

LONI BEACH PROGRESS

Fall 2003

Another season ends, but hey – the Newsletters begin! As usual, this issue is “big” and is mostly business – good things and not so good.

Your 2003/2004 LBRA Executive is:

President:	Salín Guttormsson - 642-3492
Vice-President:	Larry Weber – 642-5238
Secretary:	Ted Wyman – no Loni phone (replacing Bob Moroz)
Treasurer:	Jeff Kerr – 642-9929 (replacing Bernice Emerich)
Environmental Issues Officer:	Don Cobb – 642-5055
Roads & Signage Officer:	Robbie Waldman – 642-8486
Special Projects Officer:	Anne Loewen – 642-7702
Past-President & RM Liaison:	Joan Guttormsson – 642-8798

Feedback is welcome!

GOOD THINGS

Thank You's

- to the volunteers who assisted with the Annual Meeting on July 27, 2003. It was well-attended (the coffee, perhaps, was influential) and by popular vote, it will continue to be held on a Sunday.
- to Carl and Gene Olson for putting together the picture board of the Sveinsson's Farm lands, which we should all know, by now, as Loni Beach.

On the history of Loni, Anne Loewen is investigating the possibility of obtaining a grant from the University of Manitoba to research our area. We are also looking at the provincial government's "Youth Service Manitoba" program for assistance. Hang on to any photos or items of local interest!

- to Glen Pollard and Marv Kass for judging Dorothy Goldberg's Annual Yard and Garbage Receptacle Competition (and to Dorothy, of course, who donates the trophies). Tiffany Stupack took first for her "Loni Beach is a Treasure" refuse chest, with second place going to the Shusters at 28 Loni. The Millards, of 51 NorthLake, won the Yard trophy and second place was awarded to a new resident, Belinda Marentette, of 48 Loni. Next

year, the Rules of the Competition might be altered somewhat, so that only members of the LBRA are eligible to win

- to Al Kristofferson for his extremely interesting presentation on Lake Winnipeg's health. Al's attendance was arranged through executive member Don Cobb. At the Annual Meeting, the LBRA voted to become a member of and to financially support the Lake Winnipeg Research Consortium.
- to the RM of Gimli for once again clearing away the leftovers from the second "Trash or Treasure" event. Originally, this was not going to take place, however, as we were not able to obtain insurance for another activity, a spur of the moment decision was made to try Trash and Treasure again.

Salin's Note: The LBRA cannot be added to the RM's insurance policy and we are told we need to make our own arrangements. We have, therefore, joined MACO (the Manitoba Association of Cottage Owners), through which we can obtain insurance. FYI – MACO's fee is the number of members we have times \$1.00.

- AND TO YOU, our members, for supporting this Association. There are approximately 240 properties in Loni Beach and last year, our membership was a pathetic 55. This year, we have almost 100 members!!! And now that the LBRA Constitution has been amended to allowed people who don't own property to become members (ie., "users" v. title holders), the expectation is for larger numbers in the future.

Salin's Note: The 240 properties include those not usually considered part of Loni Beach, ie., those along 5th Avenue North, East of Colonization Road (towards Highway #9) and the few along PR #222 going North towards Pelican.

NOT SO GOOD THINGS

Recycling

It appeared, for a while, that the recycling mess was under control. However, after a particularly bad stretch following the August-long, wherein bags and bags of unsorted items and not only "pure" garbage, but also household items, furniture, etc. were deposited, Cornerstone Enterprises advised that it will probably replace the bin system with a "blue bag" system, similar to what exists with "blue boxes" in Winnipeg. Members should be aware that the recycling service is not something included with our municipal taxes, but it is funded through the environmental taxes we pay. Members should also note that all of the "recyclables" are hand-sorted (think about this ...).

Me again: Prior to the Annual Meeting, someone had left a large console-type TV set at the recycling depot and we never did find the suspicious red station wagon. Other inappropriate and almost unmentionable items subsequently left at the site

included diapers, collapsible chairs, feminine hygiene products, a dish strainer, watermelon rinds, etc. Yuck.

Task Force

Many will recall that the LBRA appointed a Task Force last Fall to gather information regarding soil conditions and the types of water and sewage systems in Loni Beach. This venture was prompted by apparent (and admitted) lack of information the RM had at the time of its sewer system's Application back in June 2002. The Task Force spent considerable time and effort outlining objectives, preparing a budget and designing a survey, however, when it came time for the RM to commit its support, only photocopying costs (capped at 1000 pages) were approved, along with a proviso that all copying was to be done at the Municipal Office. Your Board will now be considering whether or not this project ought to be pursued, at our own expense. In the meantime, thanks go out to the Task Force members for all their work (Al Miller, Bob Moroz, Don Cobb, Ron Lambert, Bob Steele, Glen Brooks, Larry Weber and Steve Millard).

Salin Says: The Task Force had also asked for a grant of \$600 towards this study. This request was declined, even though the RM, at its Special Meeting of Council on June 10, 2002, had resolved to "take the necessary steps to conduct an area soil and ground water assessment inclusive of a comprehensive review of private sewage systems in Loni Beach". On September 10, 2003, we asked what steps had, in fact, been taken by the RM with respect to this Resolution and the RM advised "this matter has been put on hold owing to the response from area residents to any proposed sewer project". It appears the point was missed – the RM resolved to conduct the assessment and the review because of the response to any sewer project....

Roads/Signage/Speed Limits

Roads – aka Crater Land and Dustville

Conditions were once again raised at the Annual Meeting, with Area Councillor Danny Lupryrpa and Reeve Kevin Chudd. It was made known that our residents are not satisfied, to put it mildly, with the sporadic bandaid approach to repairs and that a long-term plan is critical. To assist the RM, your Robbie Waldman and Jeff Kerr are preparing a map of the trouble spots, which will be presented to the RM with a request for specific action.

Signs – What goes up, then comes down

Your Robbie Waldman also provided a list to the RM delineating where street name signs are required (it seems our signs have a tendency to disappear) and we did see some new ones, but some need correcting (ie., Vaughan is spelled as Vaughn). We have also received a four-way stop sign at Loni and Vaughan, installed at our request, which will hopefully help with the ongoing speed problem.

Speed – is there no limit?

One of the most frustrating issues in our area is controlling vehicle pace. Unfortunately, the violators seem to be both Friday night cruisers and our own residents. Particularly irksome is trying to get to the bottom of what the legal limit is and/or what it should be.

President's Pet Peeve: In reviewing our Association's Minutes, it is clear that the speed limit issue has been unresolved for a long time and I, personally, have been attempting to sort it out for well over a year. My own conclusion is that we are simply getting the runaround – see below:

- February 2002 – At our request, the RM makes an application to the Highway Traffic Board (HTB) for a reduction from 50 k to 40 k.
- April 2002 – The HTB denies the application, but indicates a review will be held over the summer of 2002.
- September 2002 – We contact the HTB and are told that its review revealed an old bylaw with a 40 k limit, however, it was unclear whether or not this bylaw applied to Loni Beach. The HTB returned the matter to the RM to look into.
- December 2002 – We request a follow-up from the RM.
- Early Spring 2003 – The RM advises that the 40 k bylaw was repealed, but an appeal was being pursued with the HTB.
- May 2003 – We request an update from the RM and the RM advises "the issue ... has been forwarded to the HTB for review and comment".
- September 2003 – We again request an update. The RM advises "... [w]e have received no response from the HTB as yet". We therefore contacted the HTB directly and, at the time of this writing, await its response.

MORE FROM THE RM

The RM:

- advised that "the caboose cannot be dealt with" under the Neat & Tidy by-law and that it was unaware of any problem at 89 NorthLake, other than weeds, which were dealt with.
- enacted a new dog by-law (Animal Control By-Law No. 03-0017), prohibiting dogs on any "public beach". This does include Loni Beach, according to the RM.
- denied our request for a contribution to these Newsletters, citing undesirable precedent.
- initiated an investigation into the beach & lakefront land ownership issues through the Department of Conservation. We are told a report from the Directors of Crown Lands and Surveys is expected within the next few weeks.
- obtained the buoys for Loni Beach, but installed them at Gimli's public beach by accident. We are assured the buoys will be correctly placed next year.

- amended the "biffie by-law" after various problems with it were brought to its attention and we understand the by-law had its first reading with Council on September 21, 2003.

MORE FROM THE LBRA

We will not be requesting the installation of a public phone in Loni. The majority indicated in the survey that this was not necessary, given the number of people who now have access to cell phones. In addition, it was pointed out that the phone booth becomes a major fish fly magnet.

We have earned \$35.71 through our business membership at Staples (yippee!!!)

We congratulate Norm & Betty Brown, the winners of the Annual Meeting door prize.

And with that, I will close. Have a happy Fall.

Salin
2003