NEWS & VIEWS



1952

YOUR ELECTED OFFICERS

EXECUTIVE

CHAIRMAN

Al M. Christie 2534

RECORDING SECRETARY

Robt. D. Powrie 2682

TREASURER

Wm. H. Perks

VICE CHAIRMAN

Clary H. McGuire 2004

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

C. Ken Millar 2377

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Victor Willetts 2523 Chas. W. Johnstone 2082

BAIE d'URFE CITIZENS

ASSOCIATION

EDITOR

Chester R. Ellis 2024

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN, BATE D'URFE CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION

Hospitality
Membership
Recreation
School Affairs
Town Planning
Movie Club
Circulation, "News & Views"

Mrs. Mary Ware 2587
Vic Willetts 2523
Bill Norcott 2351
E.B. (Ted) Fry 861
Chas. W. Johnstone 2082
Kenneth Tuck 2559
Mrs. Mary Smith 2611

THERE'S FUN FOR YOU IN FIFTY-TWO! PARTIES, AUCTION, SPORTS DAY TOO

Tentative plans for a busy 1952 were laid at the first meeting of the Citizens' Association's new executive, held at the home of Chairman Al Christie. The normal pattern of meetings on the second Friday of each month will be broken by several special events, including a revival of the Auction Sale which was such a hilarious (and profitable) success two years ago.

First of the social events will be the Birthday Party in April. The executive still is seeking the right organizer to make this year's party even more fun than usual. Then in May, probably late in the month, will come the Auction Sale to be organized by Ernie DeWitt. On in July will be the gala Baie d'Urfe Day carnival of sports and entertainment for which Frank Pinkney already is laying plans.

The Hobo Hop masquerade party is a big question mark this year, because the probable attendance would cause the Town Hall to bulge at its somewhat encient seams. On the other hand, the outgoing executive planted the idea of a Winter Carnival, and there are other activities which would provide interesting diversion during the latter part of the year - more will be heard about these projects later.

Business of the meeting included appointment of chairmen for the Association's standing committees, whose names are given above in the usual position. Reg Vidler will be asked to continue his valuable work as the Association's publicist and historian.

Members will be asked to co-operate with their usual good will be helping the various committee chairmen and special event organizers as they carry on their duties through the year.

NEXT MEETING -- FRIDAY FEB. 8

SUBJECT -- TOWN PLANNING AND YOU

Nothing is certain in this world, but it seems a 100-to-1 bet that the population of Baie d'Urfe, the most desirable and least developed area along the Lakeshore, will triple during the next few years, as it has during the last few.

The face of our town five years from now - the location of roads and parks and the type of building construction - will mean a great deal to every property owner. It can make a difference of thousands of dollars in the value of his home, and certainly will influence the amount of pleasure he and his children will get out of life.

Sub-divisions now under consideration will result in a single built-up area from Macdonald College to Surny Acres, and more. No doubt you want to hear and see what is known of these plans, and perhaps voice an opinion or two of your own.

Plans for the next Association meeting include the showing of detailed scale models of two proposed town plans, and a panel discussion of projected subdivisions and related town by-laws. Don't miss it!

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Apart from the increase in membership we have no spectacular developments to report but there has been a continuation of the good work started by executives of previous years. Communication being one of the most important functions of the Association, we have tried, through the News & Views, to inform the citizens of the town of any important developments and the editorial columns have been used to provoke thought on town problems. Eleven issues of the paper were produced in 1951.

Recreation activities for children have been a matter of major concern to us and will be of increasing concern to future executives as the boy and girl population increases in size and in range of ages. Neighborhood playgrounds have been provided in two areas, College Green and Morgan-Lakeview. Softball diamonds with backstops have been developed by the resident fathers in both areas and playground equipment has been fabricated and set up by the College Green group. A small outdoor rink and slide has also been developed in this area for winter recreation. The idea of forming organizations among the boys and girls in each area so that they can provide help in maintenance and supervision of the playgrounds has been considered but not acted upon. We pass this on to the incoming executive as a suggestion which seems to us to have important possibilities for developing among our young folk a sense of responsibility and an appreciation of their privileges. A request to the Town Council for purchase of playground equipment was withdrawn with the intention of presenting it again when we have made a canvass of the opinions of individual citizens on the matter and when the council had completed preparation of a budget. When the budget was prepared it offered no immediate hope for recreation expenditures and our canvass of opinion was deferred. This is another project, town finances being what they are, which we regret we must pass on at an unfinished stage.

A good swimming season was made possible by the improved wharf arrangement. A number of willing citizens were co-opted to do the work involved in repainting and repairing the beach equipment at the start of the season and storing it at the end of the season. We have considered, but not solved, the problem of getting a wider distribution among the males of the town of this privilege of contributing hard labour toward recreational enterprises. Mr. Ritchie has been chairman of the Recreation Committee.

In order to keep track of progress in town planning, the executive asked Mr. Harry Smythe if he would take care of liaison with the town council's planning committee. This arrangement has been helpful in providing a source of information on forthcoming developments and the council has been most willing to cooperate. With important events in the offing we recommend that some such relationship with the planning group be continued. There is need for much more concern over the provision of adequate recreation areas. Additional neighbourhood playgrounds should be set aside, the area provided as a softball field at College Green should be reconsidered, since it is too boggy for use most of the summer, and a large area, at least five acres, should be acquired somewhere near the centre of town, just south of the trans-island highway, for future development as a town recreation park. (The Recreation Planning Commission of Ottawa has adopted as its standard for general recreation grounds an area of one acre per hundred of population.) The possibility of having a lake front park area should be investigated. The Association can do valuable work at this stage in the town's development by stimulating thought and discussion on planning problems, carefully sounding out the concensus of opinion among the citizens and forcefully expressing their desires to the council.

Two minor crises occurred during the year and were dealt with. The threat to abolish the Post Office was postponed through forbearance of the Council and the preelection confusion dispersed in the atmosphere of cooperation and public service characteristic of our town. A small job of some importance was the negotiation by Messrs. Long, Allen and Smythe of a rider to the town policy covering the Association against possible liability claims arising from accidents connected with Association—
sponsored activities on town property. An effective anti-speeding campaign was conducted by Mr. Loke during the summer months with enduring results as far as Provincial Transport busses are concerned. Mr. Fry attended the meeting of the Macdonald Central School Board as an observer on behalf of the Association and Mr. Spriggs contributed regular bulletins to the News & Views on the progress of the new school project.

The two traditional social events of the town, the Birthday Party and Baie d'Urfe Day, were well organized by committees led, respectively, by Mr. Bjorne and by Dr. Cruik—shank and were enthusiastically attended. The outdoor dance on Baie d'Urfe Day, complemented as it was by the Mayor's reception, survived a rainstorm and became a successful experiment. A Hallowe'en masquerade party staged by Kit Burridge's committee was equally

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THE RECORD - FIFTH ANNUAL MEETING

The Fifth annual meeting of the Baie d'Urfe Citizens' Association was held in the Town Hall on Jan. 11, 1952, with Mr. Windebank in the chair and 37 members present.

Committee reports included an outline by Mr. Loke on traffic signs erected, and the cooperation of the Provincial Transport Co. in attempts to reduce bus speeds through the town. There was no treasurer's report as the fiscal year ends in August, but Treasurer Bill Perks reported that the Association's balance is slightly less than a year ago. The membership committee reported 63 members paid for 1952 with 87 still to be heard from. A letter is to be sent to all members by the movie club outlining a proposed program, asking opinions, and inviting increased membership.

The annual report, summarizing 1951 activities, was presented by Ruth Tait, and is reproduced elsewhere in this issue. The nominating committee, headed by Ernie DeWitt, presented a slate of officers for 1952 after which nominations were quickly closed, trapping the members whose names appear on the front cover.

Town Planning

Newly-elected Chairman Al Christie took over the chair and suggested a discussion period. Included in the subsequent remarks were comments by Doug Laird on an editorial in the January News and Views. He outlined the problems facing the Town Council in view of the contemplated new sub-divisions in the town, and the universal desire to see Baie d'Urfw grow along the lines of the master-plan drawn up by Prof. John Bland.

Mr. Laird pointed out that a complete survey and homologation of proposed roads would be quite expensive, whereas the Town Council must approve all proposed sub-divisions and accordingly could invite the cooperation of the various developers in following the master plan, with confident hope of success. He reported excellent cooperation from developers so far, and suggested that this would be the case in the future - if so, it Would give the town the desired over-all plan at minimum cost. He also announced that the Town Council plans a referendum to secure authorization for an increase in minimum lot sizes and amendments to rules regarding location of buildings on the lots.

Refreshments were served by Mrs. Proudfoot and her committee-of-the-evening, Mesdames Corbett, Lint and Pinkney.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ASSOCIATION'S 1951 EXECUTIVE

The arnual report presented by the retiring executive at the Jan. 11th meeting is of wide interest, both to those who were unable to attend and as a record of the 1951 accomplishments with a look toward the future. Accordingly, it follows in full, except for the introductory paragraphs.

The most significant feature of the past year for the Association has been the increase in membership. One hundred and fifty families are now represented in the Association's list of members - an increase of about 50% over the previous year's membership. Over 99% of the families in all parts of the town except Sunny Acres now belong to the Association. A campaign in that district should make a coverage almost complete.

The increased coverage was made possible by the work of a large and active Membership Committee and an improved system of soliciting memberships. The town was divided into zones and a committee member was appointed to cover each zone. A handbook was prepared for each member listing the residents in the zone to be covered and giving information on previous membership, etc. This method of organization gave the executive a close check on the whole population of the town and provides a means of communicating with all members when it is necessary to do so in a hurry. Mr. Waverley was Chairman of the Membership Committee.

Attendance at meetings has been less satisfactory than membership. After a high of seventy-nine present at the monthly meeting last June we hit a low of twenty-four last month. This is a problem for the next executive to study. The solution may be livelier programs, meeting announcements of a more compelling nature or it may be that fewer meetings should be held or that a larger hall should be provided.

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successful. The Auction Sale was not attempted, a lapse which is not expected to be permanent. Mr. Powrie's committee undertook a simplified approach to the Christmas party, providing only the small fry with a visit to Santa Claus and thus avoiding what would undoubtedly have been the most jam-packed party ever to have been endured in the town hall. Your executive has conceived the idea of a Gala Winter Camival, but having conceived it too late to execute it, passes on this as yet another recommendation to the new executive.

The Movie Club operated again, attempting for the second year to finance itself by a family membership. Another deficit, smaller than last year's, is expected because it appears that fewer families will have joined than were anticipated. A good standard of film has been maintained and attendance has been fairly high but the wide age range of the children presents an increasing problem. The audience always includes very young children who are bored by the very sequences that please the teen-agers most. The solution may be to show films to the younger group on Saturday mornings - animal stories, fairy tales, puppet dramas and the like - and have a Friday evening or Saturday evening for the older children. Increased expenses would have to be met if this were done.

These are the main features of the year's business. Realizing that a good deal more could have been done, but feeling the satisfaction of having met the most pressing of needs of a growing organization, we extend our thanks to the many citizens who served as committee members during our year of office - not least the ladies who cheerfully functioned as caterers at Association meetings - and our warmest good wishes to the executive which will take over our duties. We are proud to have served you for a year.

Respectfully submitted,

RUTH TAIT, (Recording Secretary).

THANKS, MARY!

One item in the Association's constitution limits the tenure of any office to a maximum of one year, a provision which tends to reduce the amount of effort any single citizen is expected to contribute to the community. The sole exception is the editor of News & Views, who is invited to keep pounding away as long as the spirit is willing and the index fingers do not wear out.

Mary Coulter, who retired as editor at the annual meeting, deserves a special vote of thanks for not one, but two, full years of service in one of the Association's more active capacities. The rapid growth of the Association during this period has been aided greatly by the excellent coverage of events given by News and Views under Mary's management.

DON'T FORGET THAT MEMBERSHIP FEE !

Less than half the Association's members had paid 1952 fees when last heard from - 66 paid, 85 due was the exact count. If you are among the 85, please save someone on the Membership Committee an extra visit to your house - slip your cheque (or cash) for \$2 into the mail addressed to Treasurer Wm. H. Perks, Baie d'Urfe P.O.

SCHOOL AFFAIRS

The Collection Roll for Baie d'Urfe - Senneville has finally been officially homologated with total protestant school taxes assessed at \$54,275.32. This includes the areas of Baie d'Urfe, Senneville, Ste Anne de Bout de L'Isle and a few properties in Ste Anne de Bellevue on the west side of Maple Avenue.

Insurance on the old building has been increased from \$165,000 to \$250,000 which is a little over 80% of the estimated replacement value. The total number of children attending the school has now risen to 564.

In accordance with a new ruling by the Department of Education it will now be necessary to prepare Local Board Budgets in greater detail and in such a way as to show to what extent each area is self supporting or otherwise. Our Secretary Treasurer is taking a somewhat dim view of this requirement!

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As the work on the New Extension progresses and more sub-contractors come into the picture our monthly cheques to the General Contractor increase correspondingly. These payments are now averaging about \$1,500.00 per working day but before long they will grow to around \$2,500.00. No payments have been made to the Heating Contractor as yet.

Final interior design drawings for the Kindergarten and all classrooms have been approved, the Kitchen design is being studied and drawings for Domestic Science, Manual Training, Library, Administration, etc. still have to be completed. We are fortunate in having, at Macdonald College, a wealth of expert advice to draw on in all these fields of education and administration. The assistance and help which has and is being so kindly given is very much appreciated by the Board.

Will Spriggs

AROUND OUR TOWN

There are not too many brief news notes in this issue, for which you can blame the fact that there is a new editor, new executive, and lines of communication are disrupted accordingly. When there is something new in your neighbourhood - a new baby, a broken leg, or a cat with septuplets - phone 2021, the new number for News & Views.

Baie d'Urfe folks seem to have things pretty well under control this year in the Ste. Annes Double or Nothing Club. Presidents (s) is (are) Mel and Nora Taylor of Oxford Road. The executive includes Ron and Mary Barrett of Lakeview Ave., as secretary, with Jack and Jessie Mitcham, Lakeshore, as treasurer.

Sympathy is extended to Mrs. D.L. Stewart of Lakeview Road in the loss of her husband who died suddenly early in January.

The Movie Club's good work has been appreciated by scores of local youngsters, so its current letter and questionnaire deserve full attention. Please don't neglect it, as your answers will determine the entire future of this project.

The official "archives" of News & Views include (or rather, consist of) a set of back issues. It is complete except for No. 37, dated sometime during the summer of 1950. If anyone can supply a copy, please phone 2024. Thanks!

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