



MGPDOA Annual General Meeting

Minutes

Thursday, November 4, 2010

Occurred at Windsor Community Centre with the Co-Chair (Kelly Merkeley) presiding			
Attendance (Board Members)		Quorum	Yes
Clear, Kathleen (Member-at-Large)		Manley-Tannis, Richard (Secretary)	
Fagan, Eileen (Treasurer)		Merkeley, Kelly (Co-Chair)	
Machovec, Frank (Treasurer)		Pucknell, Lance (Member-at-Large)	
Call to Order			
The Co-Chair Kelly Merkeley called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.			
Procedural Motions			
Motion			
Moved	Shane Nestruck	Seconded	Colin Lang
			Carried
"That the Minutes Annual General Meeting of the Maple Grove Dark Park Owners' Association of October 27, 2010 be approved as circulated."			
Old Business			
City of Winnipeg Representative (Jonina Ewart): Q&A			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The reason for the MOU is to standardise the Dog Parks within the Municipality (i.e. boundaries, expectations). Reality is that the Association currently does not generate enough income to pay for insurance costs. • Observation: The future of the city must include considerations of 'active living.' Edmonton and Calgary used as examples. Response: Calgary and Edmonton have a different model of funding through membership for green spaces such as dog parks. Winnipeg, as a municipality, seems to have a certain degree of access that is different than other municipalities. • Association is considering Charitable Status in order to open up other funding possibilities. • Question: With respect to the insurance, do we have contact with other dog parks? Has anyone explored blanket coverage? Answer: Yes, we have communication with the other dog parks. MGDPOA the most organised at the moment within the Municipality. All of the current dog parks are, to a certain extent, in conflict with other neighbours. Blanket coverage, therefore, is a challenge owing to less developed governance models for the other dog parks. • Question: Are there guarantees for donated benches to remain in place after a donation? Answer: The bench will be replaced if damaged. There is no guarantee, however, that the same funding will be in place. • Question: What kind of coverage does the city have, in respect to liability? Answer: Previously, piggy-backing occurred. An MOU no longer is sufficient and insurance is required. • Question: The park is heavily used and yet there is no infrastructure in place for security (i.e. lights, bathrooms), is there any possibility to have this provided? Answer: Parks within the Municipality are technically only designated as open from dusk until dawn. In respect to lighting, such infrastructure is cost prohibitive. In respect to bathroom facilities, no existing parks have that infrastructure in place. MGDPOA has also dreamed big about lighting and has met with an architect that might be possible once Association has more funding opportunities (i.e. if Charitable Status is realised). • Observation: Most of the existing infrastructure (i.e. roads, parking lots) is owned by other user groups in the area (i.e. Rugby, Mustangs). • Question: What is the landscaping to the west of the Rugby fields? Answer: New ultimate fields are being put in. 			



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- Question: Shoes hanging from live wire have been reported to indicate a place to sell drugs, is this the case?
Answer: Police do make the rounds and there is a lot of activity there during the evening. Mustangs do check the property during the evening. There is some indication that the shoes do indicate that is the case.
- Question: Last Christmas there was a lot of Municipal presence, was that to enforce that other user areas are not open to dogs (i.e. Ultimate Fields, Rugby Fields)?
Observation: People choose to ignore existing signage. In respect to Animal Services presence at the parks, Leland Gordon (Representative of Animal Services) is the person who enforces infractions of Municipal by-laws and was present to educate (i.e. boundaries, licensing).
- Question: If someone who live outside of the Municipality makes use of the park, should they not have a license?
Answer: Uncertain – though there seems to approval that it makes sense!

Treasurer's Report

Financial Report for the Annual General Meeting
November 4, 2010

Bank Balance as of October 18, 2010	\$4613.69
Petty Cash	\$50.00
Total	\$4663.69

Since the last AGM on October 27, 2009, the Association has received \$2409.50 from membership fees and donations, and we have spent \$784.41 on expenses such as post office box rental, postage, office supplies, bank charges, Internet Domain registration, fees, hall rental for AGM, and incidental expenses for fundraising events.

Frank Machovec, Treasurer

Motion

Moved	Shane Nestruck	Seconded	Colin Lang	Carried
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"That the Treasurer's Report be accepted as submitted."

Co-Chair's Report

- Membership now numbers 448.
- Transfer from old Association now complete.
- BBQ was a great success and useful to connect with membership.
- Picnic tables now returned.
- 311 useful means of advocating for park (i.e. picnic tables).
- Sponsors this year: Aardvark Pets, Dakota Veterinary Hospital, Harvest Bakery & Deli, Local Meats & Frozen Treats, M&M, Pet Valu, Safeway, Sobey's, South End Vet Clinic, South Glen Vet Clinic, St. Vital Market, Tim Horton's, the Preferred Perch, Wal-Mart.
- Charitable Status in process.

New Business

By-Law Changes

Motion

Preamble



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The intent of this change is to facilitate the approval of larger expenditures between Annual General Meetings.			
Moved	Colin Lang	Seconded	Alan Pilkington
Carried			
"That the present by-law #50: 'The Board of Directors may authorize the expenditure of up to \$500.00 for Association projects without the approval of the General Membership,' be modified to include 'Approval for these expenditures over \$500.00 may come at the Annual General Meeting, at an extraordinary meeting or by an email vote among members in good standing provided at least twenty-one (21) days notice is given for voting.'"			
Motion			
Preamble			
The intent of this new by-law is to formalise a process for filling vacancies on the Board until the next formal election at an Annual General Meeting.			
Moved	Shane Nestruck	Seconded	Heather Hartry
Carried			
"That in the event that there is a vacancy on the Board, the remaining Board members may nominate a replacement from member in good standing and that the term of office for this candidate shall end at the next Annual General Meeting."			
Motion			
Preamble			
The intent of this is to simplify our Board structure and add efficiency since there is an overlap in Secretary and Treasurer duties. The option is acknowledged in existing by-law #14.			
Moved	Hubert Vandevorst	Seconded	Richard Goran
Carried			
"That the roles of Treasurer and Secretary be merged, in order to improve operational efficiency."			
Election (Board Members)			
Motion			
Moved	Kelly Merkeley	Seconded	Shane Nestruck
Carried			
"That Richard Manley-Tannis be elected as Co-Chair."			
Motion			
Moved	Kathleen Clear	Seconded	Susan Midford
Carried			
"That Lance Pucknell be elected as Co-Chair."			
Acclamations			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "That Frank Machovec, by acclamation, fill the role as Treasurer & Secretary." • "That Kelly Merkeley, by acclamation, fill the role as a Member-at-Large." • "That Kathleen Clear, by acclamation, fill the role as a Member-at-Large." • "That Colin Lang, by acclamation, fill the role as a Member-at-Large." • "That Rosalyn Jones-Smith, by acclamation, fill the role as a Member-at-Large." • "That Jacquie Machovec, by acclamation, fill the role as a Member-at-Large." • "That Peter Theyer, by acclamation, fill the role as a Member-at-Large." 			
Volunteer Recognition			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roy Pownell 			
Group Discussion			
Priorities for the Next Year			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charitable Status 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Branded Swag: Mugs, Scarves, T-shirts, 	



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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pursue MOU • Pursue further relationship with other Dog Parks • Speed control • Further explore enclosed area for puppies • Advocate for completion of fence with MODS, in order to show neighbourliness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • leashes • Social • Consider compost faeces • Protect trees planted for erosion • Improve signage (i.e. enclosed area, actual length of various trails) • Maintain effective communication (i.e. email upcoming events) 					
Use of Existing Funds						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Porta-potty 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Winter trail grooming 					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More explicit signage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 					
Corporate Sponsorship						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City approval would be required • Pamphlets have been sponsored • Any sponsorship would have to be consistent and conservative 						
Motion						
Moved	Heather Hartry	Seconded	Christie Boaler	Against	2	Carried
"That any possible sponsorship offered to the MGDPOA be 'consistent' and 'conservative,' in order to assure fairness for sponsors and limit excessive advertising."						
Adjournment						
Moved	Colin Lang					
Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.						