

Minutes of the 2011 Rita Park Cottagers Association Annual General Meeting

Saturday, October 29, 2011

Call to Order

President Chris Campbell sent his regrets and asked Doug Archibald to chair the meeting.
Doug called the meeting to order

Roll call

Present: Doug and Margaret Archibald, Cathy Hamilton, Kevin Holly, Jean Karges, Sally Landon, Rick McGraw, Bob and Donna Miller, Stan Mott, John and Kim Putnickovich, Glen and Karen Wallace.

Regrets: Chris Campbell

Approval of the Agenda

A motion was made by Doug to approve the agenda.

Seconded by Kevin Holly.

Carried.

Approval of Last Meeting's Minutes

A motion was made by Doug to approve distribution of the minutes from the last AGM.

Seconded by Jean.

Carried.

President's Report (Chris Campbell):

Doug read the President's report, submitted in absentia by Chris Campbell.

A motion was made by Kevin to accept the President's report.

It was seconded by Doug.

Carried.

Treasurer's Report (Rick McGraw):

- We have \$491 in the bank
- Rick loaned the association \$200 to cover an upcoming property tax payment, and he has not yet been repaid.
- The Association owes \$440 in property taxes. It was noted that property taxes are up from \$80/qtr in 2008 to \$120/qtr in 2011.
- Currently the property is assessed at \$38,000 for tax purposes.
- We need approx \$1500 to cover taxes, insurance and lawn care.
- "Break even" point for annual expenses is 20 members. This provides no extra funds for contingencies.

Moved by Sally to accept the treasurer's report

Seconded by Cathy

Carried

Election of 2011-2012 Executive and Directors

- **President:** A call was issued for volunteers or nominations for the position of President. Doug nominated Chris Campbell for President in 2011-2012. Seconded by Kevin. Chris accepted by proxy. No other nominations or volunteers were presented. Carried.
* Chris Campbell is President of Rita Park Cottagers Association for 2011-2012.
- **Vice-President:** A call was issued for volunteers or nominations for the position of Vice-President. Doug nominated Kevin for Vice-President in 2011-2012. Seconded by Jean. Kevin accepted. No other nominations or volunteers were presented. Carried.
* Kevin Holly is Vice-President of Rita Park Cottagers Association for 2011-2012.
- **Secretary/Treasurer:** A call was issued for volunteers or nominations for the position of Secretary/Treasurer. Kevin nominated Rick for Secretary/Treasurer in 2011-2012. Seconded by Sally. Rick accepted. No other nominations or volunteers were presented. Carried.
* Rick McGraw is Secretary/Treasurer of Rita Park Cottagers Association for 2011-2012.
- **Board of Directors:** A call was made for volunteers to sit on the Board as Directors. Doug, Sally, Glen, Donna, Kim, Stan volunteered. A motion was made for the aforementioned members to comprise the 2011-2012 Board of Directors by Kevin. Seconded by Jean. Carried.
* The 2011-2012 Board of Directors for the Rita Park Cottagers Association are:
Doug Archibald, Sally Landon, Donna Miller, Stan Mott, Kim Putnickovich and Glen Wallace

New Business

a)Website:

- Kevin is going to create a simple website for the Association. The site will be used as a way to keep members informed of Association business, events, propose ideas and have discussions, as well as a place to store digitized copies of legal documents, photos, historical accounts, maps and other Rita Park memorabilia that can be displayed digitally. Email addresses are being collected from members in order to facilitate better communication. These email addresses are to be kept confidential amongst Rita Park members. There will be a small annual cost to have the website hosted by a web hosting company. Future discussion needs to be held on whether or not to keep the site private and require members to log in, or leave it open to the public, or make some sections private e.g. sections with scanned copies of legal documents.

b)Culvert

- A discussion occurred regarding the condition of the culvert at the bottom of the east access path to the beach. The end of the culvert sticks out a long way, is rusted and deteriorating, and might present a safety risk, particularly to young children or grandchildren of members. Chris Campbell has stated in the past that he believes that the Association shares responsibility for the culvert. Stan recounted that it was the Town of Port Dover that originally installed the culvert and doesn't believe that the Association is responsible for any of it. Chris and Kevin will investigate the responsibility issue and getting the jagged, rusty portion of the culvert cut off.

c)Railings at bottom of east access path

- The railings at the bottom of the east access to the beach were sheared off during a winter storm several years ago. The remaining sleeves in the concrete present a safety hazard, particularly if kids use the hill for tobogganing. We need to try and replace these railings or remove the sleeves before the snow flies. Kevin and Chris will investigate options. Glen has offered to assist.

d)Weirs, rocks and beaches

- Some discussion occurred about the need to maintain the weirs/groins established by the Association many years ago. This led to a further discussion over land boundaries, beach ownership, etc. Rick gave his account of how he interprets the deeds and boundaries of the lands and beach. It was established that the weirs/groins will need maintenance at some point in the future. Kevin suggested that when he has a new break wall put in on his property, we may be able to get the weirs/groins repaired at the same time and save money.
- It was suggested that we need a more effective sign at the top of the east access to the beach, informing non-residents that the access is private property and is for the use of Rita Park/Maple Grove RESIDENTS only. There is county land at the top of the path that a sign could be posted on without trespassing on any residents' property. John noted that he has a friend with a sign business, the same person who made the signs at the top of the west beach access. Chris and Kevin will discuss options for a new sign at the east access point.

e)Broken glass in fire pit

- Chris has asked (by proxy) that everyone help keep the fire pit clean and devoid of glass and other foreign objects. When Chris cleaned out the fire pit in preparation for our meeting, he removed a lot of glass. It was also suggested by Doug and agreed by everyone present that members should use the fire pit more often, and that when anyone sees a fire lit in the park, it's an open invitation for other members to come enjoy the fire and our beautiful park.
- It was agreed that there is too much brush and dead trees in the area by the fire pit, and that encourages more dumping in inappropriate material. Chris, Kevin, Glen, John and anyone else that wants to help will take away the current pile of brush later in November. John mentioned he has a place to dispose of it. Kevin volunteered to take the rusted out burning barrel to the dump next time he goes.
- Marg suggested taking a collection for new picnic tables in the spring, as the current ones (graciously donated by members in the past) are starting to deteriorate to the point of being unsafe.

f)Social committee

- It was suggested that committees be formed to organize a Winter and Summer party. Kevin made a motion that instead of forming committees for specific events, we create a permanent Social Committee and ask for volunteers yearly. The motion was seconded by Doug. Carried. Five members volunteered. ANYONE is welcome to offer up ideas for events and parties, and the Social Committee will organize these events (with help from volunteers!).
* The 2011-2012 Rita Park Cottagers Association Social Committee members are: Cathy, Jean, Karen, Margaret, Sally.

Doug made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Seconded by Kevin.

Carried.

Meeting adjourned.