

MINUTES OF 2019 UFRCA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Sunday August 4, 2019
Dokis Community Centre
Dokis First Nation

1. Call to Order

Sam Goodwin (President) called the meeting to order at 10:45 AM. Members welcomed to the meeting and thanks and Acknowledgement of Reconciliation were offered to Dokis First Nation. Migwetch to Dokis, Brian and Tina Lariviere for the hall, Chief Gerry Duquette and Jeff Hamilton "All things fun" and Amanda Derks, board members.

2. Introduction of Chief Gerry Duquette and remarks

Wabe Mqua Welcome back to all

Introduction in Ojibwe - Spoke about Leonard Dokis - his grandfather and the Eagle that now flies up and down the main channel of the river and all that he taught him. Thank you to Valerie - Riverview Cottages.

Gerry extended to all an invitation to use the facilities such as the Ballfield or the Rink at Dokis Rec Centre. He explained that there is construction on the North road as the reserve is expanding its water supply and digging wells for new builds and fire fighting.

Dokis is looking to regain maintenance of the road, since 1999 it has fallen under the municipality of West Nipissing. The road was built in the 1950s by Dokis. Any support from cottagers on this endeavour is appreciated. Will draft a letter in support

Dokis is looking at expand the Dump and turning it into a recycling centre. Dokis Marina and Riverview would be the drop off points and they are hopeful it will be operational by next summer.

Complaints received this year about High water levels. Dokis has no control of water ways. Issues of high water in North Bay mean they want the dams open. Issues of high water on the Lower French River means they want the Dams closed. There are 30 dams into Lake Nipissing only 4 on the French River. Dokis does not control water.

Moving forward, there will be new duplexes going up in the community this year

Dokis Summerfest- Was held July 19,20,21/19 - Next year will be the 10th year.

Dokis Pow Wow- Was held Jun 29, 30/19 and was very successful- Next year will be June 27, 28, 2020.

Gerry stated he is honoured to be the Chief and honoured by the position that the community has given him.

Business Portion

3. Approval of the Agenda

Motion: that the Agenda be approved as circulated to the members previously. Moved by Amy Watkins; seconded by Lynn Smith. Carried.

4. Approval of the Draft 2018 AGM Minutes

Motion: that the draft minutes of the 2018 AGM be approved as circulated to the members previously. Moved by John Boiken; seconded by Murray Somers Carried.

5. Comments by President Sam Goodwin on this years issues

There has been a transition begun to move to OPP Policing on the River this year. On the water we will see MNRF and OPP (they have a boat)

Please be reminded to have all required safety equipment on board and on your person when boating paying special attention to the safety of children.

In regards to the Application from Dokis for an increase to the Marshall Lake Dump size and use, UFRCA incoming president has sent a letter to the ministry care of Ms Trish Moussa on July 24/19 indicating support from the UFRCA members and noting the benefits to us. West Nipissing has been asked for support as well.

UFRCA has issued the long awaited Map of the French River indicating Cottagers and various resources available. Wendy Kennedy-Sadler spoke indicating if anyone has a fire pump, Wendy has access to connector equipment and can be contacted. She also noted that cottagers on the South Parry Sound side can have reflective signs made for property identification for \$40.00 . A gift of wine was given to Wendy for her work on the Map and the board over the years.

Amy Watkins said a few words about Robert Allison "Rowing Bob" who passed away at 80 years this past spring. He loved rowing and martinis at Marty's.

Jeff Hamilton - Mentioned the Fish Fry that will take place this evening at Chaudiere Lodge. Please note they are under new ownership. This is a great event that has been supported by the UFRCA for many years now. Again there will be live music by Derek, food and friendship. Words were spoken by Sam Goodwin acknowledging Jeff for his work on the board with such events as the Dock Sale and Photo Contests. Jeff is stepping down this year and was given a small gift.

Taxes- Denis Senecal from West Nipissing - As there are more cottagers who are living in the area and have a water access cottage, some of them are presently paying twice. This is expected to change and there will be a ratio worked out.

6. Finances

Sam Goodwin presented the finances

Motion: That the 2018 Financial Statement and proposed 2020 budget be approved as presented. Moved by Dave Minden; seconded by Lynn Smith. Carried.

Items of note: The budget is made with about 135 members a year, this is the amount that covers our expenses. We do have some surplus. \$4800-\$4900 a year

Q: Domain hosting vs Web site - there will be some changes to our web site seen next year

Q: Insurance - Insurance covers the association for general liability, we could be sued over issues such as the map, Emergency equipment

It is standard for directors on boards

There was a suggestion to insure individual events - Dave Minden responded saying we are covered for four events, this event in particular. The Fish Fry is not our event, we only support it.

Amy Watkins responded saying in years past we have donated money to Dokis initiatives such as First Aid and the Fish Hatchery for instance.

Motion carried - all in favour of Budget

7. Introduction of New Board

Sam Goodwin is stepping down as President from the board

Jeff Hamilton is stepping down from the board

Jayne Goodwin is stepping down as treasurer from the board

Amanda Derks remains on the board and will assume the position of President

Sheilah Scrocchi will assume the position of Treasurer

Martin Scrocchi

Claire Thorpe

Jim Abbott

Motion: To approve the new board of directors. Moved by Laurie Armstrong; Second by Larry Smith

Questions and comments from the floor re: the board

Water testing is for E. Coli; MNR says Don't drink untreated water

Gerry Duquette says Dokis Green plant has regular testing and there are no issues

Closest issue was Campbells Bay - Blue Green Algae

Gerry Duquette says that he receives Health Canada results on all testing, he will have the email shared with the President .

Being on the board- you can do whatever you are interested in, there are may portfolios

Security - Environment - Liaison etc

Motion to Vote in Board - All in favour - Carried

More Questions and discussion from the floor

Cell Towers - Dokis has been trying to initiate this

Aug 20/19 there is a meeting set up with the provider in Verner

They are looking at this from a safety perspective, Dokis has a Bell tower by Landline and Cell service is not the same company

Markstay - Verner - St Charles - there is a proposal to lay cable in the water

A Sandy Island resident investigated cell cable and hydro cable and it is very expensive

Wendy commented; West Nipissing taxes - you don't pay tax for garbage but can put your garbage there \$10/cu yard.

Jeff - there is West Nipissing recycling at Monetville and Noelville, members don't pay for that

Q Hardy Bay - Issue of large boats creating wakes to Cottage docks

Sam replied suggesting Speed sign such as that at Canoe pass which is in partnership with West Nipissing.

Note:

It is illegal to operate at greater than an unposted speed limit of 10KM/HR (6mi/hr) within 30 meters (100ft) of the shore in the waters of Ontario. (Boat Canada Course)

Gerry Duquette will be meeting with the coast guard this month about speed and wake

"you can go slow and make no wake" "you can go slow and make a huge wake" at 10km/hr

This will be addressed at the meeting

Q Red Squirrels and how to manage them. (cottager from Hardy Bay)

If you are on a self contained island you can trap them and move them

If they have been in your house, they and their offspring will always come back if they are not killed.

Drawing of the Door prize- Laminated UFRCA Map

Winners: Irene White Jeff Boylan Laurie Green

New President Amanda Derks

Introduction, believes the Association is important to the river. Anyone interested in participating, please put your name forward, there are lots of things that can be done, have had large boards in the past. It does not take a lot of time.

Thank you to Jeff Hamilton, the value of the events he has put together was to connect the community in various ways. This is a big area to try to get people to stay involved.

Amanda has taken on administration of the Facebook page that was created several years ago. Encourages all to look at it as another form of communication. She looks forward to the possibilities of the Web page becoming more like an APP that can be accessed to bring it to your mobile device. Possibilities of reaching more cottagers this way. Possibly younger cottagers who are on FB but don't often look at websites. They are different avenues to bringing information to people and building the community.

Again, whatever interests you have, email your questions and suggestions to the board or volunteer with us, "I have met some really good people serving on the board over the years and look forward to the year ahead"

Meeting adjourned 11:49 AM