

President's AGM Report

TALPINES PROPERTY OWNERS' ASSOCIATION 2021



Land Acknowledgment
Pine Street Beach Garden

This year has been unlike any other. As we hunkered down in our homes, following COVID restrictions and becoming amateur epidemiologists, many of us reflected on how wonderful our lives were in the “before times” when we could freely travel, visit friends and family, and take part in communal gatherings of all sorts. Maybe we’ll get back to that soon as the population is increasingly vaccinated. It’s fair to say:. **“WE’VE MISSED YOU!”** 🥳

Holding meetings via ZOOM just isn’t the same but we thank our Vice President Vicki Lucier for keeping us together through her ZOOM hosting.

SUMMARY OF 2021 ACTIVITIES

- I attended Tay Council meetings via ZOOM, and appeared before Council to present Talpines’ annual delegation requesting various improvements in our community. Council and the Grants Committee awarded us a 500\$ grant this year to support our gardening efforts, and water testing program. Ongoing Council events and issues are highlighted in our member newsletters.
- We reported to Council that a confederate flag was being flown on a Waubaushene property and requested a by-law to prohibit this hate symbol in our community. We circulated a petition to this effect, which was widely supported. Council was of the view that it did not have jurisdiction to prohibit the flag, but the person flying it took it down when the media descended to film it. YAY
- We supported our neighbour Chuck with a petition filed with Council to permit him to continue to build and rent his brilliantly constructed « Tiny Home ». The Township maintains it offends the bylaw against secondary dwellings, and we urged them to consider expanding the bylaw since Tiny

Homes can increase affordable housing, which is sorely lacking here..The court case on the issue continues, and the Bylaw is still being reviewed.

- We have seen a huge increase in motorized vehicles on the Trail, and encouraged Talpines members to report any sighting to mleo@talpines.ca . By-law officer Rob Kennedy and his team kept track of sightings and managed to nab some offenders and impose fines. Unfortunately, people riding fast moving e-bikes argue that they are not prohibited since they « can » be pedalled. We continue to urge the Township to educate residents and visitors on this issue through signage, announcements and enhanced enforcement.
- Talpines members Joanna Jorgensen and Barry Dougherty led the efforts by WAG (Waubashene Action Group) to urge Council to consider purchasing the surplus Pine Street school property to turn it into a community hub and move the library into it. Talpines was 100 % behind this endeavour but Council decided the building was in need of too much repair. Instead they have created a survey to determine the recreation needs here in Waubashene before further action is taken. The building remains VACANT 😊 and « hope springs eternal ».
- I joined the Tay recreation committee, and the Manager of Parks provided us with three Pickleball nets and paddles for use at Bridgeview Park. A group of volunteers led by Barry And Sue Dougherty painted lines on the cement of the ice rink to create courts, and Barry and Sue put up the nets several days a week for people to play. They are also giving seminars to first time users. Joanna Jorgensen and Richard Ivey donated a basketball 🏀 net which was erected at Bridgeview Park. Our volunteers are really working to improve our community for kids and fun loving adults.

- Talpines volunteers organized and participated in our second annual Litter Clean Up of the Trail, coinciding with Earth Day. This was again a big



success! We »ll plan to do this again next year!

- Our Director and Treasurer and « Chief Gardener » Evelyn Roberts has been our leader in maintaining, mulching, weeding, and adding to the Pine Street Garden. Despite the lockdowns and social distancing some Directors living full time in Waubausheene were able to meet, masked and socially distanced to help her maintain the Garden.



- Phragbusters carried on despite Covid, and with the assistance of Georgian Bay Forever, Talpines volunteers cleared three large phragmites sites on the Trail. GBF will return on July 16 to cut those again with the assistance of their student staff and Talpines volunteers.



- Talpines members Peter Cox and Sharon Langfield were the impetus behind the installation of the Land Acknowledgement sign at the Pine

Street Beach, to honour First Nations peoples. This is a time of great reckoning for Canadians and we are proud to take this small, but important first step in listening, and reflecting, and understanding our true history, Thank you to Paul Roberts for the sign and cedar post, and to the volunteers who helped install it..



Peter Cox and Sharon Langfield with the Land Acknowledgement Sign

- Director Sue Dougherty carried out the popular Talpines water testing program last year and has already started her water reports this year. Check out the Members only page on our website talpines.ca to see all of the reports.

- Last year we could not participate in the Santa Claus parade since the parade was a casualty of Covid. We hope to participate this year, Our GRINCH really needs an outing.
- Similarly, our Block Party was cancelled last year.. This year, we hope to hold our BLOCK PARTY ON AUGUST 14 beginning at 2 p.m at 82 King Road. It will be outdoors, rain or shine, with pot luck snacks and bring your own refreshments. **YOU'RE INVITED!** Please rsvp to taytalpines@gmail.com
- **Our AGM will be held at 82 King Road, Waubashene on August 14, 2021, beginning at 12:00 noon. Light refreshments will be provided.**

MEMBERSHIP: Unfortunately last year, some long time members who were cottagers did not renew their memberships. **BUT NOW FOR SOME GOOD NEWS:** We have added Ronald and Vanessa and Jason to our group. WELCOME 🙏 newcomers.

In conclusion, it has been a heck of a year. We've managed to keep things rolling but we sure hope to see more of everyone, and to build on our success, but also to start some exciting new projects next year. We'd love to hear your thoughts and ideas for projects and directions.

Victoria Réaume
President, Talpines POA