

Date: August 5, 2008
Location: St Philomena's Church Hall
Subject: Minutes of the HIRA Annual General Meeting

Attendance: 29 attendees.

DISCUSSION

Minutes of last year's general annual meeting were accepted as given.

Terry Botten recognized Roger Scott-Taggart for his past service to HIRA prior to his untimely passing during the past year.

Faye Muller reported that last year we had 106 paid members. To date, we have renewed 77. Renewals can be sent to HIRA c/o Gary Hall, 213 Goodfriend Dr. Howe Island, ON K7G 2V6

Gary Hall presented the Treasurer's Report. The opening balance was \$821.96 and closing balance as of June 30, 2008 was \$854.04. The incorporation of HIRA is now official which will present HIRA in a stronger light when communicating with governments and prevent other groups from using the HIRA name.

Some of the issues that HIRA worked on this past year with support from HIRA members included:

Transportation

- ensure that the heavy truck restriction remained in place during rush hours
- worked with Township to keep the Foot Ferry running during winter months
- worked with Township to ensure an inventory of spare parts for the Foot Ferry was kept on the island.

Emergency Transfer Guidelines

- worked with Chief Mike Quinn to detail guidelines that are now published on HIRA's website, www.howeisland.org, re medical transfers.

Sale of Township Property

- There was little support from HIRA members to follow up with the Township with regard to the sale of Lot 5.

Website

- Gerry Ross has worked very hard to continue to improve our website and to add other Island links. The site is a wealth of information on items that effect us as residents.

<p>2008/2009 Board of Directors</p> <p>Stepping down are Lisa Webb, Geoff Hobbs and David Jones. Joining is Bob Staples. We would like to hear from any Islander who is interested in participating on the board.</p>	
<p>Official Plan</p> <p>Brian Humphrys lead the meeting through an explanation of the Official Plan process. He pointed out the importance of all residents becoming involved in the process as it will affect us all. Brian will keep residents up to date on the process and how to object or support the plan.</p>	
<p>Transportation</p> <p>Gary Nichol reported that the current plan is to run the Foot Ferry during Jan, Feb. and March. Also, there will be no work done on the roads this year. That will be held over until 2009.</p>	<p>Gary N. to review with Township as 2008 road budget was approved by Council at their June 9 meeting</p>
<p>Deer Overpopulation</p> <p>Terry Botten discussed the deer problem on the island and his discussion with Dr. Gonzales, Ecosystem/Park Ecologist re the deer population. She has agreed to do a presentation to us all in the Fall. We will notify all when a date is determined.</p>	
<p>Other Issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A discussion was conducted about the phone service on the island and frequent issue of static, etc. on the lines and service outage. It appears that the system needs some extensive work. • Trash by the ferries continues to be a problem. Council has refused to place garbage bins there as they are concerned about emptying them. The idea was also raised that we should have a Anti-Litter law as a deterrent to litterers. • Brush. This issue was also raised that we should have an area to place yard waste and brush to avoid open burning. This could be chipped as needed and the mulch used in island gardens. • The former fire hall/school house on North Shore Road is available from the Catholic School Board and some would like to see the heritage building utilized as an area to display the heritage of the island. The township has informed the school board that we do not want the building. 	<p>HIRA to address with residents prior to contacting Bell</p> <p>HIRA to review with Township as well as re-visiting clear/coloured glass collection.</p> <p>HIRA to review with Township and Norterra Organics</p> <p>HIRA to review with Township</p>
<p>MEETING ADJURNED AT 8:30 PM.</p>	