

**DRAFT MINUTES OF UFRCA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**Sun. July 31, 2016, 10:00 a.m.**  
**Solid Comfort Fishing Club**

**2015-16 AGM AGENDA**

1. Call to order and Opening Remarks (Dave Minden) 10:00
2. Approval of 2016 AGM Agenda
3. Approval of the Minutes of the 2015 AGM (August 2, 2015)
4. Introduction of the Current 2015-16 Board of Directors
5. Introduction of and Remarks from Invited Guests 10:15
6. Highlights of 2015-16 and Director's Report 10:35
  - a. Dokis Liaison – Grant Hobson
  - b. Municipal Liaison – Sam Goodwin
  - c. Park/MNR and Communications – Dave Minden
  - d. Security – Wendy Kennedy-Sadler
  - e. Environment - Holly Waters
  - f. Newsletter – Liz Gallagher
  - g. History – Liz Gallagher, Holly Waters
  - h. Social and Events – Jeff Hamilton
7. Photo Contest – Announcement of winners (Susan Kremer) 10:50
8. Financial Report for 2015-16 and 2016-17 Budget (Peter Rooney) 11:05
9. Election of Directors for 2016-17 11:10
10. Adjournment 11:15
11. Member Socializing – Complimentary Refreshments – Clean Up - Depart 11:15 – 12:00

## MINUTES

### 1. Call to Order/Opening Remarks

Dave Minden (President) called the meeting to order at 10:09 AM.

### 2. Approval of the Agenda

**MOTION:** That the Agenda be approved as circulated to the members previously. Moved by Steve Robinson; seconded by Walter Harley. Carried.

### 3. Approval of the Draft 2013-14 AGM Minutes

**MOTION:** That the draft Minutes be approved as circulated to the members previously. Moved by Amy Watkins; seconded by Les Nash. Carried.

### 4. Introduction of the 2015-16 Board of Directors

Dave Minden read into the record the names of the 2015-16 Board of Directors and introduced those that were present at the meeting:

- Dave Minden, President and Chair, MNRF/Park Liaison (present)
- Sam Goodwin, Vice President, Secretary, and Chair, Municipal Liaison (present)
- Peter Rooney, Treasurer (regrets)
- Grant Hobson, Chair, Dokis Liaison (present) – Dave noted that this was Grant's last year after many years on the Board of Directors
- Wendy Kennedy Sadler, Chair, Security (present)
- Holly Waters, Chair, Environment (present)
- Liz Gallagher, Chair, Newsletter (regrets)
- Jeff Hamilton, Chair, Social (regrets)

### 5. Introduction of/Remarks from Guests

Dave Minden introduced the first guest – Gerry Duquette, Chief of Dokis First Nation.

- Chief Duquette provided a moving greeting in the Ojibway language on behalf of the Bear Clan and offered thanks for the river and the trees. He reminded members that UFRCA members and Dokis First Nation share the same goals – to keep the river clean, friendliness and preserving the beauty of the area.
- Chief Duquette provided an update on the Okikendawt hydro-electric project, which had its official ribbon cutting in May 2016. The project includes a 40% share of ownership for Dokis First Nation and the Band Council has approved a Trust for revenues from the project that is dedicated to education, infrastructure, and community involvement.
- Other highlights of the past year identified by Chief Duquette included the unveiling on National Aboriginal Day (June 25) of a memorial to Dokis veterans of military service, including a parade. He reminded members that the memorial is located next to the Dokis First Nation Museum, which includes displays of Dokis community men and women who served in the military and also on home service. He noted that next to the memorial is an example of "pots in the rocks in the river" – a natural river rock formation that translates as "Okikendawt". He also said that

there is a section of the museum dedicated to cottage history and noted that UFRCA members can approach the museum about any items they may wish to loan or donate.

- Chief Duquette advised that in addition to nature trails, Dokis First Nation has developed a new combination canoe-nature trail route that allows visitors to take the trail for a distance and then to canoe on the return leg. The 10 km. trail opened on August 15 and has 18 canoes available.
- Chief Duquette also remembered former Dokis First Nation Chief Leonard Dokis, who passed away in 2013. He reminded UFRCA members that Leonard is always with us and that we can talk to him in times of need.

Sam Goodwin introduced West Nipissing Police Chief Chuck Seguin.

- Chief Seguin spoke to UFRCA members about the delay in replacing the police services boat, which was irreparably damaged in an accident in August 2015 on the Sturgeon River while en route to investigate a break-in. He noted that there is a provincial review underway through the Future of Policing Advisory Committee, that will be making recommendations to the provincial government on changes to the Police Services Act.
- Chief Seguin advised that one of the issues being considered is a change to the policing of waterways. Currently, policing of waterways is a provincial responsibility under the OPP, with a few notable large exceptions such as Toronto and Hamilton. Policing of land is the responsibility of municipal police services, including the West Nipissing Police Service. The Issue identified by the Chief was that it is not clear whether the status quo will remain, i.e. there is the potential for policing for both land and water to be consolidated, either under the OPP or under local municipal police forces. If the responsibility is downloaded to municipalities, police services such as West Nipissing will need to acquire many different types of boats – boats that can navigate Lake Nipissing in all weather, as well as boats that can navigate smaller rivers, etc. Also, should this occur, the most cost effective approach would be for the municipality to purchase existing equipment from the OPP.
- The Chief also advised that until there is a clear understanding of the provincial direction, which is expected over the winter, the West Nipissing Police Service Board has decided not to invest in a new boat and West Nipissing Police Services will continue to cooperate and share resources with other services. For example, arrangements have been made to use other boats in the event of an investigation being necessary or in response to an emergency call, including an arrangement with the Anishinabek Police, as well as West Nipissing Fire Services, which also provides boat access for EMS Services.
- The Chief noted that there is extremely good ongoing and increasing interagency cooperation between the OPP, the North Bay Police, West Nipissing Police Service, and the Anishinabek police, including joint training and patrols, with an understanding that the goal is to provide services to people, regardless of where they are or which jurisdiction they are in.
- The Chief was asked by a UFRCA member about the potential use of drones. He replied that drones are currently used to monitor fires but that they are not being considered for patrolling remote areas at the present time, for reasons of practicality given the large size of West Nipissing – 2,000 square kilometres – and the extensive remote areas within it.
- The Chief also spoke about recent break-ins on the Upper French River. He noted that there had been 6 cottage break-ins that would have taken place at some point over the fall/winter/spring, with four of them on one island. But he also noted that he had heard about others while waiting

for the AGM to start and reminded UFRCA members that it is extremely important that break-ins are reported so that the police have the information and can plot break-ins geographically and can compare information with neighbouring police services in order to identify patterns that may extend beyond the boundaries of West Nipissing.

- The Chief also advised that break-ins are a result of criminals doing a risk/reward calculation and that the risk is higher in remote areas – not just on the Upper French River, but in much of rural, remote West Nipissing. He recommended that cottagers read and follow the information provided by the UFRCA to protect cottages during the off-season. He also suggested that during the cottaging season, UFRCA members should work with the neighbours to monitor each other's properties or set up a "neighbourhood/cottage watch" program. He suggested that by comparison, having the police tag cottages once or twice a year is not an effective use of resources.

Following the remarks by Chief Duquette and Chief Seguin, Dave Minden and Sam Goodwin offered thanks on behalf of the members and presented them with new UFRCA t-shirts.

## **6. Highlights of 2015-16/ Director's Reports**

### ***Dokis Liaison:***

- Grant Hobson noted that he had nothing to add to the comprehensive report provided by Chief Duquette.

### ***Municipal Liaison:***

- Sam Goodwin reminded members of the information recently distributed by UFRCA related to emergency phone numbers, including that copies were available at the AGM.

### ***Membership:***

- Dave Minden advised that in 2015-16, the UFRCA had 145 members.

### ***MNRF/Park Liaison:***

- Dave Minden indicated that it was another quiet year with issues such as at least one campsite where campers had set up a new privy and that Park officials had to rectify the situation.

### ***Communications:***

- Dave Minden noted that this year there had been four newsletters and a number of update bulletins. He reminded members that they are welcome to contribute articles and send in ideas. He also advised that each year a number of emails bounce back as undeliverable and reminded members to update their email addresses. He noted that the Board was pleased that a number of positive comments had been received about the newsletter and the website this year. He also noted that UFRCA member Paul Cormier was responsible for setting up and maintaining the website technology.

### ***Security:***

- Wendy Kennedy Sadler advised that work has continued on the cottage location map that would be made available to first responders. She noted that there were 60 unknown properties,

including multiple colleges on one island, and that she had brought the map and requested that members have a look at it before they left and fill in any missing information.

### **Environment**

- Holly Waters noted that this year the UFRCA have provided recycling bins at Riverview Marina and that Riverview reports that they have been well received.
- Members were also advised that the Upper French River Cottagers Association has been asked to assist with the collection of water samples as part of a survey on the French River. The survey, being conducted by the Nipissing University Department of Geography during the summer of 2016, is collecting water isotope information in order to measure water quality and movement throughout the Sturgeon River-Lake Nipissing-French River basin.

## **7. Photo Contest**

On behalf of Jeff Hamilton, Susan Kremer told members that 70 photo submissions had been received in three categories: Nature, French River Life, and Watersports. She advised that there had been six judges this year and thanked Larry Smith, Liz Gallagher, Jeanette Fox, Bonnie Witmer, Jenny Young, and Jim Abbott. The following winners and runners-up were announced.

Best overall: Kathryn Gribbon (Nature)  
Runner-up: Karen Follis (Nature)

#### *Nature category:*

First place: Gail Hamilton  
Runner up: Karen Follis

#### *French River Life category:*

Winner: Christian Gracas  
Runner up: Ross Hamilton

#### *Watersports category:*

First place: Josh Bergman  
Runner up: Daniel Waters

## **8. Chaudière Lodge Fish Fry**

UFRCA member Bill Diehl took a few minutes to talk about this year's Chaudière Lodge Fish Fry, scheduled for Sunday August 6 from 4:30-7:30pm. He indicated that a signup sheet was available at the AGM and also that members could pay upon arrival as well. He also said that they were prepared for up to 200 attendees and that Derek Restoule would be providing a band, the cost of which is being covered by the UFRCA.

## 9. Financial Report

In the absence of UFRCA Treasurer Peter Rooney, Dave Minden provided an overview of the 2015-16 Financial Statement (*see Appendix A*) which was based on 106 members at the time the statement was printed. Dave also presented the proposed budget for 2016-17 (*see Appendix B*) and noted that the budget was based on a projected membership of 135, resulting in stable revenues and including a planned upgrade of the UFRCA website. He also noted that there had been one additional expense since the Budget was printed – an expense item of \$400 for Park campsite signage that advertised the UFRCA and encouraged campers to pack out their garbage.

**MOTION:** That the 2015-16 Financial Statement and proposed 2015-16 Budget be approved as presented. Moved by Kim Waters; seconded by Joe Ray. Carried.

**MOTION:** That the 2016-17 Budget be approved as presented. Moved by Paul Cormier; seconded by Phil Witmer. Carried.

## 10. Election of Directors

Dave Minden turned the meeting over to the Nominating Committee of Kim Waters and Tim Murdoch. Tim presented the following slate of Board members for 2016-17, noting there is one vacancy:

- Dave Minden
- Peter Rooney
- Sam Goodwin
- Holly Waters
- Jeff Hamilton
- Liz Gallagher
- Liz Gribbon

**MOTION:** That the proposed slate of 2016-17 Board members be accepted. Moved by Larry Smith; seconded by John Follis. Carried.

On behalf of the membership, Dave Minden thanked Wendy Kennedy-Sadler and Grant Hobson for their service with the UFRCA Board. Grant Hobson spoke briefly to say that he appreciated the professionalism of the group and the opportunity to get involved. He noted that it had been a very satisfying experience and encouraged UFRCA members to also get involved.

On behalf of the members, Paul Cormier offered thanks to the 2015-16 Board and in particular to Dave and Jane Minden for their hard work all year in keeping the website current.

## 11. Thanks to Solid Comfort Fishing Lodge

Dave Minden expressed the gratitude of UFRCA members to Solid Comfort Fish Lodge for their generosity again this year in making their facilities available for the AGM and taking care of docking.

## 12. Adjournment

**MOTION:** That the 2015-16 UFRCA Annual General Meeting be adjourned. Moved by Sam Goodwin. Carried.

# Appendix A: 2015-16 Financial Statement

## UPPER FRENCH RIVER COTTGERS ASSOCIATION

### INCOME & EXPENSE REPORT

as at July 23, 2016

Opening Balance	July 23, 2015	\$10,366.80
Income (membership & donations)	donations & advertising)	
August		\$496.69
Sept		149.71
Oct		105.00
Nov		80.35
Dec		435.00
Jan		107.67
Feb		103.68
March		483.36
April		68.68
May		703.60
June		505.48
July		3462.39
		\$6,701.61
		\$6,701.61
Expense		
2014 AGM Expenses		266.12
Web Hosting (Apr 13-Mar 14)	(Apr 16 - Mar 17)	395.50
Website Upgrade - payments		762.75
Insurance		1,333.80
Teleconference calls (5)		517.38
General Admin expense		51.86
Membership mailing exp		266.12
Donations - Heart & Stoke	Flowers	101.37
	L Dokis Foundation	600.00
	Sandy Haven Equip	600.00
	Dokis Pow Wow	500.00
Membership Social - F Fry		345.00
Assoc. Membership - FOCA		40.00
Promotion - T shirts		623.76
Photo contest		348.79
Recycle Bins		565.00
		\$7,317.45
Balance as of	23-Jul-16	\$10,151.61
Outstanding Deposits		\$70.00

## Appendix B: Proposed 2016-17 Budget

### UFRCA BUDGET

		2016 - 17	2015-16
<b>REVENUE</b>			
Membership Dues	(135 x 35)	\$4,725	\$4,550
Member Donations		400	600
Corporate Donations			
Advertising		200	200
		<b>\$5,425</b>	<b>\$5,350</b>
<b>EXPENSE</b>			
General Operating			
Insurance		\$1,350	\$1,350
AGM		800	800
Donations / Promotion		2,000	2,000
Telephone / copying etc		100	100
Environment Committee			
FRSC Dues			250
Board Member			25
Association Membership (FOCA)		40	
Communication / Website			
Teleconference	(5 x 125)	625	650
Website	Hosting	400	350
	(updating-internet time)	50	50
Website	Update	1,000	
Park / MNR Committee			
General expense		100	25
Membership			
Membership drive - mailing		300	300
Bylaw Review			2,500
Assoc. Event (dock sale/social/??)		400	400
Photo Contest		300	200
		<b>\$7,465.00</b>	<b>\$9,000</b>
		<b>(\$2,040)</b>	<b>(\$3,650)</b>

Note: an additional expense item of \$400 was approved for Park/MNR.