



Sturgeon Point Association

Fall 2007 Newsletter
September 28, 2007

Dear SPA Members,

The SPA Board of directors for 2007-2008 has had their first 2 meetings and I would like to report to you on our activities and focus this year.

First, let me introduce you to your new board and their positions:

Lynne Manning	President
Tom Anders	Vice-President
Don Holloway	Public Works
Jill Hunt	Treasurer
Maureen McKellar	Membership
Greg Taylor	Playground
James Wisener	Communication
Chris Appleton	Secretary
Nelia Steward	Heritage
Ken Nyhuus	Director at Large

I would like to explain the process that happens to elect your board. We will be putting the By-laws and Mission Statement on the SPA website for all to see.

According to the by-laws, at the Annual General Meeting, the board puts forth a slate of nominees to the floor. There is also a call for nominations from the floor. If there are more nominations than the numbers of directors positions called for in the by-laws, then a ballot election is held. When the board is putting together their slate, they have many things to take into consideration such as skills needed, representatives of different age groups and different geographic areas in the Point. This way, it is felt that the association gets the best representation to express the various issues of Sturgeon Point. At the first Board Meeting, held immediately after the AGM, the Board then elects the Directors to their positions. One of the needs this year was for leadership. Tom and I are both Past Presidents and that is why we were approached.

I would like to thank Larry Thomas for his 3 years as President. That is a long time to do this job and Larry has done a terrific job in keeping the Association moving. As well, I would like to thank Sharon Howard and David Agnew who both have finished their terms and have left the Board. They have also done some hard work for us all. Thanks to all of you from all of us!

The Issue that has come up as the major concern has been the playground, not only from the Board, but also from many residents that have talked to us all.

We knew in the first years of SPA that the playground would not pass the current CSA standards, but as we had no money, we did a few things to increase safety. However, the issues are now more serious. We had one swing held together with Duct Tape, another one that couldn't be replaced because of the age of the equipment and the wrong clamps at the top; the large slide will not pass and

the base of the playground is unsafe with so many roots and trees right beside where children are playing. While I know that there are many who feel that the playground was fine for them, the litigious world that we currently live in and our genuine concern for the safety for our children and grandchildren makes it time to take some action.

For those that don't know, the playground, the public dock, the Government dock and one other piece of land on the waterfront are in a trust that was put together by our last Village Council, before amalgamation, to protect these lands from being changed by the new City of Kawartha Lakes. There are 4 trustees. This is similar to the Church, the Sailing Club and the Golf Club. However, the trustees have directed SPA to manage the properties. This has its advantages in that we control it, but as it is not part of the City, they will not fund this for us. We investigated this in 2000 when we first understood that we had a problem.

So where are we? As of now, the Playground is closed until the summer of 2008. Greg Taylor is chairing a committee of 5 parents to immediately start working on what is needed in the playground, and then to come up with a plan and a budget by December 29th. Over the years, your memberships and donations have been carefully managed for a moment such as this. We have \$18,000 in the bank and we will be doing some major fundraising to come up with the remaining funds needed. We will certainly be encouraging as many members as possible. This is a real example of why all family members and all family generations need to belong to SPA. By the way, we are still selling the 2007 membership that you might have forgotten to get and 2008 memberships will be sent out in the spring. Check out the website www.sturgeonpoint.com for membership information.

The playground committee has set up an email address to receive your input and ideas: sturgeonpointpark@hotmail.com

Moving onto other areas of concern.

1. Lights – those on Henry Street will be pleased to know there are now lights. However, the overall questions of lights will be addressed again with the city.
2. The 50 mph sign has gone up on Sandy Point Road to try to slow down the traffic and make it safer for children.
3. This year is the 170th Anniversary of the Regatta. We will be working closely with the sailing club to help celebrate such an occasion.
4. We also will be reviewing the Public Beach and some safety issues there.
5. The "Village Office" needs to be looked at. We either need to identify a community need for the building or we need to sell it, as it requires a new roof and other work. If anyone has any sustainable ideas for its use that are either self-financing or of great benefit to the community, let us know,

We are always looking for your input, particularly this year. If you wish to contact me, I can be reached at 705-887-1989 or lmanning@i-zoom.net. You can also check out our website at www.sturgeonpoint.com. If you would like to help on any of our committees, we are always looking for volunteers. Contact any of the board members to let them know.