

**Maple Grove Dog Park Owner's Association  
Board Meeting  
February 10, 2015**

**Present:** Frank Machovec, Cathy Guttek, Suz Wiens, Cathy Kelly, Tushar Raichura, Julia Blonski and Heather Hartry.  
**Regrets:** Colin Lang, Lauren Smith, and Sherri Tufford.

**Opening**

- The meeting was called to order at 7:15 PM on Tuesday, February 10/15 at the Louis Riel Library at 1168 Dakota.

**Approval of Minutes:**

- The minutes of the December 11, 2014 meeting were circulated and accepted.  
(Motion by Cathy Guttek, seconded by Suz Wiens). Motion carried.

**Co-Chair Reports**

- Frank reported that once Colin returns from vacation they will meet with City officials to discuss plans for the park. This will probably occur in March.
- Frank and Suz will attend the AGM of Brenda Leipsic Park next week on Feb 19, 2015 at the Winnipeg Humane Society.
- Frank reported that he had written an email to the Minister of Conservation requesting the reconsideration of the granting of an environmental permit for development in the Brenda Leipsic Park area.
- Frank reported that he filled out the taxes for the 2014 year. We need to report but do not pay taxes, as we are non-profit.
- Motion to reprint the Pet etiquette brochures at a cost of \$500. A request for \$250 has already been submitted to the City for half of the costs. (Moved by Julia Blonski, seconded by Suz Wiens) Motion carried.
- Frank renewed the MGDPA's registration for incorporation with the Company's Office (Province of Manitoba) at a cost of \$25.00.
- Frank reported that Rosalyn Jones-Smith has resigned from the Board as she is involved with the start up of other dog parks.

**Financial Report**

- Cathy reported that she re-did the financial report form so that it will be easier to do the report at the AGM.
- Cathy reported that in addition to their membership fees two people donated \$50.00 each to the Association.

**Spring Clean Up and BBQs**

- We will aim to have the Spring Clean UP on Saturday, April 11/15, weather permitting.
- BBQ will be held on either Saturday, June 6 or Sunday, June 7, 2015.
- Discussion about the continued use of the Silent Auction.
- Cathy reported that it bigger prizes seem to be the the major attraction. Therefore, it might be better to purchase better prizes when things are on sale. It was felt it was acceptable to buy things if we saw a very good deal and report back to the Board.

**Board Training**

- Frank reported that he attended the Volunteer Manitoba bookkeeping course for non-profit organizations. He felt it was not as beneficial as hoped as it was not really oriented to our type of organization.
- Suz Wiens volunteered to take the Board Liability training course on March 25, 2015.

- Motion to write a cheque to Frank to cover the cost of the training for the bookkeeping and Liability courses at \$95.00 each. Frank will register Suz for her course. (Moved by Julia Blonski, seconded by Heather Hartry). Agreed that Frank would be one of the signers of his reimbursement cheque as Colin is away.

### **By law Revision**

- Frank has worked on updating the wording regarding membership dates etc. for the next AGM  
Frank found some different wording in the Brenda Leipsic By Laws that might be useful, especially concerning electronic voting.  
Frank, Julia, and Suz will meet to go over this in the near future.
- Frank reported back on whether or not we need to have an outside audit. The Not for Profit Act is unclear, but it is permissible to ask at an AGM if anyone wants an outside audit. If even one person wants one it should be done.

### **Projects for 2015**

- Better signage to make it clear where the dog park actually is located.
- Benches and picnic tables (Frank will bring up with the City)
- There may be an interest in a memorial wall for pets. This could be used as a fund raiser for other park items including bringing in a source of water. May need to check what membership actually want. Needs further discussion.

### **Communications**

- Still need to tidy up Facebook page, Web site and use Twitter more
- Heather will check with her son about updating the website.
- Julia started to update the membership list but is not able to continue due to family issues.
- She will still work on Facebook but needs to meet with Frank to get on the site as Admin.
- Frank will also see that Suz has access as offered to assist.

### **Sponsorships**

- Consideration may be given to obtaining corporate sponsorships to generate additional revenue for the Association. . We will consider the approach that Kilcona has taken on the issue (They charge \$200 or \$500 depending on the type of advertising).  
Sponsorships would likely include advertising banners on the website and may involve discounts for MGPDOA members at participating sponsors.
- Heather and Tushar will meet to discuss this further.

### **New Business**

- Discussion whether we need another person to take the Safe Food Handlers Course.  
Cathy may be interested.

**Next Meeting:** TBA, possibly in late- March 2015.

**Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM

Respectfully submitted

Heather Hartry  
Secretary