

Manitoba Association of Cottage Owners

Virtual on zoom

September 22, 2021**7:00 p.m.**

MINUTES**Present:** Gus Wruck, Shelley Morris, Jim Nicholson, Gordon Campbell, Ken Corbett,**Regrets:** Val Hammond, Dave Crabb, Ray Poole

1. **Call to Order** - The meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m.

2. **Adoption of Agenda**

3. **Minutes – August 25, 2021**

Jim circulated a number of amendments to the minutes.

It was moved by Gordon and seconded by Ken that the minutes be approved as amended.

CARRIED

4. **AGM Planning**

- i. **Guest Speaker** – Gordon has been in contact with Morris Insurance. He will confirm the speaker and request a bio on the speaker and company to send to Shelley to include in the AGM promo
- ii. **Draft Agenda** – Shelley circulated the AGM draft agenda. The speaker will be at the beginning of the meeting.
- iii. **Nominating Slate / Appointment of VP** – Jim spoke to Dave Crabb but not sure if he plans to continue. He also spoke to Val's daughter and Val is at the cottage for another week. Gus expressed concern that our volunteer ranks are diminished. Gordon would agree with that sentiment but noted that this year we have been consulted more frequently and also, there has been challenges with being unable to meet in person due to the pandemic. Gordon offered to serve as VP but would not be prepared to move up to President. Jim will go to see Val once she's back in the city and check on her status. She does not have Internet at the lake. Julie Brodeur may be a candidate to work with MACO.

Shelley will do a call for volunteers when the AGM notice is sent out. She will also contact people that expressed interest on last year's survey. Gordon will make contact with the list of people that were interested in volunteering with CSLW.

5. Strategic Plan

i. Information Services

- a. Website Update and Ongoing Management – Gordon spoke to his review of the website. The minutes have all been filed and brought up to date. Gordon suggested that some things were out of date and other material is very good, but it may be easiest to make decisions on the website when we can meet in person. The ones that are blatantly out of date can be removed. An approach to photos needs to be addressed.

ii. Organizational Effectiveness

- a. Membership – clarification re: invoicing / outstanding dues / access to insurance program – not addressed due to Val not being in attendance.
- b. Draft member promo prepared by Gordon – Jim offered some comments and Gordon will review. Jim will try to meet with Val to impress the importance of membership and ascertain if she is able to manage the role or needs assistance. We likely have about 25-30 paid members. Shelley offered to assist with emailing those associations that have not paid. A list of paid members in good standing is required for the AGM.

iii. Public Policy

- a. **CSLW Report** – There were responses from many of the federal election candidates which were posted on the MACO website. Gordon will ask Lynnette to do up a piece that groups the 14 that won and leave that on the website.
- b. **Education Taxes** – progress as been made but we will need to continue monitoring once the new Premier is in place.
- c. **Internet** – Gus circulated an email regarding Internet service and his discussions with a supplier interested in covering all of rural MB, VOIP phone and Internet service for under \$200 per month. Jim mentioned another option is Starlink which is what Dave Crabb is now using. It was agreed that MACO could support the need for improved internet service but we would not align the organization with any particular Internet service provider. Down the road, however, maybe there is potential for a membership program. Gus will attend an upcoming Lac du Bonnet Council meeting to speak to the importance of improved internet in rural MB.

6. Membership Report – Val was not in attendance

7. **Finance Report** – Jim sent the financial report for August to the Board. Balance is \$15,083.95 as of August 31, 2021. Jim moved and Gordon seconded that the financial report to August 31, 2021 be accepted. CARRIED

8. New/Other Business

9. Next Meeting Dates

Dates for 2021-22 meetings and agenda focus were agreed to as:

Wed. Dec 1 – workplan for coming year/what policy issues will be pursued

Wed. March 2 – membership building / cottage show

Wed. June 1 – strategic planning / membership survey / draft budget for next fiscal year

Wed. Sept 7 – AGM planning / Board development/nominations

10. Adjournment – Ken moved that the meeting adjourn at 8:00 p.m.