

## *August 2009 Minutes*

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**MANITOBA ASSOCIATION OF COTTAGE OWNERS INC.  
P.O. Box 281, Station Main, Winnipeg, MB, R3G 2G9**

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**Date:** Tuesday, August 18, 2009  
**Time:** 6:00 PM  
**Location:** CanadInns - 2100 McPhillips Street, Winnipeg  
**Present:** Dave Crabb, Pat Dunlop, Gus Wruck, Gary Dunlop, Casey Jones, Rilla Britton, Mo Tipples.  
**Regrets:** Dan Lester, Larry Baker, Marian Jones, Shirley Nixon, Lorne Britton, Donna Jean Crabb, Sid Bloomfield.

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:18 pm.

**2. Adoption of Agenda**

Rilla Britton moved adoption of the agenda with additions. Seconded by Gary Dunlop. Carried.

**3. Adoption of the Minutes** - Pat Dunlop moved adoption of minutes. Seconded by Rilla Britton. Carried.

**4. Financial Report –**

Gary Dunlop moved that the financial report be adopted. Seconded by Gus Wruck. Carried.

**5. Business & Action Items Arising From the Minutes**

- East Road Write up for website, Dave – carry forward
- MACO newsletter to website, Pat & Gus - done
- Member orgs to website, Pat & Gus – Determined that name, location and number of members will be put on
- MLA listings to website, Gus - done
- Publish LWRC, Mo & Gus – Mo to follow up
- ATV write up to website, Gus - Done
- Short report on tax rally, Larry – carry forward
- Information on LWRC, Mo & Gus – Mo to follow up

**6. Correspondence Received/Sent**

- Wm. Allen Skrepnek a Past President of MACO, compliments and suggestions.
- Denice Girden – Email received and circulated to board members. Anyone of board interested should advise.

**7. Old Business**

- Tembec – Article in *The Echo* setting out business in last 6 months. Still loosing money but less now.

- Website –
  - Reviewed in previous items.
  - Gus Wruck moved THAT the Lake Winnipeg Research Consortium paper be published. Seconded by Gary Dunlop. Carried. ACTION: GW
  - Gus Wruck moved THAT the paper regarding ATVs be approved in principle. Seconded by Gary Dunlop. Carried. ACTION: GW
- Lake Winnipeg Research Consortium Fundraising –  
Pat Dunlop MOVED that we send to a contact of each association the SOUL & Lake Winnipeg Research Consortium brochure re *Saving Manitoba Lakes* together with an introductory letter from MACO and ask they consider a donation to the Lake Winnipeg Research Consortium. Seconded by Gary Dunlop. Carried. ACTION: Mo & DC
- School Taxes - Government is spending a large amount of money on Selkirk. Argument –Who’s Paying? Discussion. Compared to school taxes.  
Kudos to Larry Baker regarding the school tax issue.
- AGM
  - Speakers - Dr. Gordon Goldsborough and Tracy Maconachie. If we need to fill some time, Gus could do an explanation of Community Foundations.
  - Date confirmed – October 24<sup>th</sup>.
  - Nomination Committee – Rilla Britton and it was suggested that Donna Jean Crabb and Shirley Nixon could help.
  - Proposed change to Constitution and By-law -Amend under Duties of Secretary – “shall mail a copy of the Annual meeting minutes to all member organizations by December 15<sup>th</sup> (notice of approval assessment of levies to be included)” be amended to read “shall publish a copy of the Annual meeting minutes by December 15<sup>th</sup> (notice of approval assessment of levies to be included).

## 8. **New Business**

- Whiteshell Campsite – Cottage owners insisted on an environmental assessment on the site and therefore it is on hold.
- Strategic Planning – Gus Wruck emailed information to board. Will be added to November or January agenda.

## 9. **Directors’ Reports**

**Gus Wruck** – Fournier Drive Association AGM will be held in November. They have succeeded in obtaining Gerald Hawranik to attend and speak on school taxes. Snowpals of Eastman received notification of grant of \$15,750 to improve trails and they must put in an equal amount. Senior report, 55 pages – now appreciates the seriously high percentage 48% of unoccupied dwellings. There are people nearing retirement who plan to move for about 15-20 years until health issues surface and then where? Will the RM be able to provide full services when needed?

**Rilla Britton** – Twin Lakes Beach Association held their annual meeting on July 10<sup>th</sup> at the Recreational Hall in St. Laurent. Over 75 members and guests attended. Dr. Gordon Goldsborough attended as guest speaker. Many found his presentation on Lake Manitoba Stewardship Board of interest. All cottagers were unhappy with the high water level of Lake

Manitoba. Other hot topics were – terrible road conditions, confusion over ownership and maintenance of Meindl Park, and especially who to direct complaints to; and increased property assessments for 2010. It appears that the RM of St. Laurent is in dire financial straights until property taxes come in this October. Officers for 2009/2010: V-P Lawrence Heise, now President; Lorne Britton is again Past President. V-P position currently vacant but has potential prospect. Report given on MACO emphasizing the issue of removal of education tax from property and promoted new website. The RM of St. Laurent received a grant from the Province for \$175,000, which was hoped, would be applied to the artificial ice and thermal heating project. At Special Council meeting the RM had no choice but to turn the cheque over to the Recreation Co-Op with no strings attached, due to the resolution not specifically stating that grants were to be applied directly to the project. Hence no control over what the money will be spent on. The RM has embarked on a Visioning Process with an independent consultant to be completed this fall. The Visioning Process is intended to – #1, give every part of the municipality a voice; #2, attempt to bridge some of the conflict within the municipality and #3 produce a vision report to outline and undertake opportunity for growth and improvement in St. Laurent. Association held an executive session for all cottagers of Twin Lakes Beach on August 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Dave Crabb** – Lots of storms and lots of lakefronts gone. Lakefront stairways are gone either by lake or by being pulled up to prevent being washed away. Boats swamped, lost trees, roads are in terrible shape and should be closed. Roads are still poplar trees with gravel on top. Received money from RM to put in a public bathroom. No contractors will do work now because water is only about 4” down. Holding tanks are popping out of the ground. Bank restoration projects started this year and have failed. Had a fabulous corn roast and fireworks, about 60 people ended up in the garage.

**Mo Tipples** – West side of the lake is better in a way. Had extremely high ecoli counts 2326 when 200 is acceptable. There have been horrific winds and huge waves. Still have original rocks but a few have removed too many. Lots of huge mosquitoes. Lagoon not started – only a few trees taken down. It was supposed to be finished by November. The road cannot handle large trucks yet. They don’t know their share of costs yet. Wetland proposal sent to feds. Treasury Board has okayed.

**Casey Jones** – Southwestern Manitoba has had very little rain. Has been cold though. Had good weather for kids’ picnic and flea market. Dam road closed due to water washing up. Work needs to be done on the dam. There has now been rain in the area.

**Gary Dunlop** – AGM and elections held in July. Kids’ picnic held in August was a success and rain held off.

10. **Date of Next Meeting** –September 15, 2009
11. **Meeting Adjourned** - Rilla Britton moved meeting be adjourned at 8:42 pm. Seconded by Gary Dunlop. Carried.