strachan - Expanding the LUD boundaries to include Loni Beach will probably be a moot point. The legislation establishing the LUD provides that it will dissolve in 2006 in favour of alternative service delivery and taxation systems.

Jack Valgardson - In 2006, the LUD will be reviewed and at that time, I am hoping the LUD will be dissolved and we will become one community with one council. Loni Beach, in my opinion, will not be part of the LUD even if the LUD is not dissolved in 2006.

Frank Woods - Should this issue arise, I would favour a public process allowing some type of vote by the taxpayers affected.

Luke Zaborosky - I am not in support of it.