

Manitoba Association of Cottage Owners
Garden City Inn, 2100 McPhillips Street, Winnipeg

Minutes

February 16, 2015

Present: Dave Crabb, Larry Baker, Mo Tipples, Greg Hamilton, Liz Speers, Ray Poole

Regrets: Ken Corbett, Norma Kerr, Pat Dunlop, Jim Nicholson, Jim Neufeld

Chair: Dave Crabb

Recording Secretary: Shelley Morris

1. Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 6:50 p.m.

2. Adoption of Agenda

It was moved by Ray and seconded by Liz that the agenda be adopted. CARRIED

3. Adoption of Minutes of January, 2016.

It was moved by Liz and seconded by Greg that the minutes be adopted as amended.
CARRIED

(A couple of lines were removed from the section on Parks Coalition update in case the coalition does not wish to have certain details publicized.)

4. Financial Report – January, 2016

- a. *Approval of December Financial Report.
- b. *Approval of January Financial Report
- c. *Receipts from members for purchases.
- d. *Banking
- e. *Update on Grant.

Jim Nicholson was not present. January report not yet received.

December Financial Report was sent to Dave.

It was moved by Mo and seconded by Larry that the Financial Report to December, 2015 be approved.

(\$2 added to income in Dec, 0 liabilities)

5. Standing Items

- a. **Membership** – Greg reported there was 1 new individual membership and 2 renewals this period. The website is updated with 2014 and 2015 members. The new membership form is on the website.

Mo suggested updating communication that is sent to membership. Greg will draft and circulate to Board. Mo asked if a letter should be sent to expired members prior to 2014 and Greg responded that this would be a worthwhile effort. Mo commented re: status of Grindstone and the fact that they had not paid their dues. An invoice has been sent to Grindstone. This is not the typical practice as we do not have information on their current membership. Discussion re: cost/availability of insurance. Dave said the least cost he is

aware of is \$1000 compared to MACO's \$425. It's very important that associations carry insurance to protect for liabilities arising at any events they are holding. Greg said that the insurance rep (Brian) is preparing an article. Dave asked if there was an update on the brochure, to be available for the Cottage Show.

b. Facebook – If Liz is given access, she would be open to posting articles from our website onto the Facebook page. Dave will set this up. Dave did post a couple of items – video, invitation to Cottage show.

c. Website

- New items for Health and Safety section – Jim is looking into some new content.
- Approval of invoices for website.

It was moved by Greg and seconded by Larry that the invoice from Bill Campbell be approved for \$399 for web hosting, 9 hours included maintenance and domain name registration. CARRIED

It was moved by Liz and seconded by Mo that Board approve the invoice for \$1575 for reconstructing the MACO website. CARRIED

Liz asked if there was a change in website management, do we still have access to the content and site. The domain name belongs to MACO and we would have access to the code. Dave asked for comments on the website. The ad for the Cottage Show needs to be added back to the website. Letter has been drafted by Norma which Pat was going to recirculate. If anyone has ideas on companies that can be approached, this should be pursued. Board feedback on the website was positive.

d. Education Tax Issue: STOP Project – Larry reported that he was tendering his resignation to MACO. He came on the MACO Board in 2007 and organized a tax rally four years in a row, did extensive research and wrote many letters to the editor. Brian Pallister is apparently supporting local autonomy for schools which is disappointing. Larry has appreciated the many opportunities he has been afforded through MACO but would now like to focus on personal pursuits. Mo commended Larry on the incredible amount of time he has committed to MACO and the work done on our behalf. Larry noted that First Nations lawsuit on Lake Manitoba is moving ahead. This would be good piece to post on our site.

It was noted that it would be important to get copies of the research that had been done by Larry so that this information is not lost.

e. Lake Manitoba – Greg reported it has gone down a bit but does not have an elevation. From the website – Feb 14 - 811.67 feet. Lake St. Martin – 807.3

Dave asked Greg to put article together and include on website re: cottager flood claims and deadlines.

f. Advertising

6. Business and Action Items Arising From Minutes

*Tax Rally – (Larry) – Larry has resigned.

7. New Business

- a. **Parks Coalition Update** – Mo reported there is no update as many seem to be down south.
- b. **Strategic Plan** – Shelley reported that she will review with Pat, but there would be value in reviewing priorities, available resources and assignment of responsibilities
- c. **Cottage Show – Apr 22-24** – Dave will put together a roster of shifts and circulate. Saturday has traditionally been the busiest day. The last few shows have had displays to draw people in (e.g. zebra mussels). Whiteshell Cottage Assoc – tree conservation – preventing disease transmission – they have brochures. Mo will check what is available.

8. Correspondence Received/Responded to:

- a. **Recycling Program** – email re: Recycle Everywhere program and free bin program. Newsletter to be out towards the end of Feb.

Discussion re: challenge with dissemination of information at ground level, access to email addresses, privacy laws. Government produces information but it isn't adequately distributed. There is lack of communication, duplication and overlap. Perhaps there is a way for MACO to work with groups of similar interests – e.g. Lake Winnipeg Foundation, Lake Winnipeg Coalition, Lake Winnipeg Research Consortium – provides platform for scientists to do lake research. Greg asked if we could make a list of associations we should be connected to and create those links. The list could be “Friends of MACO” and could be renewed annually, added as a section under Links, with a request for these organizations to include a MACO link on their websites.

9. Next Meeting Dates are Tuesdays:

March 15, 2016, April 19, 2016, May 17, 2016 June 21, 2016 July 19,2016, August 16, 2016, September 20, 2016 October 18, 2016, November 15, 2016

10. Adjournment – 8:35 p.m.

Task	Assigned to:	Deadline
Update membership communication and circulate to Board	Greg	
Obtain copies of research done by Larry for MACO archive	Dave	
Details re: First Nations / Lake Manitoba claim	Dave	
Article for newsletter/website on cottage flood claims/deadlines	Dave	
Cottage show roster	Dave	March
Look into possible displays for MACO booth at cottage show	Mo	

Previous meetings		
Approach lapsed members to renew	Greg	
Facebook postings	Dave/Liz	
Website articles Article on surge protection	Dr. Jim Dave	
Update Board listing on website	Pat	
Circulate Norma's draft letter re: advertising List of companies that can be approached	Pat Jim	
Consideration of MACO lobbying effort similar to Whiteshell		
Strategic Plan review	Pat/Shelley	
Banking - set up view and print option for monthly statements	Jim N.	
Track grant monies and associated expenditures	Jim	ongoing
Send in photos of cottage country for website	all	
corporate membership letter	Norma	asap
Invite Investors to take out corporate membership	Dave	asap