

LONI BEACH PROGRESS FEBRUARY 2007

President's Message

Hello Cottagers ! I think we are out of the deep freeze and closer to our annual spring cottage opening ! I would like to share with you a couple of the issues the LBRA Executive has been pursuing on your behalf.

Jeff Modjeski, Glen Pollard and Gary Bunio have been gathering information about the various costs associated with a Gravity Sewer System, grant monies available and realistic time lines. At present, under the government programs currently available, seasonal communities are not eligible for infrastructure funding for improvements. This despite the fact our taxes are based on a permanent resident's tax base !

Investigations are ongoing and the LBRA Executive will keep you apprised of any developments.

The idea of a Playground in our very own Loni Beach has long been a desire and our Association has the opportunity to access some funding and site labour through the RM of Gimli. The proposed site is the clearing behind the tennis courts where the old horseshoe pits are located. Tracy Moroz and Leanne Squair have taken the leadership with the Playground initiative, considered possible sites and available funding in consultation with the RM and the LBRA Executive. Various types of playground equipment has been investigated, with cost and accessibility as key factors.

The Playground Committee (Tracy, Leanne and me so far....and anyone else who is interested) will be responsible for the clearing of the site, the layout of the park, marking off and identifying trees and shrubs to be retained for shade, buffer and

aesthetics in 2007. The site plan needs to be completed in 2007 and once approved by the RM, Public Works can then complete this work. The Loni Beach Playground equipment is listed for development in 2008. The RM has stated the playground equipment can then be purchased and installed in 2008. There might even be benches and a covered gazebo similar to Stevenson's Park in South Beach!

There may be some relief and remedy ahead for our lovely Lake Winnipeg with the release of several recommendations in a report by the Lake Winnipeg Research Consortium. No more swimming in green algae!

I am looking forward to seeing everyone in Loni Beach in May/June. The LBRA Annual General Meeting will take place in early July, 2007. Please keep your eyes posted to our webpage, notice boards in Loni, Cable TV 6 and The Interlake Spectator for the date, time

and place. Please bring a few friends with you and encourage your neighbours to join the LBRA.

CHEERS
LISA SQUAIR

*****Executive Reports*****

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Grant Zipursky, our LBRA Treasurer, has the 2005-2006 financial report ready for review. Copies will be made available at the Annual General Meeting, but if you would like a copy now, contact Grant: gzip@mts.net or Lisa: lmgras@mts.net.

WEBSITE REPORT:

Gord Hahlweg has been slugging away at getting our site (www.lonibeach.org) going. Most of the Annual General

Meeting Minutes have now been added in the Archive Section, however, we are missing the Minutes from 1999, 2000 and 2001. If you have copies, please contact Gord: saltpath@mts.net. Please also let us know what you think about the site itself...your feedback is important !

HISTORY REPORT:

CTV has not yet contacted us about producing the episode for its History Bluff series on our "Tennis Corpses" myth, but I (Salin) sent it a reminder February 8..I have also had a few exchanges with Tammy Axelsson, in her New Iceland Heritage Museum Executive Director capacity and I hope to get together in the next short while to discuss possible funding sources for a Loni Beach history.

MUNICIPAL LAW ISSUES REPORT:

At its November 22 meeting, Gimli Council indicated it is considering creating a new position, that of a "By-Law Enforcement Officer". Rob Dowhan, our Municipal Law Issues Chair, advises that this can make some sense, as often Council is required to wear 2 hats when it comes to By-Law enforcement.

ROADS & SIGNAGE REPORT:

It took some time, but the resident requested 3 way stop signs are finally up at the corner of Vaughan and Lake !

BEACH OWNERSHIP:

"Attached" is correspondence from Loni Beacher Richard Rice along with copies of a letter from the RM of Gimli dated June 6, 2002 and a letter from Manitoba

Conservation dated July 28, 2006.

Special Events

No report for this Issue from Jude Guzzi, who is in charge of the Parade Float and a LBRA information booth at Islendingadagurinn. With the Spring Membership Applications, we will be asking for volunteers to help Jude out with both of these projects.

*******NEWS*******

- . Our condolences to the families of Marjorie Asgeirson, who passed away February 12, 2007.
- . Glen Brooks is NOT the councillor assigned to look after Loni Beach (my guess, as reported in the Fall Progress)

was wrong..) as Council has devised an entirely new system of "rotating area assignments". This system will see all four of the councillors having an opportunity to get to know us - So, from now until October 31, 2007, Bill Barlow is our Council Area Liaison. Brian McKenzie will then take over until October 31, 2008.

- . Our "friend" Roger Newman retired last month from The Interlake Spectator, but he has "retired" before and says he is reserving his right to return to work....
 - . A rather interesting article also appeared in the January 26, 2007 Interlake Spectator concerning another "friend", Stride
-
-

Developments...the link from our website will give you the full story, but, in brief, Stride was given a "development incentive" or bonus to build Gimli Shores (the condo complex on First Ave) in the amount of \$114,000.00. Although these sorts of "incentives" are not unusual, the article points out that the Stride situation was "unique" in a number of ways:

- the nature of the expenditure was not clearly stated in the financial plan presented to the former Council last May and was only just discovered by the new Council;
- the former Council did not pass a resolution approving the payment;
- the bonus was \$16,000.00 over what was first budgeted;
- the development was approved at the

very same meeting it was presented;
-13 parking lots were also provided
along a municipally-owned back lane;
and
-the development agreement was not
made public.

You don't have to be Rhodes Scholar
to wonder what might have been going
on with the "Bungalows at Loni
Beach".....

- . And what a nice lead in to this: it
appears there may be 3 real Rhodes
Scholars with ties to Loni Beach ! One
for sure is KERRY STIRTON who took
the scholarship in 1985. Also noticed
was a Norman F. CANTOR (1954) and
a M.D. HOLLENBERG (1964) in the
recent Free Press article - perhaps
relatives of 24 and 64 North Lake ?

- Lastly, do you have a business, service or skill to advertise? - do you want "free" literary publishing? Drop me a line - love to hear from you !

Salin Guttormsson
dotsalin@hotmail.com

Next Issue:
"Memberships"
May 2007

