

BPSA MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING

THURSDAY, JUNE 27, 2024



We had 25 members to start the meeting. With a quorum established at 24 members, President Carl Jones called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

Secretary Dennis Morton moved to accept the recorded minutes of our last membership meeting of May 30th, 2024; motion 2nded by Charles Robertson; motion carried.

Treasurer Jane Thibideau provided the Club members with a statement of our financial affairs. We have a Royal Bank account with a balance of \$29,350.87. Our working capital balance is \$23,824.59, plus there are designated funds for archery of \$451.00; fish stocking funds, \$5.00; Kids' Fishing Day funds of \$679.43, and reserve hatchery capital expense funds of \$4,390.85. The Ways and Means account balance is \$6,525.26. We still own 2 x \$15,000. Guaranteed Investment Certificates. Our income for the period from June 1 to June 26 was \$745.00. Our expenses for the same period were \$6,310.50 (the biggest single expense was \$4,520.00 for our new lawnmower). Jane moved to accept her report as given; 2nded by Daniel Robertson; carried.

Treasurer Jane informed our members that she had reviewed our actual liability insurance cost at the request of one of our members at our May meeting. In 2022 and 2023, BPSA paid NFA for our liability insurance and paid \$3,949.45 in 2022 and \$4,864.45 in 2023 and these expenses were paid from our general account; in 2024, we had affiliated with Ontario Federation of Anglers & Hunters and our liability insurance is collected from the members when they pay their membership fees, then remitted to OFAH; this insurance for 2024 amounts to \$7,296.00. This premium has been paid by the members and we have much better liability insurance now than ever before, so the change was a positive one for BPSA.

Membership Director Jerry Beaver reported on our membership. He was pleased to report that BPSA membership is increasing and that we now have 323 members including youth.

Director Chris Thompson made a report on Property. BPSA had held a clean-up day for the club-house site on Sat., June 8th, and Chris thanked all of the members who had shown up to help; some trees were cut down, some underbrush was removed, stones were picked up off the lawns, ruts in fields were levelled, wood was piled, sheds were cleaned up; the eavestrough was removed from the hatchery, and the Seacan storage container was leveled. Chris did request that he was hoping to have some volunteers from BPSA work with the property committee to set up a lawn cutting schedule. If you have the time and inclination, please contact Chris by phone (519-270-6175) or email (cricker_37@hotmail.com). Thanks.

Chris mentioned to the members that the property committee was also looking at fixing up our steps and porches at our site, for ease of entry for seniors and providing wheelchair accessibility.



Plans and costs will be investigated, as well as possible grants for the work. More info will be provided once the scope of the work has been investigated.

Hatchery manager, Al Sutter, reported on the Hatchery operations. The yearling rainbow trout in the hatchery had been stocked into Colpoy's Creek on Tues, June 18th and the brown trout in the hatchery are scheduled to be stocked sometime in July. Four BPSA members had traveled to the Sydenham Sportsmen's Association hatchery in Owen Sound on Monday, June 24th, to pick up 8,000 salmon fry which they had brought back to Wiarton and stocked in Gleason Creek. Al had assembled a work party on Sat., June 21st, and they had dug up the well tiles to one of our wells out near the entrance off North Acres Road. They had found some broken pipes and fixed them and all seems to be working well as the pressure from our inflow pipe in the hatchery has increased. Town authorities oversaw the repairs and marked the well site on the town's works department maps. Job well done to the members!

Al advised that there were 2 more projects to be undertaken by the Hatchery committee. The Excel panels in the hatchery were going to be removed, replaced by steel panels, and then spray-foamed like the rest of the hatchery walls. The second project is in the planning stages right now & the project is to install a concrete walkway and pad from the parking lot to the hatchery pond site. The project will be paid from the donation of funds from the Lures N Lines Spring Trout Derby (the donation totaled \$8,250.00). Al made a motion that the BPSA authorize the project and allow the work to commence; motion 2nded by Phyllis Laughland; motion carried.

Handgun Club president & BPSA director Al Hunter made a report for the Handgun Club. Their membership is now 80 members but they have another 15 members who are completing their probationary shoots. The handgun club has a bank balance of \$25,530.43. The handgun club had acquired 2 "new-to-us" .22 rifles for Club use but would be retiring one of their existing rifles. The HG club is also reviewing their summer hours to accommodate their members who work during the day.

Archery Director, Brenda McLean, had purchased additional archery supplies for **the archery program** and shoots are well-attended. She recognized the increased support from OFAH, who are now consulting with the members' archery clubs and extending OFAH assistance in project grant funding or education programs.

Director Eric Barker mentioned that he is still seeking a couple of BPSA volunteers who would be able to assist in any conservation projects such as invasive plant eradication work, planting trees, or maintenance of our BPSA boot-scrubbers. He will schedule the work and advise his plans to anyone who can help; contact Eric by phone (519-534-0725) or email (windburn354@bmts.com). Thanks.

OFAH rep Stu Paterson had emailed a report of his **work with OFAH** for June and Secretary Dennis highlighted the items from the report. Stu is monitoring the 4 billion dollar pumped-storage project at Meaford Military Centre. OFAH is working with the Great Lakes Fishery Commission on lamprey populations in the Great Lakes. He advised that there will be a major article in the Owen Sound Salmon Spectacular's 2024 magazine on the economic value of fish hatcheries in Ontario. He advised that OFAH is about to undergo structural changes and he advised us to monitor Ontario Out of Doors magazine, social media, and other news feeds this summer for info on their changes. He advised that the Ontario Community Hatchery Program will be ongoing and the Province has promised to spend over a million dollars in the next 3 years to support community hatcheries, like ours. This program is funded by the province and delivered by OFAH. He advised

the next Zone H meeting for OFAH will be held in Duntroon, S of Collingwood, at 10am on Sunday, July 21.

Secretary Dennis Morton reported on the BPSA's involvement with the **Wiarion Homecoming Weekend**. We have agreed to place a booth in the event and the Wiarion Rotary Club has already authorized BPSA to use their "fishing booth". The Wiarion Homecoming Weekend committee are expecting 3,000 visitors each day for the weekend party and they expect that we will have about 200 anglers per day (the Rotary Club averaged 113 fisherkids/day in 6 years of operating the fishing booth; they expect bigger crowds this year). Rotary has assisted by already donating prizes that we can use to make up over 150 prize packages for the youth anglers. We shall have to purchase more prizes and Director Bill Slot is assisting us with obtaining prizes thru a novelty company that he works with in his business. Dennis advised that he would like another committee member or two to assist with the event planning (probably only 2 meetings) and he will need a work party to erect our tent and get prizes to Bluewater Park, and then he needs volunteers to man the booth for the 2 afternoon shifts (12noon to 6pm). He proposes two people for 3-hour shifts, plus another BPSA member to answer questions from the public at the front of the booth; 2 shifts per day on Saturday and Sunday. Dennis agreed to serve as a committee chairman. Dennis made a motion that BPSA authorize a budget of \$800.00 to allow him to purchase prizes in advance of the event; anglers will pay a fishing fee of \$3. to cover the cost of the prizes; motion 2nded by Jerry Beaver; motion carried. **Secretary Note:** Advise Dennis by email, "bridden47@gmail.com" or telephone (519-793-4193), if you would join the committee to discuss booth design, getting prizes and setting the manpower schedule, or to volunteer for a shift on the weekend at our booth. Thanks.

In "**Other Business**", the following items were discussed:

- BPSA has advised Bruce County that we would "Adopt A Highway" which will be County Rd 13 from Hwy 6 in Wiarion to North Acres Road. We can plan for a clean-up with the County and they will assist us with signage and some materials. Raymond Marklevitz has agreed to be the club representative and committee chairman & was affirmed by the members. Please let Ray know if you would be interested in assisting him with the committee work and planning for a future clean-up, likely in April, 2025.
- Director Jerry Beaver is looking for volunteers to assist the Sydenham Sportsmen's Club in erecting and taking down the Owen Sound Salmon Spectacular tent/derby headquarters, for the erection at 8am on Wed, Aug. 21st and the take-down at 8am on Monday, Sept. 2nd. We have been doing this work with SSA for many years. With no BPSA meetings planned for July and August, we're asking for our members help with this written notification. We did have as many as 35 BPSA volunteers last year and hoping for lots of help this year again. Let Jerry know by phone (519-534-5725) or email (jerrybeaver7@yahoo.ca) or (jm_beaver@yahoo.com). Please review your calendars and advise Jerry if you can help!
- Director Dan Robertson had talked to the Directors at their meeting on June 20th about the BPSA Annual Awards Dinner, which recognizes the fish and game caught or shot by members in the year. With very few entries, the directors will work with Dan to see if we can revamp the award meeting and our members can contribute their thoughts on the dinner to Dan. Should we discontinue? or just revamp?
- Willie's Sports & More are holding their 2nd Annual Open House at their Wiarion store on Saturday, July 13th. It will feature custom rod builders, lure company reps, Sydenham Sportsmen's Club, and BPSA will also set up a display. Pres. Carl has a commitment that day that would not allow him to attend and Brenda McLean indicated that she would

be pleased to attend the event as our representative. Members are invited to come to the event to see the displays.

- Pres. Carl mentioned that he and the Directors had discussed the idea of expanding the BPSA experience in Warton by considering whether our Club and community could support a Junior BPSA Club, with its own constitution, slate of officers, and their own programs. Something to think about!!
- We concluded our meeting with the 50/50 Draw and draws for 11 prizes. Director Bill Slot won the 50/50 draw for the 2nd month in a row and contributed his winnings back to the club. Thank you, Bill.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Jerry Beaver; 2nded by Annette Musselman; carried. The meeting ended at 8:50pm.