

March 19, 2013 Minutes

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MANITOBA ASSOCIATION OF COTTAGE OWNERS INC

P.O. Box 281 Station Main, Winnipeg, MB R3G 2G9

Present: Norma Kerr, Dave Crabb, Marian Jones, Mo Tipples, Pat Dunlop, Larry Baker.

Regrets: Lorne Britton, Rilla Britton, Ken Corbett, Ray Poole

Guests: Ronald Smith and Tom Walker, executives of the Whiteshell Cottagers Association (WCA)

Discussion took place with guests from 6:15 to 8:15. The following points summarize the discussion:

- WCA concerned about increases stated by the media – where lease and service fees for cottagers in parks will rise significantly. Purpose of meeting was to get to know MACO Board and network.
 - There are 3300 – 3600 residents in the Whiteshell Park. WCA has 1700 paid up members.
 - No problem with rise in fees, but WCA would like an accounting of how fees are budgeted for expenditures. Lack of trust building because WCA has not had an accounting of fees from the provincial government, ever.
 - Court case in 2005 citing government was breaking their own law (i.e. section 18 of provincial Park Regulations, which states that stakeholders are entitled to look at how money is assessed and spent.) WCA won their legal case and their legal fees were paid for by the province, but nothing has changed.
 - *Parks and District Service Fee Review approximately three years ago. Surveys completed, but nothing heard since then until media announcement this month.
 - Infrastructure going down hill. Three quarters of upgrade fees will come from cottagers.
 - *Tomorrow Now Plan* is looking at 23 more parks. Where will the dollars come from?
 - WCA taking action with letter to minister and article in their newsletter. (Echo)
 - Government now promoting perception that there are rich people in the parks that have a good deal compared to Ontario Parks.
 - WCA does not have a vote for any elected municipal or provincial official – no representation – no vote – no accountability.
 - **CONCLUSION:**
 - MACO supports the work that WCA is doing.
 - MACO and WCA will put links on each others' websites. (as soon as approved by WCA Board).
 - WCA advised MACO to sit tight until WCA has implemented their plans.
 - The government should know that WCA and MACO are working together. (to be put on MACO facebook site. **(Action Norma Kerr)**)
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1. Call to Order

Dave Crabb called the meeting to order at 8:15 pm

2. Adoption of the Agenda:

Motion passed to adopt the Agenda. Pat Dunlop/Mo Tipples.

3. Adoption of the Minutes of February 26, 2013.

Motion passed to adopt the Minutes of February 26/13. Pat Dunlop/Marian Jones.
AGM Minutes will be put on the website if Pat has not heard from anyone by Thursday.

4. Financial Report

Motion passed to adopt the Financial Report of February 28/13. Pat Dunlop/Mo Tipples.

5. Standing Items

**Faceook:*

Ask someone to come out to our meeting and present facebook to the Board. **(Action Norma Kerr.)**

**Website:*

Cottage Country still in the process of preparing their ad (small size) for the web. We need to know if the Cottage Show, and also the ad on Bear Proof Containers will be a go. Dave Crabb to look into this. **(Action Dave Crabb.)**

Association members will now have their membership date on the website in an additional column to the right.

**Education Tax Issue:*

Pat reported Heather Stefanson has agreed to present MACO's petition. Pat will contact Heather to see what the best way of presenting it is. **(Action Pat Dunlop.)**

Pat Dunlop met with the Victoria Beach group.

Person who visited the MACO Booth at the Cottage Show will give us a deal or a contribution on producing school tax signs. These should state clearly that this is taxes off ALL properties, and it should be in two colours. **(Action Pat Dunlop.)**

**2011 Lake Manitoba Flood:*

Larry would like to organize another flood rally on his own. Motion passed that Larry will proceed to plan a flood rally if the Portage Diversion is re-opened. Larry Baker/Norma Kerr.
If flood rally takes place, information will go on website and facebook.

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

**Shellmouth Dam* – Larry Baker - next meeting

*Strategic Plan – *Board* – next meeting

**Beaconia Marsh Update* – Dave Crabb – next meeting

**Provincial Land Use Planning Survey* – Pat Dunlop – next meeting

**Disaster Compensation* – Norma Kerr, Pat Dunlop, Dave Crabb – next meeting

7. **New Business:**

*Who gets the “Cottager” Magazine? – Ask Treasurer at next meeting.

*Taxpayer Magazine to go to Jim Nicholson.

*Should MACO buy the \$75.00 subscription to Ducks Unlimited and receive a copy of their large book? Dave will check with a friend to see if we can purchase the books in bulk for use as gifts or prizes. **(Action Dave Crabb)**

*New MACO brochure is required. – next meeting

8. **Correspondence Received and Responded to:**

*Letter from Richard Zimmerman, Entrepreneur. Advise Richard that we do not send advertising out to Associations, but he can put an insert into our newsletter for \$200.00 or advertise on the website. **(Action Norma Kerr)**

*e-mail letter received from Mark Hanson re water research – Pat Dunlop to follow up.
Action Pat Dunlop)

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

Next meeting dates are: April 16, May 21, June 18, July 16, August 20, September 17.

10. **Adjournment:**

*The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 pm. Motion passed to adjourn – Pat Dunlop/Marian Jones.

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2013 FINANCIAL REPORT AS OF Feb 28, 2013

ASSETS

Chequing account balance as of Jan 31, 2013		\$4,078.76
Savings account balance as of Jan 31, 2013		\$1,002.70
	Total	<u>\$5,081.46</u>

Income

Interest – Feb 2013	\$0.19
Property Tax Sign Sales - 0	\$0.00
Memberships - Individual - 0	\$0.00
Memberships - COA - 0	\$0.00
Total	\$0.19

LIABILITIES

	\$0.00
	\$0.00
Copying	\$0.00
Postage	\$0.00
Supplies	\$0.00
Total	\$0.00

Summary

Total Balance forward	<u>\$5,081.46</u>
Total income for the period	\$0.19
Total debit for the period	\$0.00
Total balances as of Feb 28, 2013	<u>\$5,081.65</u>
Chequing account balance of Feb 28, 2013	\$4,078.76
Savings account balance of Feb 28, 2013	\$1,002.89