



Echoes from Barkmere – June 2021

Here is a summary of the last Council meeting held Saturday, June 12th 2021:

- This month, we have three of our fellow citizens who have left us. First, Mr. Vernon Ryrie Vandewater, son of Deborah Vandewater and Murray and nephew of Michael Tate. Ryrie was a Bark Lake lover, and his tragic and unexpected death is a great loss. All our sympathies go to the Vandewater and Tate families.
- Also, we regret the passing of Mr. Jim Sullivan, husband of Janice. Jim was a proud resident of Barkmere, who got involved in our community. We owe him thanks for the beautiful sculptures on the Goulden Island shelter. On behalf of the members of the Council, the mayor expresses his sincere condolences to Janice, and to their children, Chris, Frank and Melodie, and all their families.
- Finally, Mr. Wilfried Fink, whom we all knew by the first name of “Bill”, has passed away in Germany, surrounded by his family. Bill was part of the German contingent linked to the Siemens Company, which have made Bark Lake their “pied-à-terre” in America at the beginning of the 1980s. Despite the distance, he involved himself in our community, joining the BLPA for a few years. It is with great sadness that the mayor offers his condolences to Heidi, Rainer and their families. Bill also leaves behind his wife Margit.
- This week, the Laurentians will pass in the *yellow zone*. The mayor expects to hold the July council meeting inside Town Hall, with distancing and masks. The administration will keep you informed.

- Last month, the administration witnessed a great quantity of garbage left in the landing area. See the disgusting scene in the photo below. We understand that when we move into a cottage, there may be a clean up to do, but the Town organizes a large waste collection twice a summer, exactly for this reason. It is our personal responsibility to dispose of our waste in a responsible way. The mayor thanks you to be careful and to display a sense of civic respect.



- In that respect, **the next mobile Eco-Centre will be held on the weekend of June 19th**. This is the time to bring your hazardous waste, your large items, etc. The goal is not to bury all this, but to recuperate them and to dispose them in a secure manner, or to recycle and re-use.
- The Town and the BLPA will hold campaigns this summer to raise awareness on prudence, respect, and navigation rules on the Lake. The fleet of boats has changed over recent years, with more pontoons which navigate at a very low speed or are idling in navigation ways, and with boats

with powerful engines whose captains are not always very careful. Along with the lack of familiarity with nightly navigation, and the non-respect of rules, this is a recipe for tragic accidents. On top of this campaign, the Sûreté du Québec has informed us that they will intensify their actions in this regard.

- The recent opening of “forest” roads around the Lake has resulted in an increase in trespassing. Many of our residents have complained about the presence of ATVs on their properties, and about the noise from Hart Lake/Lac Felix, upstream from Bark Lake. It seems that for a few years now, a “wild” campground has been set up, without any septic installation, and with no control from the Ministry. The mayor has contacted its homolog of Montcalm to try and take concerted actions to fix this problem.
- One of our Barkmere citizen, Mrs. Dyan Solomon, has won a laureate as Chief of the year in the competition «Lauriers de la gastronomie du Québec». The mayor congratulates her on this achievement.



La cheffe Dyan Solomon | Photo : Photo tirée du livre Olive + Goumando / KO Éditions

- The educational radar was purchased, and we are awaiting its delivery. The municipal administration met with the citizens who may be affected by its installation and got assurance from the supplier that the radar would not

become a nuisance for them. The goal is to raise the awareness of drivers to the speed limit and the protection of pedestrians and cyclists.

- The lake clean-up is planned for the end of July / beginning of August. We have asked the administration to ensure that this intervention does not conflict with the milfoil removal which will happen at the same time. By the way, if you would like to help with the cleanup project by providing a boat, do not hesitate to communicate with the Town manager at dg@barkmere.ca
- Before the meeting of the mayors of the MRC, the mayor was informed that the urban planning service is still working on the inventory of wetlands required by the Ministry of Environment. If the MRC must identify the wetlands on its territory but located on public land, these would be excluded from the planned protection measures.

The MRC is also proceeding with consultations regarding his strategic planning exercise for the next five years. The mayor has promoted the concept of taking over the public territory by municipalities, according to their powers. Environmental protection, urban planning, parks and leisure are all municipal powers.

- The mayor has promoted the concept of taking over the public territory by municipalities. It is time that municipalities take actions on the totality of their territories within their powers. Environmental protection, urban planning, parks and leisure are all municipal powers.
- Mr. Jake Chadwick, councillor, informs us of the end of the mandate of Mr. Doug Hartley on the CCE. The CCE has voted a new member, Marie-Hélène Lemarbre, from Silver Bay. The CCE thanks Mr. Hartley for his involvement and his considerable input. Mr. Chadwick informs us that the 2020 Water Quality Report is now available on the town's website. He thanks Kirstin Lachance for her great contribution in this endeavor. The CCE has formed a sub-committee on forest operations taking place around the lake, with the BLPA. They will propose a plan of action to protect the town, notably for the mega forest roads, reforestation, and try to stop forest operations near the town.
- Mayor Trépanier thanks Mr. & Mrs. Klaus Lang, residents of Barkmere, who sold recently their property at Diamond Point. In the late 70's, an American

developer had bought a huge territory behind Duncan road and wanted to turn it into a touristic village. Mr. Lang had then bought these lots to prevent any development, in exchange for the right to subdivide certain lots to resale later. We own him a debt of gratitude.

Once again, for more details, consult the minutes of the council meeting that will be posted on the town's website once they are ratified, generally at the next council meeting.



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