

DISTRICT OF KENORA UNINCORPORATED AREAS RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION

A NON-PROFIT ONTARIO CORPORATION

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, 7 PM, Thursday, September 22, 2016 held at the Pellatt Community Hall

- 1 Meeting was called to order by Jack McKenzie. Nine members were in attendance.
- 2 Minutes of the 2015 AGM were circulated and approved
- 3 Jack McKenzie presented his President's Report highlighting the work done by the association over the past year. (Copy attached)
 - Key points were the ongoing work by DoKURA to provide input to the Provincial Land Tax review reflecting concerns of unincorporated residents both seasonal and year round.
 - Continuing efforts to have the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation provide a voters list useable for vote-by-mail for District Service Board elections.
 - Attendance by unincorporated area elected representatives to the Services Board at various regional and provincial level meetings
 - Continuing efforts to switch to email from letter mail to keep in touch with people throughout the DoKURA region
- 4 Treasurer's report including the financial statement for April 2015 – March 2016 and revenues and expenditures to August 2016 was presented by Irene Kember. Irene Kember moved the report be approved, seconded by Bob Stewart, approved by general vote. (Copy attached)
- 5 Motion to approve directors' actions since the last AGM was read by Bob Lamoine, seconded by Phyllis Hannon and approved
- 6 Directors reports were presented by Barry Baltessen on initiatives being under taken by the Kenora District Service Board focusing on homelessness and social housing; and by Bob Stewart on the need for vote-by-mail for Kenora District Service Board elections.
- 7 The nominating committee's report prepared by Mark Sobchuk and Gord Dingman was presented by Jack McKenzie. (Copy Attached) The committee noted it had been unable to find new people willing to serve as directors for DoKURA, however, in contacting people in person, by telephone and via email, they noted: "People living in unincorporated areas remain interested in having a voice on government policies and decisions and are supportive of DoKURA."

8 Election of officers for two-year terms, 2017-2018 was held.
Gord Dingman, Irene Kember, Bob Stewart, Phyllis Hannon, Barry Baltessen, Bill Deschamps and Mark Sobchuk were re-elected unopposed.
Executive members and their terms of office are:
Bill Blower – Past President
Jack McKenzie – President 2016/2017
Vice-President – Gord Dingman 2017/2018
Treasurer – Irene Kember 2017/2018
Secretary – Bob Stewart 2017/2018
Ray LeRay – Director (Oxdrift) 2016/2017
Phyllis Hannon – Director (Oxdrift) 2017/2018
Ken Pride – Director (Lake of the Woods North) 2016/2017
Barry Baltessen – Director (Lake of the Woods North) 2017/2018
Irene Kember – Director (Lake of the Woods South) 2016/2017
Gord Dingman – Director (Lac Seul) 2017/2018
Bill Deschamps – Director (Lac Seul) 2017/2018
Kenora District Service Board Representatives 2015/2018
Mark Sobchuk – Lac Seul
Ray LeRay – Oxdrift
Bob Stewart – Lake of the Woods South
Barry Baltessen – Lake of the Woods North

9 The 2017 Annual General Meeting will be held at the Oxdrift Community Hall on August 12, 2017 at 1 pm, date and time to be confirmed based on availability of the hall.

10 Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.

President's report to DOKURA's Annual Meeting September 22nd, 2016

READ BY T. Stewart

Our Association started out the 2015-2016 year meeting with a representative of the Ministry of Finance in connection with their review of the Provincial Land Tax. We expressed our concerns as we saw them, from the point of view of those of us residing in the vast Unincorporated Territories of the District of Kenora.

Our verbal presentation was followed up with a written presentation (thanks Bob Stewart).

We continue to monitor the reform process. Our representatives make our concerns known to Provincial politicians/civil servants when ever the opportunity presents itself.

On the same subject – PLT – we continue to push the Municipal Property ~~Tax~~ Assessment Corporation – MPAC – to get out and physically do their assessment on site job in all areas – particularly in the areas of the District outside the School Tax boundaries. We know of too many properties that have not been properly assessed, hence, lost tax dollars to the Province.

In further dealings with MPAC, we keep pushing them to do a proper enumeration of the four wards that make up the unincorporated areas of the Kenora District, AND, to divide their lists into groups that actually match the boundaries of the Wards. Their attempts at this for the last two elections (2010 and 2014) were a complete failure. Recent connection with one of their representatives suggest they may be able to get the Ward division corrected, but action to collect the missing names remains outstanding. Our hope is that we can receive a proper list, one that is up to date, and then convert the election process (next due in the fall of 2018) into a vote by mail system.

Don't hold your breath!

One of our representatives attended the Kenora District Municipal Association's annual meeting over a weekend in February. This participation keeps our concerns known, as well as makes sure our Association is up to date on local issues.

Our four representatives who sit on the Kenora District Services Board – KDSB – make sure we are well represented at that level by faithfully attending all of that Board's meetings in Dryden. They do a first class job of representing the interests of our TWOMO area's residents on all matters that fall under the jurisdiction of that board.

In addition to the four elected representatives, a special "Thank You" is due the four representatives who serve as their Alternates, attending the KDSB Board meetings when they are unable to do so.

It should be noted that we would like to be able to publish our newsletter more often during the year, however cost – particularly postage – prohibit same. We are working on trying to convert our mailing list to where we can send out all of our publications by "E" Mail. Secretary Bob Stewart has a good majority of our list with "E" Mail addresses and continues to work on converting the balance. We will be writing the individuals primarily Roads Boards and Road Associations – individually, asking for their electronic contact information, over the winter. Hopefully we will be able to fill in the blanks, which will result in more newsletters to keep our area residents better informed.

The biggest problem we encounter is trying to keep up with the contact information for the ever changing volunteers who manage such groups.

This past August saw our Lake of the Woods North representative, Barry Baltessen, travel to Windsor, Ontario to attend the annual Association of Municipalities of Ontario – AMO - convention and annual meeting. This meeting is well attended by not only local politicians, but also a good number of Provincial Cabinet Ministers and their staff. As such, the opportunity presents itself for not only municipal representatives, but also Associations such as ours, to formally sit down and meet with Cabinet Ministers. Barry was able to schedule a meeting with the Minister of Community and Social Services – the Minister responsible for the Services Boards in Ontario (KDSB). He, with the assistance of Lac Seul area Director, Mark Sobchuk, put together a written presentation on the need to improve the support provided to the TWOMO representatives on the KDSB. Barry will report in more detail on this meeting, later on the agenda.

Our financial position continues to remain strong, thanks in part to all the volunteer hours provided by the representatives who administer the Association and thru the donations from area residents. No, they are not enough to support all of the activities we would like to be able to pursue, but we get by.

To conclude this report, I would like to extend a THANK YOU to all the volunteers who make up the Directors of the Association. Without their continuing support this Association would not be able to undertake the activities it does.

Jack McKenzie, President
District of Kenora Unincorporated Areas Ratepayers Association

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

of the

DISTRICT OF KENORA UNINCORPORATED AREAS RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION

A non profit Ontario Corporation

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT MARCH 31ST, 2016

ASSETS

CASH ON HAND	NIL
CASH ON HAND IN BANK	\$13,249.78
SHARE IN CREDIT UNION	25.00
PARTRONAGE SHARE ACCOUNT	18.91
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$13,293.69</u>

LIABILITIES AND MEMBERS EQUITY

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	NIL
SURPLUS	\$13,293.69
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SURPLUS	<u>\$13,293.69</u>

STATEMENT OF REVENUE & EXPENDITURES FOR THE TERM APRIL 1ST, 2015 TO MARCH 31ST, 2016

REVENUE

Credit Union interest	85.90
Donations - General	300.00
- Special Action Fund	NIL
Total Revenue	<u>\$385.90</u>

EXPENDITURES

Bank charges	NIL
Kenora District Municipal Association Annual Meeting	100.00
Annual Meeting Expenses	286.17
Office Supplies/Newsletter	552.94
Total Expenses	<u>\$939.11</u>
Total Revenue less Expenses	<u>(553.21)</u>

Report to the Board of Directors

Date Prepared: September 20, 2015
Board Meeting Date: September 22, 2016
Prepared By: Gord Dingman and Mark Sobchuk
Subject: Nominations for Board of Directors

Background:

- The terms for 7 director positions are up in 2016. The Directors whose terms are up in 2016 include Gord Dingman, Irene Kember, Bob Stewart, Phyllis Hannon, Barry Baltessen, Bill Deschamps and Mark Sobchuk.
- Options were explored to see if there were other individuals who would be interested in acting as directors. Contacts were made with individuals via email, telephone and personal visits. Not all constituents were contacted.
- The DoKURA newsletter and information pages on DoKURA were also sent out to those that had email and wanted further information. In some cases this information was delivered via personal visit.
- Some attention was paid to try and obtain a person who would act as a director for the unincorporated area between Ignace and Dryden. Attempts to find a person interested in a director's position were unsuccessful.
- While the search for new individuals was not exhaustive several things became clear.
 - People living in unincorporated areas remain interested in having a voice on government policies and decisions and are supportive of DoKURA.
 - While supportive, most of those contact^{ed} were not interested in contributing volunteer time as a director. To be fair, some households were new to the area, some had young children and, some had businesses that didn't allow them much time for additional volunteer work.
 - However, there were quite a few that were willing to contribute money (how much is not clear at this point) to support DoKURA's efforts. This is something that the board might want to pursue further.
- Given that there was no interest from new individuals, an email was sent to all directors whose term is up asking them if they were willing to stand as directors for another term.
- Barry, Bob and Mark must remain as directors since they are also representatives on the KDSB Board of Directors.
- Gord, Irene, Phyllis and, Bill Deschamps all indicated that they would be willing to remain as directors for another term.
- Bob Indicated that he would also be willing to remain as Secretary provided that email would continue to be used as the primary means of distributing the newsletter and for bulk mailings.

Recommendations:

Accept the offers from the individuals indicated above to allow their names to stand for the position of "Director" for the period 2017 and 2018.

*Handled by
Incl By Barry*