



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Lake Barron Citizens Association (LBCA)
Saturday June 22nd 2024, 10:00 p.m. at Trinity
Community Center
Minutes of Meeting



1. **WELCOME/QUORUM** : President's words of welcome. Encouraging to see a great response to the over 200 Surveys mailed out by Gore (100 sent back). A thank you to Gore and its employees. Results to be presented at a later time. A bilingual Power Point presentation outlining events and issues from the past year and in the future will be shown. A request that questions be saved until the Question Period nearer the end of the presentation. The leadership team and the committees were introduced. The quorum is achieved.
2. **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA FOR 2024**: Proposed by Jamil Ménaceur
Seconded by Benoit Meloche. Majority in favour. Resolution is carried.
3. **ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES FROM AGM OF 2023**: Proposed by Rob Kirkpatrick. Seconded by Joseph Amiel. Majority in favour. Resolution is carried.
4. **TREASURER'S REPORT**: Report is attached as an addendum. After the Report, the President said a few words to honour Denyse Tremblay who is stepping down. Her work and dedication as a member and Treasurer of the Association was exemplary.
5. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**: The LBCA is involved in the Alliance of Gore Lake Association meetings every year where common issues and concerns are discussed. Representatives attend environmental meetings by organization in Quebec. Two Directors attended the RAPPEL FORUM ON LAKES in April 2024. Zone reps are so important so that the Association can keep in touch with residents around the lake. Need reps for Cambria, My Estate, and rue B and B.
6. **ENVIRONMENT** :
 - a. **ENVIRONMENT WATER TESTING STATIONS**: A map of LB (Lake Barron) showed the locations of the 3 testing stations for water quality. This is done 3 times a summer and transparency 7-8 times. Transparency has decreased due to runoff, sediment being disturbed, and shoreline erosion. Increase in phosphorus 6.7% since 2022 and scores at Station C higher.



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- b. **AQUATIC PLANT SURVEY:** To be held on Monday July 15, 2024. A signup sheet was provided.
- c. **SEPTIC SYSTEMS:** Discussion about how to improve the situation that there are **32 systems in need of urgent adjustment**. Once a system is considered at risk, it can sometimes take years for the Municipality to affect the changes needed. An eco loan is available for any Gore property owner who qualifies for assistance to upgrade the septic system.

Rémi St-Laurent met with the municipality to discuss the situation. It was explained that the process is very long to get a septic tank that conforms to the norms. Warnings are sent to the owner, the owner can ignore the warning, 2nd warning is sent, if still no answer from the owner, the case is escalated to the municipal court. The whole process can take up to more than 3 years.

- d. **TABLE OF WATER TEST RESULTS:** Water testing is carried out by volunteers, and the samples sent to a lab in Ste-Agathe. The Réseau Surveillance Volontaire des Lacs (RSVL) provides the instructions and equipment and the municipality pays for the lab tests. The colourful chart (Heather McCullough) shows results over the years until 2023. We observed increasing levels of Dissolved Organic Carbon from 2018 to 2023 (3.8-5.0 mg/L) and we observe a decrease in transparency in 2023 but it has fluctuated in the previous years. Trending upward for phosphorus but still at an acceptable level. Lake is said to be at an oligo-mesotrophic stage indicating some signs that the lake is aging.
- e. **PHOSPHORUS: Testing of streams for phosphorus:** Good results at all streams (West Tributary, Williams at Birch, Ch. Halbert).
- f. **WATER TEST TRAINING SESSION AT LB FOR ANYONE FROM A GORE LAKE:** LB hosted this training session with Mark Romer, a biologist from



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Lake Ray and Heather McCullough, plant specialist and expert in water testing from Lake Hughes. Thank you to Walter McNicholl for transport.

- g. PHRAGMITES:** Photos were shown of phragmites invading the sandbar at Williams Creek. Handouts were available outlining the differences between native and invasive phragmites as well as steps to combat it. The steps to be taken if suspected include sending photos to Gore Inspector, May Landry; knowledge of how to properly eradicate it, and gather volunteers to help. A sign up sheet for volunteers was provided.
- 7. COMMUNICATION:** A newsletter was sent out in June outlining past events and issues and looking to the future. Websites are being updated. Photos can be shared on the website: send to president@lbca.ca Thank you to Dave Anderson, Lilianne Lord, and Danielle Grout for their work on the sites over the years. Lois Pohlod and Diane Drury will continue this work. Thanks to Lois for handling our communications (Facebook, emails, contact lists).
- 8. BOATING AND SAFETY:**

 - a. BUOYS** – most in good shape from winter, missing one in the rocks area but will be replaced, 3 small buoys available in storage, buoys around the rocks have lights May to Oct., no plans to add buoys or replace the stolen ones (cost \$3000).
 - b. PERMITS AND BOAT LAUNCH** – 125 Permits 2023, 118 in 2022. Day Permits 8, 10 Sea Doos, 3 fines for boats without stickers. Question of whether security at the Launch and cleanliness of boats is adequate to protect the lake: need an attendant? A certificate proof of cleanliness? An increase in fees to pay for the above must be passed at City Council.

PROPOSAL:

WHEREAS the LCBA members would like to see the security increased at the boat launch on Ch Scott and owned by the municipality

IT IS MOVED BY: Rémi St-Laurent



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SECONDED BY: Rob Kirkpatrick

AND RESOLVED by the majority of present members :

To ask the municipality to :

- Hire an attendant to man the gate with a lock and key and check boats and trailers for cleanliness
- Enlarge the fence to prevent access

The resolution is carried.

9. SURVEY RESULTS: Graphs and tables of the results will be posted on the LBCA website. A general summary was presented by Danielle Parent who had tabulated all the results. Purpose of the Survey was to find out the demography, residents' rankings of what is important regarding lake health, and the activities of interest.

- a. **Lake health:** Priorities included septic systems, water quality, and invasive plants.
- b. **Social activities:** mixed support
- c. **Membership in LBCA:** seen as important; 44 members as of the date of the AGM
- d. 78% live on lakefront; 49% have had property for more than 21 years, 55% of total are 51+ years old
- e. **Motorized boats:** 67 **Non motorized:** 232
- f. **Most popular summer activities:** boating, swimming, relaxing;
winter: snowshoeing, downhill skiing, x-country skiing

10. VARIA:

- a. **LBCA Bylaws :** need updating as they were written in 1962 and the language needs to be more clear and simplified. The Board of directors will work on this in 2024-2025.



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- b. Investigation into changing the French name:** “riverain” to “résidents”. To be more inclusive of those not on waterfront property. Some felt there were more important matter to concentrate on. Financial and Legal implications may be too onerous to take on.

WHEREAS the name Association des riverains du lac Barron does not represent only riverains but owners that are 2nd line or even 3rd line to the lake but do have access to the lake:

IT IS MOVED BY: Étienne Viel

SECONDED BY: Jamil Ménaceur

AND NOT RESOLVED by the majority of present members:

To propose to investigate the implications (costs and others) of changing the name from Riverains to Résidents in the association’s name

The resolution is not carried.

- c. Tricentris visit:** A tour of the recycling facility in Lachute, Tricentris, was mentioned as a proposed activity. Sign up sheets available.

11. QUESTIONS:

- a. Re Finances:** Question about the existence of an LBCA urgent account.
Ans. Doesn’t exist anymore
- b. Re Septic Report from Gore:** state of septic systems on the Lake a priority for the Association members.

WHEREAS the situation with the 32 non conforming septic tanks concerns a majority of the LBCA members;

IT IS MOVED BY: Luc Lavoie



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SECONDED BY: Mark Downing

AND RESOLVED by the majority of present members:

To approach the municipality to ask what their plans are for improving those septic systems that are in need of urgent adjustment.

The resolution is carried.

12.ELECTION OF DIRECTORS :

There were no nomination so the existing 3 directors (Heather Anderson, Rémi St-Laurent and Danielle Parent) will remain in place.

13.FINAL REMARKS

The president gave her final remarks and thank the members to have come to the AGM.

14.ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING:

IT IS MOVED BY: Joseph Amiel

SECONDED BY: Jamil Ménaceur

AND RESOLVED by the majority of present members

TO CLOSE the meeting at 12:30 P.M.

The resolution is carried.