

Manitoba Association of Cottage Owners

Virtual on zoom

December 1, 2021

7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Present: Gus Wruck, Shelley Morris, Jim Nicholson, Gordon Campbell, Ken Corbett, Ray Poole, Val Hammond, Remi Brengman, Kevin Crozier

Regrets: Dave Crabb

1. **Call to Order** - The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. The Chair introduced new Board member, Remi Brengman, who is a cottage owner on Bird River. All Board members introduced themselves. Gus also introduced Kevin Crozier who joined the meeting.
2. **Adoption of Agenda**
Gus asked for the addition of Health Care to the agenda
Gordon moved and Ken seconded that the agenda be approved as amended. CARRIED
3. **Minutes – September 22, 2021**
It was moved by Gordon and seconded by Ken that the minutes be approved. CARRIED
4. **AGM Debrief**
Credit was given to Gordon for organizing Dave Morris as guest speaker at the AGM. Board members agreed that it was a good presentation. There were some additional people in attendance but it would have been good if more were out to hear it.
5. **Strategic Plan**
 - i. **Organizational Effectiveness**
 - a. **Membership**
 - Appointment of Chair – Shelley offered to chair membership but would want someone else to take on the secretary position. Gordon agreed to do the minutes and Shelley will continue to put out the agenda. The mail box is downtown. Shelley suggested that we should look at electronic funds transfer options for payment of membership fees. Shelley will organize meeting with Jim and Val.

Jim moved and Ray seconded that we set up e-transfer of funds at the credit union. CARRIED

Lester Beach just went through this, and 2 MACO signing officers would need to authorize. MACO signing officers are presently Gus, Jim, Dave and Val.

- b. Volunteer Recruitment – difficult to recruit people when you are unable to see them in person. The next opportunity for recruitment would be in the spring at the cottage show.

ii. Public Policy

a. CSLW Liaison

Shelley reviewed the recent activities of CSLW and provided background information. Suggested opportunities include posting updates on MACO Facebook, joint meeting with CSLW.

Watershed Observer was added to MACO Facebook page and there has been 30 downloads. Gordon noted that although there is a challenge with volunteers, there is interest with the information that MACO puts out. Kevin has an interest in water quality issues and zebra mussels. Gordon noted the work that CSLW has been doing regarding zebra mussels.

The Board had no objections to CSLW info being posted on our Facebook page or in doing a communication to our mailing list

- b. **Education Taxes** – This needs to be monitored. The current government is focusing on its leadership issues and COVID issues.

c. Internet

Shelley noted the announcement in the news yesterday re: the province and Xplorenent and upgrades to rural internet affecting 350 municipalities.

d. Health Care

Gus noted this is a big issue currently with the wait for procedures. Shelley's view was that while it is a big issue, it is outside of the purview of MACO and there are other organizations that are better equipped to deal with this issue.

iii. Information Services

- 6. **Membership Report** – Val reported that she hasn't been to the mailbox since before the AGM. She has extra keys should Gordon be able to pick up the mail. There has been communication with Belair and they are expected to submit their dues.
- 7. **Finance Report** – Jim circulated the financial reports for Sept to Nov. In Oct, there were payments from 8 associations and one individual and payments of \$918. For end of November, there were payments from 5 associations for \$242 and balance of \$15,488.

Jim moved and Gordon seconded that the financial statements for Sept, Oct, Nov be accepted.

CARRIED

8. New/Other Business

Gordon raised the issue of policing in rural areas and the lack of policing in cottage areas. Especially in winter, there are a lot of break-ins and robberies. Perhaps this is an issue to be discussed in the future. Possibly MACO could advocate for increased security. The point was made about COPP program (Citizens on Patrol) which used to be funded by MPI. Kevin noted that from his experience, police response has dropped off and break ins are not a high priority and it can take several hours to respond to alarms and break and enters.

9. Next Meeting Dates - Proposed

March 2 – membership building / cottage show

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

Sept 7 – AGM planning / Board development/nominations

10. Adjournment – Ken moved and Ray seconded that the meeting adjourn at 8:10 p.m.