

Hamlet of MacPheat Park

Board Chairman Report

Prepared for June 4, 2016 AGM.

The Board met three times between the May 2015 AGM and the petition that was circulated on October 24<sup>th</sup> regarding the two projects for which we were seeking guidance. Our first meeting was in July at which time Doug Ridgway shared his understanding of past Board business with the two new Board members Alfred Barrett and Doug Clark. At this time we developed a budget and discussed the requirement of the 5 year capital plan. At this point we had no real guidance from our residents on how our capital should be spent and so discussed issues that we had heard from residents over the summer, and if we as a Board had any ideas to deal with issues that were apparent to us. Out of this discussion came the seeds of what would become our fall petition. Many residents had suggested an addition to the "rip rap" point to make launching and loading boats safer and to protect the dock and shoreline. It has also been apparent that maintenance to our roads and their condition was an issue and so after making enquires with the RM and receiving RM encouragement to buy equipment to do our own maintenance, we prepared a presentation for Council and received unanimous support for both projects. We then put it to the residents on October 24<sup>th</sup> and received 100% endorsement for the rip rap or perhaps we should call it a breakwater project, and 66% endorsement of the equipment purchase. Unfortunately shortly after submitting the results of the projects to the RM office and seeking guidance on the path forward we were told that there would be no spend on projects until further notice. At this point in time virtually all communication with all Hamlets ceased. Although we made several attempts through phone calls or emails to personal visits to the RM office, we received no response other than you will hear from us.

As a Board we communicated with you on September 14<sup>th</sup> summarizing Board obligations and RM Bylaws. In that communication I summarized the last worthwhile meeting that I had with the RM administrator. We also included in that communication, who is actually eligible to vote at our AGMs and for any petitions or resolutions that may arise over the course of the year.

We also spent a good deal of time trying to find out who our residents were so that we could effectively via email, or mail out, communicate with everyone in the Park to give everyone equal opportunity to have a say in Park business. The RM was unwilling to share the list they have of park residents (effectively the tax roll) and so we developed an email list and sent a test email requesting at the same time that you contact family members or neighbours that were not on the list to see if they would like to be included. We believe our list is as complete as it can be for the time being and would continue to ask for your support in keeping it current.

We sent another email on December 11<sup>th</sup> in which we gave an update on the work being done for the breakwater, the Quill lakes, Yancoal and the highways. Regarding the breakwater we still have only one quote from one contractor. We contacted 7, two of which after discussing the project, declined to submit quotes, the others either committed to coming for a look and didn't show up or came and professed an interest but never submitted a quote even after follow up phone calls or emails. I have just recently contacted the contractor that did supply a quote, and at that time he indicated he is still interested in the work.

Our next communication came to you on February 4<sup>th</sup> just to say that we finally had an indication from the RM office that we would be having a Hamlets/RM meeting in April which did not happen until May the 7<sup>th</sup>. Notes I took in that meeting I circulated to Hamlet residents the following week.

In summary it has been an interesting first year although also very frustrating. I personally have spent more than 250 hours of personal time on Board business at a time when the RM council and administration is "trying to find itself". So unfortunately in my opinion nothing substantial has been accomplished.

We were told at the May 7<sup>th</sup> meeting with the RM that changes would be forthcoming and were asked to be patient while the RM began to make changes. Following that meeting I immediately submitted two questions that I thought would be fairly simple to answer and later a third. We now receive an automated answer saying our emails have been forwarded to the appropriate persons. So far this has been the extent of our communication.

My personal comments to the residents of the Park are that the RM is now very concerned about liability with respect to any activity that it may be responsible for. Going forward I see the RM wanting to be much more involved in the development, sourcing and execution of projects or activities to ensure that they are not becoming liable for any work or service that may be substandard or expose themselves or Hamlet boards to uninsured liability. No doubt this will add additional time and cost to anything we do.

Thank you for the opportunity to work for the Hamlet and here's hoping that we can still work together to make our Park safe, attractive and enjoyable for everyone.

Respectfully:

Board Chair and on behalf of the Board

Doug Clark

Pre AGM: sign up sheet

#### AGM Agenda

1. Board Chairman's Report
2. YE 2015 Financial Report
3. 2016 Budget Forecast as submitted and to date, 2017 Forecast
4. Resignation and Election of new Board member
5. Review of 2015 AGM minutes
6. 2016 New Discussion for Park Maintenance, Improvements or understanding
  - New park sign
  - Shelter belt
  - Well/water
  - Parking for vehicles and trailers
  - Repair of embankment at boat launch
  - Pier
  - Road repair, culverts, drainage, gravel, grading
  - Stairs we pay insurance coverage for
  - Emergency response plan/medical/fire
  - Garbage bins
7. Reeve and Councilor
8. General discussion, unrecorded if time permits.

Meeting called to order at 10 am.

1. Doug Clark the presented Chairman's report
2. Alfred Barrett presented the financial report for YE 2015 and YTD 2016.
  - a. Sought input for 2017 budget from residents with the goal of submitting the budget early as requested by the RM at the May 7<sup>th</sup> meeting. The residents expressed confidence in the board and asked the board to complete the budget documents.
  - b. Deb Wilke made Motion to accept Financial reports as submitted , seconded by Sandy MacPheat
3. Doug Ridgway submitted his resignation with one year left on his term. Roy Jewel indicated an interest to join the Board and was elected by acclamation.
4. The minutes from the 2015 AGM were distributed, reviewed and approved as submitted.
  - a. Motion to accept by Claudette Ridgway seconded by Nancy Markwart
5. New discussion
  - a. Advised that the RM,( in keeping with the message of May 7<sup>th</sup>), is taking the position advised by the lawyer to curtail volunteer work in the Hamlets. To this end the Board advised that it would no longer be in a position to ask for volunteer work as it would make them personally liable should an accident occur. (ex: pier installation)  
The question was asked if the Hamlet could purchase its own liability insurance to cover volunteers. We will have to seek advice from the RM.



6. Having asked the RM about a minor development on Environment Reserve land we were advised that it was not permissible. We will now ask if we can mow a portion of it in a responsible way in keeping with yards adjacent.
7. A suggestion was made to have a new Park entrance sign. It was agreed that people should think about it and it would be discussed the fall meeting
8. The idea of a shelter belt planted along the east edge of the Park was discussed but the land is privately owned so the Hamlet cannot consider this improvement.
9. Access to water for planted trees is a concern for those not on lakefront lots. It was asked if the well could be refreshed for use. The well is on private land. It's not likely that the RM/Hamlet would make an investment or improvement to private land. The owner commented that the well could be refreshed if folks would like but he would have to meter and charge for it to recover the cost. This is a reasonable suggestion and we will leave it to him whether to proceed or not. The idea of investing in a minor waterworks project to provide water to a hydrant at the top of the hill was suggested but this has been discussed before and there is no interest.
10. Parking for vehicles and trailers in the boat launch area is very minimal. Through discussion it was agreed that at least for the busy times people could consider returning the vehicles to their own property rather than parking at the launch. It was also agreed that we would place a sign at a small distance from the top of the ramp indicating No Parking to give a little more space for people to maneuver trailers into position and down the concrete drive.
11. We pay insurance for stairs at the boat launch but we are not clear where they are or if they exist. Investigate and advise the RM.
12. We discussed the rule of bagged household garbage only for our bins and how to resolve the issue of improper materials in the bins. Discussed locking them. We will let the summer pass to see if the situation improves and talk about it again at the fall meeting. We may consider a separate large Lorass bin within the Park for two weeks in the spring and fall to allow residents to dispose of non household items. We will investigate for the fall meeting.
13. It was asked if it was permissible to park boats on the beach for a few hours during the day. All agreed this was okay and it was suggested that they do this on the south beach and leave the north beach open for other activities.
14. The breakwater project was discussed again very briefly with all in attendance indicating support, so we will try to advance this again with the RM and will touch base with the contractor to confirm his commitment. We will also discuss embankment preservation and obtain a quote as a combined project.
15. The road allowance running down the east side of the park is impassable much of the year. When irrigation runs it makes it worse. Can this road be maintained by the RM. Investigate.
16. Other agenda items were left so that the Reeve could address the residents. His comments were appreciated and I wish we had scheduled more time for him but he brought news of the road repairs to 322 and 220. Discussed the liability concern and encouraged us to seek funding help from the RM to support our breakwater and embankment initiatives. The councilor for our area had been invited and indicated he would be there but was not in attendance.
17. Agreed to a fall meeting on Saturday October 1, 2016. Will confirm with residents when and if the Silton Hall is available.

Meeting adjourned at 11:45.



# MACPHEAT Park Sign Up sheet

A.G.M. June 4TH 2016

Neil Ridgway

Doug Clark

Doug Ridgway

IRMA PITKANEN

Ray Jewell

DENNIS BAKER

MERVIN BAKER

VERNA DOWIE

Judy + Larry Pynchak

Al + Diawie Wirll

GARY GILBERT

Jim + Sandy MacPheat

AL BALLEW

BRIAN SMITH

Susan McLane

Jeff D. [Signature]

Dan [Signature]

Brian + Patricia McCormick

Lee + Patsy Guralnick

Dorcy + Nancy Markwart

Tim + Jo Stadnyk

Paul + Brenda Heine

Dave Heine

Russ Stensrud

Barry HATSWICH