

Maple Grove Dog Owner's Association (MGPDOA)
Annual General Meeting, Tuesday, November 18, 2014 at 7:00 PM
Louis Riel Library, 1168 Dakota Street

1. **Call to Order** Frank Machovec welcomed the group, and as there was a quorum, the meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM.
2. **Minutes of the 2013 meeting** - Motion: that the minutes of the October 23, 2013 annual general membership meeting be accepted as circulated. Moved by Susan Midford and seconded by Julia Blonski-carried
3. **Co-Chair report** Frank Machovec reported that two land dedication reserve grants were received from the City of Winnipeg. One was for the parking lot area improvement at \$25,000, which came in under cost and the other for the new dog in-ground refuse bins and installation at \$11,000. The new bins will be emptied and maintained by the City.

Frank M commented on the support we have received from the St. Vital City Counsellor Brain Mayes.

The City has also continued to supply and distribute wood chips on trails in the park.

Some members of the Board of Directors (Colin Lang, Frank Machovec and Rosalyn Jones-Smith) have been involved in the set up and roll out of the WINDOG, an advocacy group of local dog park associations.

The Board also conducted two successful BBQs and a spring clean- up.

The Board has joined the Volunteer Canada as it gives access to better and cheaper liability insurance, and it appears to be more geared towards not-for-profit groups' activities.

The Board has also cleaned up its membership and mailing lists and made sure that we are in compliance with the new Canadian anti spam rules.

4. **Treasurer's Report** Cathy Guttek reported on the association's finances. A financial report was circulated for review. The current bank balance is \$5,274.35. Total revenue for 2013/14 from grants, memberships, silent auction, food sales and donations was \$27,573.77. Total expenses were \$27,517.84. An effort was made this year to develop a more efficient system that separates membership and donation revenue collected. Motion to accept Treasure`s report- Carol Mahe, seconded by Lorne Volk-carried
A question arose about whether or not the financials need to be audited by a third party. Frank Machovec indicated he did not think so due to the size of the

organization but that it would definitely be looked into. (Note: we are not obliged to have an audit unless the membership at the AGM requires one. FJM)

5. **WINDOG Presentation** Donna Henry, President of Kilcona Dog Park and Vice President of WINDOG gave an interesting presentation on the WINDOG association and its activities. The organization acts as an advocacy and lobbying group for local dog parks. It addresses common issues of concern and promotes park stewardship. During the last civic election the group provided information on dog park friendly city counsellors and mayoral candidates. Along with Kilcona, Maple Grove and Little Mountain Park, they developed the Pet Etiquette brochures that was widely distributed and now needs to be re-printed.

Future objectives include encouraging the City to develop more neighbourhood dog parks and larger community parks, and develop at least four regional parks. WINDOG also want the City to prepare a proper Dog Park Management report.

6. **Nomination and Election of Officers for 2014**

- Co-chairs Frank Machovec and Colin Lang are willing to serve for another term. There were no nominations from the floor for these positions. It was moved by Bardee Hubka and seconded by Susan Midford that the two incumbent co-chairs be re-elected by acclamation-carried.
- Heather Hartry indicated her willingness to continue serving as secretary and there were no nominations from the floor. Jacquie Machovec moved that Heather Hartry continue as secretary, seconded by Cathy Kelly-carried
- Cathy Guttek indicated her willingness to continue to serve as treasurer and there were no nominations from the floor. Cindy Little moved that Cathy Guttek continue as Treasurer, seconded by Julia Blonski-carried.
- A motion was made by Reid Hartry and seconded by Cathy Guttek that the ``at large`` board members (Julia Blonski, Rosalyn Jones-Smith, Sherri Tufford, Cathy Kelly, Lauren Smith and Suz Wiens) continue as members. Carried
- Note: an additional at large member, Tushar Raichura, volunteered after the meeting. His nomination was accepted unanimously by the board of directors after the AGM—FJM.

7. **Discussion and Approval of Bylaw Changes**

Frank Machovec explained that the board of directors had reviewed the existing bylaws (last updated in 2011) to clarify and re-order some articles and better reflect current practice. The changes were posted on the MGPDOA Website and copies were distributed at the meeting. Motion by Carol Mahe and seconded by Julia Blonski to accept the changes. Carried

There was discussion regarding the desirability of having a fixed membership year.. Also concern arose about some apparent contradictions in bylaw Section B Membership /8, 9, and 10. Frank Machovec indicated that the Board would have to take a further look at these issues and possibly make additional changes at the next annual general meeting.

8. New Business, Announcements, and General Discussion

- Question arose about what to do about snags (dead trees) in the park. This is the responsibility of the city but Board will check on protocol.
- Thanks to lady who regularly cleans up garbage and man who takes out burdock!
- Suggestion made to look into moving park boundary further to the East.
- Board Objectives for 2015 include:
 - possible board training,
 - reprint of pet etiquette brochure
 - have another person do Safe Food Handling course
 - Look into ways to provide water to the park (possibly share with MODS)
 - Continue to work on trail improvements
 - Look into the possibility of having a porta-potty
- Door Prize was drawn: winner Jeff Henry.

9. Motion to adjourn, Susan Midford . Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM