

Minutes of the 19 March 2026 Seeley's Bay Area Residents' Association (SBARA) Meeting held at the Seeley's Bay United Church

Present: Ed L., Rob V., Jan H., Ron R., Chris M., Michelle T., Monique A-H., Cindy H., Mary W.

Regrets: Cindy S., Janet P., David L., Barb V.

1. Ed welcomed everyone and started the meeting at 7 pm.
2. There were no additions or corrections to the 19 Feb. 2026 meeting.
3. **Approval of the minutes** of the 19 Feb. 2026 meeting. Ron moved for approval. Jan seconded. Carried.
4. **Financial Report:** Michelle gave a financial report and commented that SBARA is in good shape financially. Rob moved for approval of the financial report. Ron seconded. Carried.
5. **Marketing Report:** Cindy H reported that 19 tickets for Storyfest have been sold through the portal. There has been no reply from Heritage Canada re: our grant application.
6. **Storyfest** – Sun. April 12th at 2 pm: Cindy H has applied for the event permit. Jan has a permit from the Health Unit for the event. It was decided to buy cookies from Costco rather than bake them for the event. Jan will also buy hot chocolate, whipped cream, cups, napkins, if needed. We will buy James Raffan's accompanying presenter a \$100 gift gas card. Rob moved we buy a \$25 SBARA tee shirt from Jan for James Raffan. Ron seconded. Carried. Chris, Jan, Ed, Cindy H will set up for Storyfest at noon. Everyone will help tear down.
7. **Pitch-In Day** – Sat. April 25th: It has not been confirmed that we will get a dumpster from the Township - We may get tags for garbage bags instead. It hasn't been confirmed who is paying for the hot dogs and drinks for the event. It may be the Lions' Club or SBARA. The Legion will provide the condiments. In case SBARA is buying the hot dogs, buns and drinks, Monique made a motion that we allow the expenditure of \$100 for them. Jan seconded. Carried. The prizes for the event were decided at our last meeting and money needed was sanctioned for it. Jan will get the gift certificates ready.
8. **Red Canoe fest** – Sat. June 6th Kids' Fishing is a go with Big Jim. Ed will do the permit for the use of the public docks from 9-12 am. Michelle will organize a new event: 'The Amazing Red Canoe Hunt' to replace the Poker Run. The only food that will be offered will be drinks and snacks for the kids (nothing at the Legion). We will organize prizes later.
9. **New bulletin Board at the Post Office:** A new bulletin board is in place at the post office thanks to Jan and Lion Anne Chase. The bulletin board is for Community Events only. All SBARA members are asked to monitor the board and remove any inappropriate or outdated material. Jan moved we pay Anne Chase \$26.83 for SBARA's half of the cost of the bulletin board. Chris seconded. Carried.
10. **Canada Day:** Ed and Mary met with Township employees Alex Johnston, Tracy Holland and Jonathan Cross regarding the use of the canteen for Canada Day.
Details of the outcome of the discussion include: The Township administration is working a policy that will grant free rent to groups using Twp facilities where all profits stay in the community for community use. The Health Unit has to inspect the canteen before it is opened for seasonal use. The old range has been removed so we will have to find an alternative way to keep the hamburgers and hot dogs warm (possibly another barbecue?). There will not be enough freezer space for our use in the canteen freezer. Ron offered the use of a small freezer that is in his garage. It was decided to wait and see if we need to reimburse the student employees for loss of a day's wages. Jonathan Cross asked us to make sure all vehicles - the band members' vehicles in particular - stay off the tile bed. This should not be a problem as the band is going to be placed on the site of the old teepee so their vehicles should not be parked on the tile bed.
Plans for Canada Day activities so far include:
11 am – church service in the pavillion

12 pm – canteen opens, opening ceremony takes place

12:30 pm – parade

2-3 pm - Little Ray's Reptiles

4-8 pm - Axe-throwing

6 pm until Fireworks – the band will play on the site of the old teepee

In the afternoon - Kids' Activities – Rob and Karen Vogelzang

The Legion is having a chicken barbecue.

Cindy H. will do the permit application for Canada Day.

The Canada Day committee will meet 6:30-7 pm before our next regularly scheduled SBARA meeting on April 16th.

11. **Physician Recruitment:** Dr. Briggs' last day at the medical clinic will be May 8th. Dr. Tariq will be replacing her.

12. **Flower Baskets:** Jan - The 24 hanging flower baskets are ordered from Dave Minaker. Some donations have been received.

13. **Flowers for canoes:** We will be receiving \$250 from the Township to spend for flowers how we wish. We are considering mixing some artificial flowers with the natural ones.

14. **Posting minutes to our website:** When minutes of our meetings have been approved, Mary will forward them to Cindy H. to be posted on our website.

15. **Newsletter update:** (provided by Janet) Janet said there is no contact point on our website. Cindy H. said there is one, but she is the only that sees it. She will pass it on to Janet. Janet has created a poster and press release for Storyfest. The SBARA members liked both and thank Janet very much for creating them.

16. **PEER report:** Ed – PEER met at the Township office on 3 Feb.'26. Some highlights of their discussion:

- a) The group discussed having a session dedicated to working a visioning exercise.
- b) Each PEER rep needs an alternate to attend meetings, if needed. Jan will be ours.
- c) Our Township will unveil its new flag in June.
- d) Each community group is getting \$250 for flowers. We need to let them know how we would like to accept the money (etransfer/cheque).
- e) The Twp is talking about PopUp markets at pavillions on summer Friday afternoons/evenings.

17. Mary will get details about the **Barn Quilts** that are in place to Cindy H.

18. Rob moved for adjournment at 8:30pm. Our next meeting is **16 April 2026 starting at 6:30 pm** (for the Canada Day group) at the United Church.

