



Sturgeon Point Association

84 Irene Avenue, Sturgeon Point, Ontario, K0M 1N0

www.sturgeonpoint.com



October 30, 2013

Greetings SPA Members,

After a wonderful Thanksgiving weekend, our minds begin to wander to what the weather will bring next. Will it be a short and tame winter, or will it be one of those great Canadian winters of, what seems to be, the past. As we make plans for chilly weekends skiing, skating or reading by the fire or warm get away, we can't help but remember what a great summer this was and how much we look forward to next year.

SPA AGM:

On The Sunday of Labour Day weekend, we held our annual AGM. There was a great turnout of over 60 residents. At the meeting there were reports from the board, reports from the community, our Councillor Brian Junkin spoke, and four new directors were elected.

Roads seemed to be the great topic of discussion at the meeting and there were many questions directed at Councillor Junkin about the condition of them and what we as a community want done with them (with some diverging opinions). This will be discussed further within this newsletter.

Councillor Junkin again discussed the City of Kawartha Lakes secondary plan and the planned growth within the community; Fenelon Falls being the place expected to have the largest population growth in the next ten years. He discussed the challenges the growth within the City and the need for new infrastructure to accommodate the increases in population. This is something that we are continuing to follow, as specific planned communities could have an impact on Sturgeon Point Road.

Lisa did a synopsis of the past year in which she discussed the role of the SPA board and the importance of the involvement of the community. There will be the need to replace several members of the board at the end of this year and of course, these new directors have to come from within the community. In years past, the board has spent much time recruiting (with varying degrees of success) new board members and I would like to implore the members of our community to stand up and volunteer (chances are we'll ask you at some point anyways).

Lisa also discussed the mandate of the board:

The Sturgeon Point Association is a voluntary organization established to represent the interests of the permanent and seasonal residents of the Village of Sturgeon Point following its amalgamation on July 1, 2001 into the city of Kawartha Lakes. One of the Association's primary functions will be to ensure that the historical character of Sturgeon Point, as defined by its original municipal boundaries, is maintained and enhanced to preserve the unique ambience and atmosphere that gives Sturgeon Point its special appeal. The Association will also represent the interests of the community by working with elected representatives and governments at all levels in matters of mutual interest.

The board has decided that in order to maintain our focus on the interests of the community, we need to cut back on our organization of events. The board will focus specifically on the AGM, Civic Holiday celebration and regatta, and Canada Day celebration. This means that the other events which we've added over the past few years will require volunteers in order to continue. The board will continue to provide funds and advertising for these events and volunteers can contact any of the board members to help.

SPA BOARD:

At our AGM, four new board members were elected to the board. Thank you to outgoing directors; Paula McMurtry and Jeremy Hall. We welcome new directors Barbara Allen, Jacqui Mutch, Phil Robertson, and Debra Taylor. Here are the 2013-14 directors’ roles:

Director	Portfolio
Chris Van Lierop	President & Treasurer
Lisa Vehrs	Past-President
Patricia Aspinwall	Vice-President & Communications
Debra Taylor	Secretary
Bob LeCraw	Membership & Environment
Jim Milford	Roads & Maintenance
Judy Haverkort	Social
Phil Robertson	City Liaison
Jacqui Mutch	Communications
Maria Marlin	Director at Large
Barbara Allen	Director at Large

STURGEON POINT WATER ASSOCIATION:

Many residences in Sturgeon Point have access to the Sturgeon Point water system for use for outdoor water. Keeping this water system organized and maintained has been done by the Sturgeon Point Water Association. Until the end of this year, we have been lucky to have a generous member of our community, Dave Kennedy, make sure that dues are collected, the water is flowing well and the hydro meter is paid. Unfortunately, Dave is moving from the Point and will no longer be taking care of this role. He is to be thanked immensely for longstanding contribution to the village. Dave will certainly be missed in the community. Dave’s move, however, means that we need another member of the community to take over. Dave says it’s a really easy task, people generally pay without being asked, and there are literally only a few phone calls to make and cheques to write. He has even offered to help get things started next year. If you are someone who relies on this water, we would like to hear from you if you would be willing to take on or help with this role. This is a job, which is absolutely imperative to the community. Please contact me (chris@sturgeonpoint.com) if you would like more information or want to volunteer.

MEMBERSHIP:

The 2012-13 membership year has been a huge success! This year we set a record (as far as the records go) for number of members at 275 (and counting). The board considers this a huge success. We can attribute this to new ways of tracking who has joined (Bob LeCraw is a master with a spreadsheet) and to great new neighbors, who have recognized the importance of an active community association. Membership is for all adult members of each household and your funds go to continuing to maintain the village in its entirety: Making sure that lands are kept clear of obstacles, are accessible, beautiful and well cared for, The Leaf Dump maintenance is organized, furniture is in good condition, the porta-potty is available, and events thoughtfully executed. Thank you to everyone who became members/renewed membership and participated or volunteered for our annual events and for your support to help keep the community’s interests in the spotlight. I would be remiss if I also didn’t thank everyone who donated as part of their membership. Your donations are much appreciated and are a big factor in maintaining the village.

ROADS:

There was much discussion with Councillor Junkin at the AGM about the City’s plan for the roads in Sturgeon Point. With Forest Rd. and 4th St. planned to be repaved in 2016, the board became concerned about the City of Kawartha Lakes ability to stick to their engineer’s plans, when we heard that a petition had been put forth for council to have another community moved onto and up the list of communities to be served. We decided that we needed to make

our position clear on what our community wanted for 2 roads that were on the city's list. I have included as an attachment our letter to Councillor Junkin. Councillor Junkin forwarded all information on to the City's engineering department in hopes that someone would be out shortly to take a look at doing some temporary maintenance (pot hole filing, etc.). We will continue to be in contact with Councillor Junkin about the condition of our roads and we are in the midst of finding clarity on whether the city has the assumption of Lake Ave. from Irene Ave. to Henry St. and what their plans are for keeping it maintained. We are also in communication with him regarding having Henry St. added to the list for repaving.

Roads seem to have become a large focus at the moment and we will keep the community abreast of the situation.

LEAF DUMP:

The Leaf Dump is certainly at its busiest these days and it has become apparent that it is getting close to capacity. There has been a bit of contention at the Leaf Dump as of late, with some notice of construction material and brush being dump, as well as non-community members using it. The village is privileged to have such as easy place to dispose of leaves and clippings, unfortunately when unacceptable materials end up in the dump, it adds to the cost of maintaining this area. After a meeting with the Sturgeon Point Land trustees, it has been decided to limit access to the Leaf Dump only to members of the Sturgeon Point Association. As of November 1st, the gate to the Leaf Dump will be closed and a combination lock will be installed. All SPA members will be given the combination. We would ask that you unlock the gate when in use and lock it when not in use. We are hoping this will stop members of other communities from using it and provide an opportunity for people considering using the leaf dump for anything other than the posted acceptable materials to consider otherwise.

UPPER WHARF:

After a very successful summer of swimming and lounging at the Upper Wharf, it seems that this wonderful place has cemented itself in the routine of so many families. After the successful installation of stairs, the addition of furniture and ladders, the Wharf rain shelter is the next thing to be taken care of. This historic building, has unfortunately taken a beating (literally and figuratively) over the years and is need of some major care. As the last remaining building of its kind in the area, the importance of this historically designated building can't be overstated. As the outside of the building is designated historic and is part of the lands of Sturgeon Point, we are responsible for maintaining its historical character. You may have noticed that the building has a little lean to it. We have begun taking steps to figure out how to return the building to its old grandeur, and make it a useful space for the community. We have formed a committee, including Lisa Vehrs, myself, Leslie Thomas (a land trustee), Jo Breyfogle (who was part of the designation process) and several community members, to make sure that we get this building back into its one fine form. This will likely happen in Spring 2015 and there will certainly be more information to come throughout the year. We will be applying for a City of Kawartha Lakes and Trillium Foundation grants and donations from the community will be greatly appreciated.

Given such a successful participation year from our community, we can only hope that the upcoming seasons continue to bring neighbours, friends, and family together. We hope that everyone enjoys this upcoming winter.

Sincerely,

Chris

Chris Van Lierop
President

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