

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

May 16, 2017

MINUTES

Present: Dave Crabb, Pat Dunlop, Val Hammond, Jim Nicholson, Gus Wruck (7:50 p.m.), Ray Poole (by Skype/audio conference)

Regrets: Mo Tipples, Ken Corbett

Chair: Dave Crabb

Secretary: Shelley Morris

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Adoption of Agenda

Additions noted - Zebra mussels, West Interlake, cottage recycling added
It was moved by Pat and seconded by Val that the agenda be adopted as amended.

3. Financial Report –

- a. *Approval of Financial Reports.
- b. *Receipts from members for purchases.
- c. *Banking
- d. *Update on Grant.

Jim reported on income sources and expenses for the month of April, completing the month with a balance of \$10,638.97.

It was moved by Jim and seconded by Pat that the financial report for April 2017 be adopted.
CARRIED

4. Minutes

It was moved by Pat and seconded by Val that the minutes from the February 21 2017 meeting be approved. CARRIED

5. Standing Items

- a. ***Membership** – Val reported there were 8 renewals and 1 new/reinstated member (Hillside). Reference was made to PayPal and the possibility of using it for membership. For non-profits, there is a 1.6% cost and 30 cents per transaction.
- b. ***Facebook** – a couple of things were posted since the last meeting by Dave – west interlake conservation district and some others.

- c. ***Website** – Pat reported on website – will check re: if minutes are missing – some meetings may have been cancelled. Dave encouraged anyone that has articles of interest to provide them for posting on website.
- d. ***Education Tax Issue:** Pat asked about the petition re: education tax issue with names from the Cottager show – perhaps 75 or so names were collected. The petitions have kept the issue alive. She asked if a meeting should be requested with Minister Wishart as suggested following the annual meeting. He is familiar with the issue and MACO's history. Dave will look at next week.
- e. ***Lake Manitoba** - just under flood level. Winnipegosis is really high. Pat was at a water conservation sub-district meeting and measures were discussed.
- f. ***Advertising** - Pat has copy of the letter drafted by Norma. NetSet may be interested in advertising. Apparently they have had challenges in certain areas with their satellite system but it works in others. Explorenet is another company, used by Pat and Gus. There are business cards with email addresses and Norma's letter could be sent to those businesses. Pat will send the draft to Val. There is also an arrangement with Cottager magazine which has new owners.

6. **Business and Action Items Arising From Minutes**

a. Strategic Plan – discussed approach to strategic planning. Concern expressed with challenges with volunteer recruitment and succession planning. Options might be to scale back MACO's priorities as there is still value in the insurance program and website, e.g. perhaps only quarterly Board meetings. Planning survey can be sent to Board members and membership and include questions on Facebook also with request for volunteers.

e.g. could do a general posting such as “MACO will be holding a strategic planning meeting on Tuesday, June 20th.”

We are interested in hearing from members . . .

- Are there services you would like MACO to offer?
- Is there information you would like MACO to circulate?
- Are there issues that you would like MACO to tackle?”

b. Finalizing grant – need to follow through with purchase of telephone – Val and Pat will take care of if Dave sends details.

c. Cottage Show – the show went very well and there was a good response at the booth. People were interested in the information re: taxes and zebra mussels.

7. **New Business**

8. **Correspondence**

Offer to advertise in special edition of the Free Press – email was sent to Board members – cost was too high and has not generated interest in the past.

Cottage recycling – a lot of larger cottage areas have not responded. It has been added to the website which was appreciated. Another email was sent indicating who she had not heard from which Pat forwarded to those we had contacts for.

Jim had a presentation re: viruses associated with woodticks and a new one which is very serious

with significant neurological damage. Once the information is assembled, it could be added to the website.

9. **Next Meeting Dates are Tuesdays: June 20, July 18, August 15, September 19, October 17, November 21.**

10. **Adjournment** – It was moved by Pat and seconded by Ray that the meeting be adjourned at 8:50 p.m.