

Mattatall Lake Stewardship Association
AGM June 9th, 2024
1.30 pm, Wentworth Rec Center

Welcome - Donna Spracklin (President)

1. **Minutes of the previous meeting AGM June 11, 2023** were circulated. **Motion to approve the minutes as presented: Moved - John Green, 2nd Kim Bursey - carried**

2. Updates:

2.1 - Water Quality - Donna Spracklin - The Lake water was sampled for T Phosphorus 3 times last year, with the cost of such covered by the NSECC for the time. The average level of T Phos in the lake water sampled slipped to GOOD (less than 0.020 mg/L) from the excellent levels of 2020 to 2022 (less than 0.010 mg/L) The first sample of 2024 taken in May was also in this category. (0.014 mg/L T Phos). While there is no obvious reason for this elevation, with climate changes causing wind and rain events and humans doing what we do there are plenty of opportunities for T phosphorus to reach the lake. So we will continue to educate and encourage our lakereaders on good stewardship practices.

Last year in July Mattatall Lake was reported as having a Blue-Green Algal Bloom on the NSECC website. While this report was not thought to be accurate, we found that we were unable to have it removed. We did learn that the NSECC does not confirm any of the reported suspected blue-green algal blooms and that we should try to confirm as much as possible that any reported sightings are indeed likely a blue-green algal bloom before we report one. So if any suspicious algal growth is spotted we ask that if possible additional opinions be sought before reporting on the NSECC website. The fact that we know roughly that the Tphos level of the lake is Good, means that a blue-green algal bloom is LESS LIKELY, but not impossible and we cannot assume it would not happen.

2.2 Outflow signage. Signs were made up last year denoting a speed limit of 10 km/hr, Private Bridge, Use at Own Risk. They have been contracted to be placed on solid posts put in on the lake side of the Aqua Vista Dr (away from the pipeline) with the permission of the pipeline - the Contractor is Jason Langille, an Aqua Vista Land owner who does the road work there with his heavy equipment. He will erect the signage when he does the road work in the near future. The old posts and signs have been repeatedly damaged by vehicles of one kind or another and we are trying to make that less likely to happen.

2.3 Loons, Buoys and Aquatic Plants - Gary Jollimore - Loons - loons are back, (1 chick fledged last year!), white floats will go out soon to denote the shallows. Aquatic plant build up is worrisome, physical removal is our only known control.

2.4 Hemlock Hill - Charlene Tatttrie - The trail through Hemlock Hill is mostly open. Many trees have been flagged, this is for monitoring purposes, they are not tagged for removal. Insect catching boxes have been placed, this is to monitor for the presence of the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid. This insect has been found so far in Kentville but not reported here as yet. The public (ATV's as well) are welcome to use the trail, but should be respectful and do no damage, no off trail ATC use. Evidence of campfires has been seen. This is not a respectful use of this space. Charlene is the liaison to the Nature Conservancy of Canada re Hemlock Hill so if you have questions or concerns please direct them to her at chartatttrie@hotmail.com

3.Treasurer's Report: Shirley Shorsdahl

Bank Balance as of 1 April 2023

\$ 3643.91

CREDITS:

Membership Fees	\$ 1625.00
Colchester County Insurance rebate	\$ 385.00
Refund Bank Charges	\$ 3.00

TOTAL CREDITS	\$ 2013.00
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DEBITS:

Website Maintenance	\$ 138.00
Bank Fees	\$ 51.00
Registry of Joint Stocks	\$ 31.15
Bridge Signs	\$ 218.50
Rental Fire Hall	\$ 60.00
Insurance	\$ 770.00

TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 1268.65
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Revenue less Expenses	\$ 744.35
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BANK BALANCE as 31 March 2024:

\$ 4388.26

Shirley Sorsdahl,
MLSA Treasurer

Budget:

	2024 - 2025	2023-2024	2023-2024
Budget	Budget	Actual	Budget
# Residents Contributing *	65	65(67)*	60
Beginning Bank Balance (1 April 2023)	4388.26	3643.91	\$3643.91
Revenues			
Membership Fees	1625.00	1625.00	\$1500.00
Contributions by Residents			
Refund Bank Charges		3.00	
Colchester County Insurance Rebate	375.00	385.00	\$410.00
Total Revenue	2000.00	2013.00	\$1910.00
Expenses			
Water Testing	100.00		\$100.00
Quatro Device			
Insurance	770.00	770.00	\$820.00
Install Bridge Signs	500.00		
Other: Bridge Signs		218.50	
Website Development, Renewal Fee	138.00	138.00	\$200.00
Fireman's Assoc - Rec Hall Rental	60.00	60.00	
Registry of Joint Stocks	32.00	31.15	\$32.00
Speakers for AGM			
Administration and bank charges	55.00	51.00	\$55.00
Total Expenses	1655.00	1268.65	\$1206.20
Revenue less Expenses	345.00	744.35	\$703.80

Ending Bank Balance		4388.26*	\$4345.71

*Note: \$3000 of the above money in the bank will be earmarked for the Bridge Maintenance Fund.

Moved that the presented Financials and Budget be accepted - Moved John Bonell 2nd Keith Loudon, Carried.

4. Election of Board Members

We are sad to see Shirley retire from her stint as Treasurer and wish to thank her for stepping up and helping out for the last few years. It has been greatly appreciated and has allowed this group to carry on. A new Treasurer is very needed.

Retiring - Shirley Sorsdahl

Returning - Gary Jollimore, Michelle Gillis, Dixon Nuber, Charlene Tatttrie, Donna Spracklin.

Nominated from the floor - Cathy Parker accepts the Treasurer's position!

- Melissa May!

This brings the complement of board members to 7 - accepted by acclamation.

Motion to Adjourn - 2.15 pm Moved - Roger Sorsdahl

Speaker - Ken Newcombe - Firesmart - Fire Preparedness. Ken Newcombe is a professional forester who now works with the NS Dept of Natural Resources with their FireSmart Program. He is also a volunteer fireman.

Ken first gave us a summary of the 2 big forest fires last year in Nova Scotia - The largest one in NS history being the one in Barrington that burned 58,000 Ac.

Points taken from his talk:

- Most fires in NS are 2 acres or less. Most are 2nd to human activity. The penalty now for an illegal burn is \$25,000.
- The roads around Mattatall Lake as many are narrow and most are with 1 way in and out. Both of these issues are a fire safety concern. Firefighters do not stay, or do not go in if there is not a safe way to exit. He acknowledges that connecting these roads may not be wanted or affordable, but the community on the roads should consider the situation and see if solutions (2 way in and outs) can be found.

- Check in on novascotia.ca/burnsafe for the rating before burning. Note: March 15 to Oct 15 anywhere in NS no burning anytime 8 am to 2 pm. Check daily if you can burn outside this time.
- Blow downs (trees) make fire fighting from the ground difficult or impossible. For fire safety remove all blown down trees and remove dead brush. If burning is needed burning in the winter should be done as it is much safer. Any non commercial fire should be kept to below 10 ft by 6 ft high. Larger than that requires a permit.
- FireSmarting your residence. NOTE: structures are made less likely to burn by certain measures as follows on the FireSmart Home Ignition Zone Assessment Guide. It is not always just random which structures survive. Ken notes that Firefighters take into account which structure may be more possible to save if they need to make decisions when fighting fires. They will tend to choose the one that is more likely to survive as it is better protected to start with.
- Embers travel first and will often start the next fire, so if they land on easily combustible material = easy to start new fire. This small fire can often then easily jump to the next structure. Video was shown of the Fort MacMurray fire where embers ignited coniferous shrubs close to the house which then put the house on fire over seconds.
- Goal - protect your residence from wildfires- See attached sheet!

FireSmart

Home ignition Zone Assessment Score Card