

Manitoba Association of Cottage Owners

Garden City Inn, 2100 McPhillips Street, Winnipeg

September 20, 2016

Minutes

Present: Dave Crabb, Norma Kerr, Pat Dunlop, Jim Neufeld, Mo Tipples, Greg Hamilton, Val Hammond, Jim Nicholson,
Guests: Gus Wruck, Dominique Maker (Fournier Drive Association)

Regrets: Ken Corbett, Ray Poole

Chair: Dave Crabb

Recording Secretary: Shelley Morris

1. Call to Order – 6:40 p.m.

2. Adoption of Agenda

Add Parks Coalition under Standing Items.

It was moved by Greg and seconded by Pat that the agenda be approved as amended. CARRIED

3. Adoption of Minutes of August 16, 2016.

It was moved by Pat and seconded by Val that the minutes be approved. CARRIED

4. Financial Report –

a. *Approval of Financial Reports.

b. *Receipts from members for purchases – submitted to Jim.

c. *Banking

d. *Update on Grant – Spent \$1575 on rebuilding the website of the total of \$3000. Communications should be the next area for the balance of the funding.

Jim reported income for August of \$230 and closing balanced budget - \$11, 177. Statement was circulated by email and at the meeting.

It was moved by Jim Nicholson and seconded by Mo that the financial report to August 31, 2016 be accepted. CARRIED

5. Standing Items

a. Membership

An updated list had been emailed by Greg. He noted there are 2455 total people in membership, one renewal since last meeting, 4 that have not renewed their membership. Greg reviewed against Cottager magazine list and there are 14 potential members. There are a number of ON associations and a number under the Whiteshell Cottagers Association. Information will be sent to all prospects. There is still individual membership at \$25 which includes the Cottager magazine. We have 7 individual memberships; the bulk are association members.

b. Facebook – Dave asked if anyone had any content for the Facebook page. Greg noted if there are any cottager associations with Facebook pages, we could like their posts to

create linkages with them.

- c. **Website** - AGM info has been added to the website, also a couple more sets of minutes. The website statistics show there are quite a few visits. There were 99 downloads of January minutes for example. New photos are needed and a request has been put out to the membership.
- d. **Education Tax Issue: STOP Project** – The Minister is attending our meeting and MACO would like to look at it as an opportunity to foster a relationship with the department. Ian Wishart spoke to us previously in his capacity with Keystone. The Let's Play Fair coalition has been on backburner for some time, but there was a meeting recently to touch base. Discussions were about a flat mill rate across the board (rather than elimination of school taxes) and consolidation of school boards. MACO needs to be aware of the position being pursued and ideally work together. Pat noted that MACO had been contacted about 8 months ago to check if we were still on side. Mo said Whiteshell has agreement on a freeze for two years to see if an agreement on approach can be reached for their situation.

Regarding approach taken at the AGM, we need to let government know that we are knowledgeable on the issue and be constructive. Jim noted some of the issues as circulated in his email – the number of school boards that we have compared to NB and the salaries paid, the student results (1 in 3 don't graduate) and the costs of 39 school divisions to taxpayers. Rather than presenting all this at the AGM, the goal might be more to get a follow up meeting. Ian Wishart, through KAP, has been a member of Let's Play Fair and should be familiar with the situation. Dave said he would formally ask at the AGM for a follow up meeting where MACO concerns would be presented.

- e. **Lake Manitoba** – at 811.9 – still on higher point of operating range but not too bad

Pat made reference to CWRA meeting which Mo has been attending and will circulate the information on an upcoming talk (Sept 27 at Holiday Inn) which may be of interest.

Greg asked that note be made in the minutes about plate being set at Narrows so that we can monitor what is happening.

- f. **Advertising** – Jim sent business cards from 2014 cottage show, as potential advertisers. Norma will make approaches.
- g. **Strategic Plan** – Shelley & Pat to review and come forward with plan for the Nov meeting.
- h. **Parks Coalition** – Dave to send invite to AGM. Mo has not had recent contact.

6. Business and Action Items Arising From Minutes

AGM

Arrangements have been made with the hotel. Dave will bring computer and look after renting projector from the hotel. Pat and Shelley will look after door, Mo will do receipts.

RSVP by Oct 11th.

Norma suggested publicizing meeting. Community news on TV and Billboard in Free Press might

be options. Dave suggested Kijiji.

Greg to bring membership applications and asked if there were insurance brochures.

Review of telephones - Digital option carries \$1000 cost. Analog option would not work in these rooms as they don't have telephone lines. There is a digital phone that could be rented and brought over from their other hotel. Skype has been tried and hasn't worked. Everyone needs to be on the same version with updates. GoToMeeting is another option. Decided against using anything for the AGM

7. **New Business**

Correspondence Received/Responded to:

- a. **Re – erosion** – Pat referred to email received from owner at Hillside. Pat sent her a pamphlet from Watershed office at Lundar regarding erosion but they would like more info re: where to start. Jim suggested contacting Water Stewardship and send photos and ask for input on shoreline protection strategy. Norma referred to a handbook that had been available in the past. Jim will look for copy and contact info. Dave referenced Mar 2001 Lake Winnipeg Shoreline Management. There was supposed to have been a 2012 update. Mo has copies of previous versions of the handbook and will bring to the AGM. Pat noted that there are day to day requests on this topic which she handles.
- b. **Hydro Shore Lands Program** – Dave noted Hydro office for Winnipeg River issues which is starting to deal with record number of people contacting them on shore line usage. They hoped MACO had some kind of regulation to deal with such issues. Dave explained our role is to assist, provide info, insurance. Gus noted the office has been in place for about 20 years. There are water storage lands adjacent to river property that belongs to Hydro and they want to know how it is being used. E.g cutting trees without permits would be an issue. Any modification of shoreline requires permit from Hydro e.g. building boat house.
- c. **Invitation to attend Stakeholder meeting in Lac du Bonnet** – Oct 1, drop in between 12 and 5. Could forward the info to the relevant cottage associations.

8. **Next Meeting Dates are Tuesdays:**

October 18, 2016, November 15, 2016

9. **Adjournment** – It was moved by Pat and seconded by Mo that the meeting be adjourned at 8:20 p.m. CARRIED