

May 20, 2014

Minutes

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MANITOBA ASSOCIATION OF COTTAGE OWNERS INC.

Present: Dave Crabb, Mo Tipples, Pat Dunlop, Tom Thorsteinson, Cathie Zarfes; Norma Kerr; Jim Nicholson; Ray Poole (skype) Ken Corbet (skype); Larry Baker.

Regrets: Marian Jones.

Guests: Gary Dunlop; Jim Neufeld; Gus Wruck.

1. Call to Order

Dave Crabb called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

2. Adoption of Agenda

Agenda was approved as amended. (Pat/Larry)

3. Adoption of Minutes

*Motion to approve the minutes of April 15, 2014. Approved. (Pat/Mo)

4. Financial Report

*Motion to approve the Financial Report of April, 2014. Approved. (Jim/Mo)

*Jim has completed the MACO tax return with the exception of two sections. Mo to provide Jim with a telephone number of an expert to explain the two sections. **(Action: Mo/Jim.)**

*Grant application – Estimates of costs required to accompany grant. Members will assist with getting estimates to be completed by June 10/14

-Website update **(Action: Norma)**

-Insurance – pricing from Cox Morris **(Action: Norma)**

-Signs and Banner **(Action: Dave)**

-Printing – two quotes Kendricks plus one other – **(Action: Mo)**

-Equipment for conferencing by computer with large screen – **(Action: Tom)**

-Equipment for conferencing by conference telephone – **(Action: Norma)**

5. Standing Items

- **Membership:** Letters still to be sent to lapsed members. **(Action: Marian)**

Cottager Magazine – Cathie would like to use the MACO logo for the Cottager article but needs an original pdf. Dave to obtain from printer and send to Cathie. **(Action: Dave/Cathie)**

Facebook: “likes” are up to 39. Insights are now available but usage very low. Norma will keep posting. **(Action: Norma)**

- **Website-**

Cathie/Tom reported that the website is out of date and missing links. The website should be updated on a regular basis – quarterly or annually. MACO to ask the webmaster for a report on what is out of date on the site, and get a quote from the webmaster for updating the website. **(Action: Pat/Norma)**
Cathie suggested that the board could start working on the “ISSUES” portion. Cathie to e-mail members to delegate particular issues to each person. To be completed before the next meeting. **(Action: Cathie/Board)**

- **Education Tax Issue: STOP Project:**

Dave is still waiting to hear from Lorne Weiss. **(Action: Dave)**

The pros and cons of contacting CBC I-Team were discussed regarding individuals/families who have lost/sold/can't sell their cottages due to high education taxes. MACO should try and do some research into the I-Team. **(Action: Cathie/Tom)**

- **Lake Manitoba-** Larry reported on a new organization – Prairie Improvement Network, looking at why there is no management structure for the Assiniboine Basin. Larry and Ray attended the meeting and Larry provided a report that will go up on the website. **(Action: Pat)**
Larry reported on the levels of flow from the Portage Diversion and concern with the dangerous level.
- **Advertising.** – Re: letters on corporate membership. Discussion on hits vs visits. Otherwise, letter ready to go. The website should be up to date before any letters are sent out to businesses. Gary stated there are tax issues around advertising and Jim will look into this. **(Action: Jim)**

6 Business and Action Items Arising from the Minutes

* **By-laws regarding financial decisions by the Board:** Jim advised that a motion be made regarding By-Law #2. The following motion must be presented at the AGM for ratification.

Motion by Dave Crabb: 'due to increased costs, the individual MACO membership cost will increase to \$25.00'. Motion approved. Pat/Cathie. This motion will require ratification at the AGM.

- **Provincial Land Use Planning Survey**-in progress **(Pat Dunlop)**
- **Tax Rally** – Dave had requested that a tax rally be held under the banner of the Canadian Tax Federation in conjunction with MACO and Colin is going to get back to Dave. Otherwise, Larry would organize a rally. This would be in the fall of 2014. **(Action: Dave)**
- **Cottage Show** – Dave has not heard back from Tom Pearson but has been in touch with Heather Gunning. **(Action: Dave)**
Dave was advised to take the word “resources” out of the MACO banner.
- **MACO on Escalating fees in Provincial Parks.** – Although individual parks expect support from MACO on escalating fees, it is impossible for MACO to understand the particular fee issues of each park. MACO will prepare a policy paper on the issue of accountability in parks. **(Action: Dave)**
It was reported that Deloitte-Touche has a website that explains fees in the Parks.

* - **New Drainage Guidelines for Wetlands.** Dave has not heard from Ducks Unlimited to date.

7. New Business:

* **Zebra Mussels.** – Mo advised that four harbours will be closed for a month at the beginning of the season to provide an opportunity to try to get rid of the mussels by using potash, a potassium salt. This chemical does not affect the fish but some research has shown that mussels do not like this “item.” Water Stewardship,

despite the complaints of many fishermen, is trying not to interrupt their season too much.

* **Noxious Weed Act of Manitoba** - Potential speaker did not return Dave's e-mail.

* **Road Restriction on Water Delivery** – Dave – move to June Agenda.

***Lake Winnipeg Regulation Review** – Dave – move to June Agenda.

***Clean Environment Commission** – Tom and Mo attended this session and Tom will prepare a blurb for the website and send to Pat. **(Action: Tom)**

***Cottage Association Websites** – Norma – move to June Agenda.

8. Correspondence Received/Responded to:

10. Next Meeting Dates:

*Next meeting dates are: June 17, July 15, August 19, September 16, 2014.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 pm. (Pat/Mo)

MANITOBA ASSOCIATION OF COTTAGE OWNERS INC.

2014 FINANCIAL REPORT
AS OF Apr 30, 2014

ASSETS

Chequing account balance as of Mar 31, 2014		\$5,399.63
Savings account balance as of Mar 31, 2014		\$1,005.60
	Total	<u>\$6,405.23</u>

Income

Interest (savings) – Apr 2014	\$0.21
Credit Interest (chequing) – Apr 30 2014	\$0.06
Membership (individual) – 1	\$20.00
Membership (individual) – 1	\$25.00
Membership (C.O.A.) – 9	\$419.00
Cottage Country.com (web ad Nov 2013-May 2014)	\$600.00
STOP project (individual donation)	\$5.00
Total	<u>\$1,069.27</u>

LIABILITIES

Copying	\$0.00
Postage	\$0.00
Supplies	\$0.00
Minister of Finance of MB (Companies Office – MACO Annual Info)	\$25.00
Interlake Community Foundation (donation)	\$50.00
The Cottager Magazine (for subscriptions)	\$130.00
Total	<u>\$205.00</u>

Summary

Total Balance forward	<u>\$6,405.23</u>
Total income for the period	\$1,069.27
Total debit for the period	\$205.00
Total balances as of Apr 30, 2014	<u>\$7,269.50</u>
Chequing account balance of Apr 30, 2014	\$6,263.69
STOP project (included in chequing account = \$305)	
Savings account balance of Apr 30, 2014	\$1,005.81

