

Joint Website Venture with the GBA

On October 1, 2011, Pat Blundy and Eliana Wheeler attended an information session regarding a joint website venture with the GBA.

Ten Associations were represented. The session outline included reviewing/understanding the issues of our association being linked to the GBA website and what would be required of the GBA and the associations.

After much discussion it was agreed that we, the 10 Cottagers Associations, would like to continue probing further into this opportunity to link our website with the GBA. But first we need to agree on the common features of the website, a common system required to implement these features and agree on a time table for all Cottagers Associations and the GBA to implement these functions.

What – How can we enable cottagers to access info that matters to them – in more detail – while filtering out information of less interest?

- Nobody has time for everything, but they might want more of some things → and then become motivated to act on those things.
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Why – To get individual cottagers engaged, we have to give them easy access to info that they want.

How - The main page could have Forum Links for information that an individual may be wanting answers on. Example: How to do a project; Asian Carp information; water quality information; etc

Each Association Web page would only utilize programs that they are interested in and would not have to buy into programs they don't feel they need at the moment.

Possibly each cottage member would be able to opt in or out of the opportunity to access detailed information on the many issues facing the cottage owner – subsequently the GBA would be able to identify individuals with expertise and knowledge in these areas who may help in addressing the situation.

Reasons to join together?

A common website - that links all the cottage associations together may provide an opportunity for businesses to reach a large client base – resulting to significant savings to cottage owners

If we join together we would have more buying power.

Example: discount on fire-pumps, septic pump outs, etc, (Options unlimited)

Instead of each Association re-inventing the wheel, the combined groups can do it much better and still keep its individuality.

Longevity – volunteers and Executives come and go but the web site could easily be maintained and kept constant with upgrades done by one volunteer.

Cost of joining with the other Associations on a Web site.

The GBA may be able to pay for the start-up. This will need to be discussed at the President's meetings in the Spring.

There will be a yearly fee to maintain the site. This cannot be decided until we know exactly what we want on our individual web sites.

The South Channel Association needs to

- Know the resources we have among our membership eg. Lawyers, politicians, activists, social media whiz, accountants, etc.

This will also help us find communications people that may be interested in working on a Web Committee and also find future executives.

It was concluded that there was interest in proceeding with this project. A second meeting will be held early Nov. to address what the important common features / requirements might be. Then the GBA will work with an outside consultant and interested members from the group to produce a Request for Proposal document.

QUESTION: Are YOU interested in coming on this committee? Please give Pat Blundy OR Eliana Wheeler an email for more information on what this committee entails.

WE NEED YOU!!!

Eliana Wheeler – bewheel@gmail.com or Pat Blundy -patblundy@hotmail.com

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