

## UNAPPROVED 2020 SSCA AGM MINUTES

### THE 2020 AGM (ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING) OF THE SANS SOUCI AND COPPERHEAD ASSOCIATION (SSCA)

**Held via Zoom Webinar from Toronto, Ontario, Thursday, October 29, 2020, at 7:00 pm EST**

**Directors Present:** Eric Armour, Glen Campbell, Naomi Campbell, Irene Chambers, Jason Drysdale, Katherine Denune, Tom Denune, Leslie Hayes, Jackie Koza, Holly Loell, Walter Sloan, Jess Sloss, Alan Stratton, Carol Stratton, Michael Ugarenko

**Advisory Group Present:** Sandy Boyd, Susan Herbold, Bill McNeal, Sandy Phillips, Greg Scott, Fred Schweitzer

**Special Guests:** Bert Liverance (Reeve, Township of the Archipelago), David Ashley and Alice Barton (Councilors, Township of the Archipelago), Bill Lougheed (Executive Director, Georgian Bay Land Trust), Heather Sargeant (Director of Communications, Georgian Bay Forever), Rupert Kindersley (Executive Director, Georgian Bay Association), John Carson (President, Georgian Bay Association)

Eric Armour, SSCA Board President chaired the meeting. Tom Denune was secretary and our webinar host was Shannon Farquharson from the Georgian Bay Association.

**INTRODUCTION TO THE MEETING:** Eric Armour, SSCA Chair, called the meeting to order and welcomed attendees to the 117<sup>th</sup> AGM of the SSCA. Eric explained zoom protocol regarding motions and seconding, voting on motions and how questions and answers will be addressed.

**CONSTITUTION OF THE MEETING:** Tom Denune, SSCA Secretary, stated that due to COVID-19 social distancing regulations, the annual in-person AGM that had been planned to be held Saturday, July 25<sup>th</sup> was cancelled this year. The SSCA Board finalized a zoom webinar meeting in its place to be held after members had closed their cottages and had internet access and/or phone service available. The AGM original meeting date was posted on the SSCA's website calendar in February 2020. An official notice of postponement of the July AGM was posted on the SSCA website July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020 with the notice that a zoom AGM would be in October. Members were notified by email of the October 29<sup>th</sup> AGM zoom webinar on October 8<sup>th</sup> and by a reminder email on October 27<sup>th</sup> along with instructions on how to join the zoom meeting by internet and phone.

Tom confirmed that the required Quorum of both SSCA members (being 30) and the required Quorum of SSCA Directors (being 6) has been met for this meeting. At the webinar opening there were 49 Zoom attendees and two call-in attendees.

**2019 AGM MINUTES:** The unapproved minutes of last year's AGM were posted on the SSCA website on February 19, 2020 and copies were emailed to all SSCA members on October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020. **MOTION:** to approve the AGM minutes of July 27, 2019 by Jim Westaway, seconded by Bruce Erickson. The motion carried with 98% in favour with 2% abstaining.

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:** Eric related that this had been a difficult year for SSCA given the disruption from COVID-19. He especially acknowledged that the summer was not the same

without the presence of members from the United States as well as those who were unable to come to their cottages. The association however worked hard to respond quickly to keep our community safe with the required COVID-19 health protocols in place. Alternative communication was established that will benefit us in future years. Programming continued with amazing success, as will be described later in this meeting. In addition, our membership level was maintained showing the dedication to our community by our members. All in all, we stayed strong, even with the great loss from border closings. To our US members, Eric stated “We miss you”.

**TREASURER’S REPORT:** Copies of the December 31, 2019 Financial Statement have been made available to all SSCA members via email as of October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020. In addition, the Financial Statement was posted on the SSCA website on July 7, 2020. Alan Stratton, SSCA Treasurer, reported that SSCA is in a strong liquid position, having \$120K in cash and term deposit balances. The Operating Fund balance of \$25K is adequate to cover one year’s fixed expenses. The Contingency Fund balance of \$27K is for unplanned legal, political and environmental needs. The Community Centre Fund balance of \$65K is available for infrastructure needs. Alan reviewed the year-end highlights with the largest change being a property expense increase of \$85K for needed infrastructure projects as follows: demolition of dock house, removal and disposal of south docks and installation of a new metal roof for the Brand cottage. Alan related that a long-term sustainable model for the property is under development. Further information can be seen in the Financial Statements sent to all members.

**MOTION:** to approve the December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019 SSCA Financial Statements and report, as reviewed by Kreston, GTA LLP, by Greg Cunningham, seconded by Brooke Stratton. The motion carried with 100% in favour.

**TENNIS CLUB REPORT:** Nancy Bowen, President of the Sans Souci Tennis Club, presented the SSTC Update. SSTC created a COVID-19 Committee to ensure safe tennis play, starting May 22<sup>nd</sup> with single play and doubles only within the same household. Courts were booked to allow for contact tracing, if needed. All social events, tournaments and club organized events were cancelled. Tennis Pros, the Kerns, came in July and August. SSTC has 110 members and is looking to add ten more. Challenges to resolve in 2021 are how to assure maintenance of the courts.

**PROPERTY UPDATE:** Michael Ugarenko, Property Committee Chair, reported on the management of the SSCA property in 2020.

**Community Centre in 2020:** Provincial COVID-19 measures required that the Centre be closed in May. Eased Stage 2 regulations allowed limited use in June and washroom were reopened. By mid-July Stage 3 allowed larger groups to interact with social distancing.

**Summer Staff:** Clara Campbell and Mae Sloss worked exceptionally hard to keep the facilities clean and functioning well with COVID-19 cleaning protocols. During September and October, a professional cleaning team was hired to maintain the facilities.

**Brand Cottage Renovation:** The kitchen and bathroom were remodeled, walls repaired and painted, and a new pine ceiling installed for the living room. Many thanks to Jackie and Cully Koza, Project Managers,

CanSave Kitchen Manufacturing, Leon's Furniture of Peterborough, Marshall Black Construction, Rona Building Supplies and Rose Point Construction for donated labour and supplies and to the following donors and volunteers: Joanne Browne, Jamie Browne, Glen Campbell, Dave and Irene Chambers, Jackie and Peter Campbell, Kim Cormack, Clara Campbell, Greg Cunningham, Chris Hall, Leslie Hayes, Katie Hayes, Janet and Andrew Koza, Michael Koza, Mike Masse, Men's Tennis BBQ, Tom and Betsy Raeburn, Rich Roos, Tim Sloss, Mae Sloss, Alan Stratton, Bill and Carol Stratton, Michael and Norma Tangney and Michael Ugarenko.

**Fitness Centre:** Finally opened in August with COVID-19 periodic cleaning and guidelines using a sign-in log and single use/family conditions.

**New Community Centre Committee:** Meeting throughout the summer, the committee presented a design brief to the Board in August. Architects are being consulted and one will be chosen to present concept drawings. The proposed location now being considered is between the Pickle Ball Courts and the Schoolhouse, with adequate elevation above lake level and leaving the open space behind the past dock house intact.

**FIRE AND SAFETY:** Jason Drysdale, Fire and Safety Chair, has updated the protocol and call list with Northern 911. All members with a valid mobile number will receive a text message if a fire is reported. A local fire zone map is posted on the SSCA website. Plans for 2021 include first aid training and fire pump demonstrations.

**ENVIRONMENT REPORT:** Katherine Denune, Environment Chair, explained that despite planned environment activities being postponed due to COVID-19, much was still accomplished.

**Shoreline Cleanups:** Plastic pollution and especially un-encapsulated dock foam is now littering our shoreline and breaking down to small particles that are a threat to wildlife. Georgian Bay Forever (GBF) is addressing this issue and working with us to encourage collection and disposing of this litter. Numerous SSCA members participated individually in this effort in 2020. In addition, GBF has formed a "Say No" to Dock Foam Committee to encourage alternatives to using un-encapsulated dock foam in future docks throughout the Georgian Bay.

**Phragmites Monitoring:** Because of COVID-19 travel restrictions, Katherine was unable to be available in person during summer 2020. However, she was able to coordinate with SSCA members to monitor most of the phragmites patches identified in our area. Only a few patches remain, as our repeated cuttings have greatly reduced this destructive invasive plant. Special thanks to volunteers Jane-Anne and Clara Campbell, Jess Sloss, John Hamilton and Brian Cantwell Smith and Jill Einstein.

**Kids in the Biosphere:** This program of the Georgian Bay Biosphere Reserve and funded by the Township of the Archipelago (ToA), that engages youth with nature, continued in 2020. Kits were available by mail and at SSCA. Thanks to Carol and Bill Stratton, Michael Ugarenko, Clara Campbell and Mae Sloss for making this possible.

**Legacy Dock Monitoring:** The ToA has requested help to understand the extent of abandoned docks in order to consider alternatives to their removal. The unencapsulated dock foam remaining gradually breaks down into minute particles that pose a danger to our environment. Please send known locations, as well as descriptions with size and condition to the ToA or to Katherine at [kdenune2@gmail.com](mailto:kdenune2@gmail.com) and she will forward this on to the ToA.

**Pomeroy Island Steward Program:** Set to start in 2021, we hope to develop community and have fun stewarding Pomeroy Island, a popular Crown Land island, that lacks park or GBLT protection. We plan to record “at risk” species and do shoreline clean ups in a effort to care for this amazing island treasure.

**2021 Plans:** Shoreline Cleanups, Abandoned Legacy Dock Monitoring, Phragmites Monitoring, Kids in the Biosphere, Lake Partners Program Water Testing, Pomeroy Island Stewardship and a Guided Nature Hike. Katherine expressed that the environment committee welcomes all who would be interested in joining any of these activities.

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT:** Eric Armour, Membership Chair, reported that in 2020 SSCA had 412 paid members and 24 unpaid members, comprised of 396 full members, 5 associate members and 11 dual members. He welcomed 18 members new to 2020 and he encouraged members to pay dues on time in January, as following up is both expensive (an extra \$400 in 2020) and time consuming for board members. He also encourages members to “gift” associate memberships to family members under age 30. This is a great way to include youth in all our communications and activities.

**COMMUNICATIONS:** Naomi Campbell, Chair. Eric Armour stated that our website (ssca.info) is well used by members with up to date information on SSCA events, building closures and openings and COVID-19 protocols. The website contains an online Member Directory, a Calendar of Events and a fantastic Virtual Art Show, that this year was added since our Regatta Art Show had to be cancelled. Our Facebook page (SSCA Georgian Bay) has 247 users and our Instagram account (sans souci copperhead) has 213 followers. A simple hard copy Membership Directory was mailed in May to all members and a monthly Newsletter will be emailed to members in the off season.

**PROGRAMS:** Jess Sloss and Holly Loell, co-chairs. Despite the health restrictions in place for COVID-19, SSCA succeeded in having some very successful and safe activities.

**Multisport Kids Fit** (ages 8 -13) was so well attended that an extra practice was added. This program provided fun active skill challenges and games and encouraged new friendships for our youth.

**Flashlight Readers** (grades 1 – 6) did not meet, as in past years, but did read a book in common and did accomplish a **Summer Reading Challenge** that awarded hidden prizes for the number of books read.

**The SSCA Book Club** for adults held virtual zoom meetings with up to 20 attendees and included American friends unable to travel to the Bay. Many thanks to Libby Stratton for organizing and for Cathie Singer for hosting.

**Sea Kayak Trips** established an enthusiastic kayak group with three enjoyable outings. SSCA’s location on the Bay is ideal for more kayak events in the future.

**Remote Control Boating Event** was attended by over 45 people with high speed boat races. Great fun was had by all and special thanks to James Christie and Eric Armour for their support by bringing special boats.

**Sailing Regatta** celebrated year three with new sailors, strong wind and keen competition. Thanks to Glen Campbell for directing the race and to Nany Bowen for being a race official.

**2020 Virtual Art Show** still has an amazing display on our website. This was a first and brought forth a super display of artistic talent. Be sure to check it out. Thanks to Katherine Denune, Teresa Long and Naomi Campbell for making this possible.

**Outer Island Adventure Race** for kayakers, surf skiers, stand-up paddle boarder and canoeists was held on Saturday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>.

### **Additional Programs Planned for 2021:**

**Coffee + Colouring** for caregivers and ages 0 – 6, **Watercolour Art Classes** with Bert Liverance, **Photography** with Nancy Westaway, **Out Tripping** for kids 9 -14 in the Massassauga Park, **Kids Art** (ages 7 – 13) with Nancy Westaway.

### **Other Programs in the Planning Process:**

**Youth Pickleball Practices and Tournament, Youth Book Club, Cottage Socials, Hiking, Swimming Lessons and Standard First Aid and CPR**

**NOMINATIONS:** Irene Chambers, Chair, reviewed the changes in the Board of Directors during the year. Irene thanked our retiring directors for their many years of service to the Board: Gregg Scott who had been Membership Chair and Liaison to Iron City Fishing Club and Isabel Treichel, our past Secretary. The new directors selected are Wally Sloan, our new liaison to Iron City Fishing Club and Glen Campbell, who serves on the Property Committee. Irene presented the 2020/21 Board of Directors as follows: Executive committee: Eric Armour, President, Alan Stratton, Treasurer, Tom Denune, Secretary, Vice President (TBD). Board of Directors: Naomi Campbell, Chair, Communications, Glen Campbell, Chair, Governance, Irene Chambers, Chair, Nominations, Katherine Denune, Chair, Environment, Leslie Hayes, SSTC Liaison, Jackie Koza, Property, Holly Loell, Co-Chair, Programs, Jason Drysdale, Chair, Fire & Safety, Wally Sloan, ICFC Liaison, Jess Sloss, Co-Chair, Programs, Carol Stratton, Assistant Treasurer, Michael Ugarenko, Chair, Property. **MOTION:** by Fred Schweitzer, seconded by Mac Harman to approve the slate of Directors for 2020/2021. The motion carried with 97% in favour and 3% abstaining.

**SPECIAL MENTION:** Eric Armour gave special mention to three SSCA members. First, to John Seagram who was SSCA President from 1992-1997 and the Commodore of our annual Sailing Regatta and second, to Pete and Ann Conacher who we owe gratitude for the publishing of *Island Odyssey* 1 and 2. Pete was also a Board Director and Property Chair and both Pete and Ann were SSCA members for over 60 years. We thank them all for their years of service to the SSCA community and for their dedication and love of the Georgian Bay.

### **GEORGIAN BAY REPORTS**

**TOWNSHIP OF THE ARCHIPELAGO:** Bert Liverance, ToA Reeve, shared some of the major focus issues for this past year. The Strategic Plan was adopted. Unencapsulated dock foam pollution is being studied and addressed, including studying the extent of abandoned docks. Improved internet connectivity for the North and South Archipelago is under study. The control of invasive species, especially phragmites, is being addressed and past meetings with MOT have resulted in eradication efforts along Highway 400. Blue Box recycling will be continued. However, the ToA's Transfer Stations are an added cost to the Township due to bargaining costs. Bert expressed his appreciation that the ToA is fortunate to have strong support from SSCA.

**GEORGIAN BAY LAND TRUST:** Bill Loughheed, Executive Director, stated the GBLT continues its 30-year effort to preserve and protect ecologically important forests, wetlands and species now covering 7600 acres in 64 protected natural areas.

Rose Island Nature Reserve: This 280-acre public access reserve was added in 2020. It is the home of four important wetlands and older growth deciduous forests and serves as a significant coastal migration bridge between Parry Island and Killbear Provincial Park.

Invasive Phragmites Inventory: An inventory of phragmites was completed in 2020 of 400 patches within the Georgian Bay Biosphere in wetlands and along roads. Funded by the Nature Fund grant and compiled together with Georgian Bay Biosphere, and Shawanaga and Magnetawan First Nations. Most patches are currently small.

Motus migratory Bird Telemetry Stations: Three new remote stations were added that now extends monitoring migratory birds past Point au Baril. This is part of an international research effort to understand and track the serious decline in bird populations experienced since 1970.

GBLT Summer Education Programs: These went virtual this summer with a session on turtles for kids by Dr. Pat Chow-Fraser as well as a Landmark Speaker Series for adults.

**GEORGIAN BAY FOREVER:** Heather Sargeant, Director of Communications, explained that GBF works for Georgian Bay residents on the protection of our water. Heather reported on the following initiatives:

Plastic Litter Mitigation: GBF is encouraging shoreline cleanups and would like data on what is collected. In addition, GBF is working with the ToA on education and strategies to reduce and eventually eliminate unencapsulated foam used for floating docks as well as how to reduce the microfiber/plastic pollution generated by washing our clothes. These small plastic particles from dock foam and clothing harm the health of aquatic wildlife. For alternative dock suggestions, go to: <https://bit.ly/DocksPSFoam>.

Phragmites Control: This invasive plant damages our wetlands and shorelines creating a habitat unsuitable for many species. SSCA can be applauded for your efforts that are keeping this from being a huge problem and continued vigilance are important into the future.

Understanding Water Levels: There are 11 complex drivers of water levels. Check out GBF's David Sweetsnam's webinar: *Water Levels, What's Going On?* 1 hour. [https://youtube/1C54Lp8-t\\_0](https://youtube/1C54Lp8-t_0).

**GEORGIAN BAY ASSOCIATION:** Rupert Kindersley, Executive Director, explained that the mandate of GBA is to protect the Bay and the interests of its members. This past summer, GBA requested an exemption to the COVID-19 restrictions on cross border travel by non-Canadian property owners. However, these restrictions have stayed in place. Issues of major current concern to GBA follow:

TCEnergy Pumped Storage Proposed Project: To be located at the Department of National Defense base at Meaford. The plan is to pump up water at low, off-peak energy costs into a large manmade lake and then discharge it into the Bay at high-priced, peak, energy rates. This large project has the potential to cause extensive environmental damage, particularly to fish. It would have a daily flow rate in both directions equivalent to 42% of the flow rate over Niagara Falls. While TCE has completely redesigned the project to greatly reduce potential harm, GBA's concerns are ongoing.

Addressing Extreme High and Low Water Levels: GBA in cooperation with GBF convened a public web-based symposium on October 24<sup>th</sup> with senior scientists and decision makers to fully understand the mechanisms of Great Lakes water levels with close to 700 registrants. The purpose was to determine the

accuracy and completeness of water levels data and start a conversation on better coordination between the water level control boards and other control structures.

Other GBA Concerns and Issues: Pushing for the release of the 2018 Henvey Inlet fire investigation report. Efforts to stop a trailer park at Macey Bay due to avoid environmental damage to wetlands, habitat and water quality. Dealing with land use planning including high density shoreline developments, construction development on undersized islands and shoreline and site alterations that damage habitat. With GBF we are working to ban unencapsulated dock foam from new dock construction. Finally, GBA is opposed to the current provincially allowed Cormorant Hunt which is not backed by scientific data.

#### **CONCLUDING ITEMS:**

**MOTION:** By Peter Singer, seconded by Peter Winnell, to approve actions taken by the SSCA Board of Directors during the past year. Motion carried with 100% in favour.

**MOTION:** to adjourn the 2020 Sans Souci and Copperhead Association AGM by Bruce Erickson, seconded by Gregg Scott. Motion carried with 100% in favour.