

Maple Grove Park Dog Owners Association

Board meeting minutes

April 14, 2014

Present: Frank Machovec, Sherri Tufford, Cathy Guttek, Rosalyn Jones-Smith, Colin Lang, Lauren Smith & Heather Hartry

Opening

- The meeting was called to order at 7:05 on April 14, 2014 at 39 Winslow Drive, Winnipeg.

Approval of Minutes

- The minutes of the November 14, 2013 minutes were circulated and accepted (motion Colin Lang, seconded Sherri Tufford) Motion carried.

Co-Chair Reports

- The Chairs reported that they had met with Johina Ewart, Superintendent of Parks east at City of Winnipeg and Carl Thordarson, City of Winnipeg East Area Technician. They discussed wood chips and possibility of new dog waste bins for the park with them.
- Dog waste pick up day apparently went well despite the lingering snow and bad weather. Turnout was quite good and a lot was picked up. One volunteer won a \$50.00 MasterCard prize. A local radio station showed up for the event.
- Frank wants the committee to tighten up the membership list as it is currently quite large but probably not too accurate. This is partly due to our joining WINDOG and the need to have accurate numbers of members. Need this by 2015.
- Discussion regarding moving the membership dates to the calendar year, fiscal year or leave it at the time of the AGM. Concerns that this will cause confusion for people if they buy a membership at one of the 2 BBQs. Frank proposed sending out an email to the current membership explaining the situation. Needs further thought and discussion.
- Suggestion made that we use full sheet of paper for membership rather than the small ones on the brochure. Easier to write on and file. Should include membership fee and any donation amount.

Financial Report

- Financial report was read by Cathy Guttek. Acceptance was moved by Sherri , seconded by Colin and carried.
- Frank reported that we needed to do a corporate income tax return. As a not-for-profit group we only need to do the short form.

WINDOG Update

- Frank and Colin have been in attendance at WINDOG meetings, which is a lobby group for dog parks and dog owners.

- Colin moved that the MGPOA contribute \$250 to WINDOG to cover start-up expenses. This was previously discussed by email, seconded by Cathy.
- Colin volunteered to be the MGPOA representative at WINDOG. This selection was moved by Sherri, seconded by Heather and carried.
- Motion that MGOPDA Board accepts a membership fee of a \$1.00 per pet owner with a CAP of \$250. Moved by Rosalyn, seconded by Sherri and carried.
- The purchase of WINDOG Bumper stickers was discussed and most members were not in favour of them. Sherri moved to reject the purchase, seconded by Cathy and carried. Members are willing to consider something different like a window sticker.

Land Dedication Reserve Grant

- The City has suggested that MGPOA apply for grant for in-ground waste disposal bins. Map of proposed locations was passed around for review.
- Members cited concerns about location of the bins that the City has currently proposed. Need to discuss possible better sites. Need to be handy for users but placed away from areas that flood and be accessible to the City who will be responsible for emptying them. There will be further discussions with City to see if they are flexible about locations.
- It was suggested that we ask for 4 bins and also add in cost of bags for the bins.
- Question arose that do we need to get a grant if Kilcona Dog Park got their bins at no cost.

Potential Membership in Volunteer Canada

- It was determined that joining Volunteer Canada would give the Board access to better liability insurance than we currently have at a better cost. Also gives us other benefits such as access to courses.
- Motion that the Board of MGOPDA join Volunteer Canada and obtain director's liability insurance through them. Colin moved, Sherri seconded and it was carried.

Spring BBQ Plans

- Possible dates of the spring BBQ were discussed. It was decided to aim for Sunday June 1/14, with June 8/14 as the rain date.
- Frank will book the park for the event.
- It was generally agreed that we keep the food separate from the membership drive. This will give us a better handle on actual numbers.
- Discussion about getting in an outside food source instead of doing on our own food.
- Colin will check out how Kilcona handles their food as they have a food truck come in.
- Heather will check on service available from Smoke'n Bob's Hot Dogs.
- The same radio station is willing to come out again and will bring coffee.
- Kathleen may be willing to look after the auction items again. Rosalyn will check with her. Other Board members willing to help out as well.

By Law Update

- Still need for further review of Bylaws and again question of need to change membership end date from AGM date.

New Business

- Frank will talk to Carl Thordarson about the possibility of putting up some signs warning people that they are on city property and that they can be fined for not picking up after their dogs.
- Will ask about more wood chips for the paths
- Discuss how to block off the extra entrance from the parking lot.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM

Next meeting to be arranged sometime in May before the BBQ.

Respectively submitted by Heather Hartry, Interim Secretary