

**Trails End Community Association
Annual General Meeting
Wednesday, December 3, 2014 (8:00-9:30 pm)**

Attending:

In-person: Jennifer Skelton, Linda Maljan, Dawn Curtis, Candace DaCorte, Isabel Gauthier, Dawn Tremblay, Marie-Soleil Lacoursière, Karla Langlois, Mika Jones, Devon, Rose, Andrew
By proxy: Moses Hernandez, Jeff Hipfner, Marc Casas, Tom Ashley, AJ
Regrets: Lacie and Devin Madsen

Location of meeting: #6 Trails End

1. Call to order (Jennifer)

- a. Welcome and presentation of Board members: Jennifer (Chair), Linda, Dawn, Candace, Isabel
- b. Round table to present everyone attending AGM
- c. Quorum confirmed. The AGM requires 8 (30%) of the 28 paid members. In total, 16 members were present: 12 in person and 4 by proxy.

2. Approval of Agenda (Jennifer)

- Motion to approve agenda moved by Candace, seconded by Mika. Motion carried.

3. Approval of 2013 AGM Minutes (Jennifer)

Jennifer presented the main highlights of the November 20, 2013 AGM. A copy of the meeting notes was available for all to review.

- Motion to approve 2013 AGM Minutes moved by Linda, seconded by Isabel. Motion carried.

4. Financial Report (Jennifer)

The Association's year-end is August 31st. On August 31st 2013, the balance was \$9,210.84. On August 31st 2014, the balance was \$3,010.32. Here is a summary of the 2013/2014 fiscal year.

2013/2014 Revenues: \$4,895.52

City of Yellowknife Special Grant \$2000

Garage Sales (2013 and 2014) \$703.01

Grocery Bagging \$752.51

Donations \$180

Membership/Plot Fees \$1,260

2013/2014 Expenses: \$11,096.04

Banking Fees \$59.59

Building Supplies \$3,073.95

Soil, Trees, Bobcat Work \$7,140

Workshops (3) \$350
Steer Manure \$472.50

2014/2015 Expenses: \$1,453.54:

Annual insurance \$600
Annual City of Yellowknife \$105
Fence materials \$723.56
Website \$24.98

The current bank account balance is \$1,556.78.

- Motion to approve the 2013/2014 Financial Report moved by Mika, seconded by Rose. Motion carried.

5. Chairpersons Report (Jennifer)

There has been a lot accomplished since our last AGM. Last year we had dirt on the ground and a \$12,000 of grant money from Wal-Mart & Evergreen and the City of Yellowknife. This year we can proudly say we had a very successful first gardening season. The garden received a lot of positive comments. There were a lot of people who contributed to this success. Amongst them:

- Yellowknife Community Garden Collective for helping us start-up to clear the ground to advertising our workshops.
- Boreal Garden for helping to deliver the soil and fill the plots
- Corothers donated a picnic table
- Coop allowed us to do grocery bagging
- Ecology North advertised our events
- ITI – Shannon Ripley helped us locate our water tank
- Tom Ashley picked up the tank and helped set it up
- Rose and Andrew helped set up the water system
- Bromley and Sons donated the water and the delivery

The garden has proved to be a great green space for the community. There were over 30 volunteers and 500 volunteers hours to build the garden.

Gardeners also contributed 25% of their crop to charitable organizations. Donations were tracked on YCGC's website. YCGC provided us with a graph that summarizes all the donations. There were 18 bags of greens donated and 103 pounds of produce. There was likely more than that. Being the first year of production, not everyone entered their donations on YCGC's website. Next year, the Board members will follow more closely the contributions to ensure that each gardener is providing the required 25% of their produce to charitable organizations.

The reason why the 25% is important is because it is part of our land lease conditions with the City of Yellowknife. In exchange the City does not charge us property taxes. The City

has also given us a reduced lease rate of \$105 per year instead of \$600. It is also a great way to contribute to our community.

Last year we also held 4 workshops:

- Twig structures to support plants
- Vertical gardening using pallets
- Soil testing
- Composting bins

In addition we had an orientation session for gardeners to quick start the season, an official public launch and fundraising activities (seedling/garage sale and grocery bagging).

It is important to remember that the Trails End Association is the body that enables us to have the garden. The garden is one of the Association's project, other projects could fall under the Association.

The Association's objective is to support a healthy and vibrant community through the development and maintenance of neighbourhood recreational opportunities that improve the well being of area residents.

- Motion to approve the 2013/2014 Chairpersons Report moved by Mika, seconded by Karla. Motion carried.

6. Elections (Isabel)

There are three returning Board members: Linda Maljan, Dawn Curtis and Isabel Gauthier. Nominations for new Board members: Myka Jones and Karla Langlois.

NOTE: Myka is presently on a waiting list for a garden plot. If she receives a plot, she would like to be part of the Board. If she is not able to garden, then she would prefer not to be part of the Board but continue to support the Association and the garden project.

- Motion to accept the three returning members (Linda, Dawn, Isabel) and the two new members (Myka, Karla) for the Board of Directors of the Trails End Community Association. Moved by Candace, seconded by Jennifer. Motion Carried.

7. Other Business

a. Membership Report and Fees (Dawn)

The Board members would like to propose having one set of fees per individuals instead of two sets of fees (individuals/household). This is ensure that each member of the Trails End Association is accounted for and pays the same \$20 fee. If there are two adults in a household, both need to pay the \$20 fee. This also allows each individual person the ability to vote at the AGM, instead of having one vote per household. Using this membership structure, there are 28 members all together. The new forms will reflect this structure. If you filled a form last year, you do not

need to fill another one this year. The membership guidelines remain the same. They are available on the Association's website. Amongst the 28 members, there is a waiting list to obtain a garden plot. Mika, Rose and Meta are waiting for a plot.

- Motion to change the structure of the membership fees to one set of fees per individual member of the association instead of two sets of fees (individuals/household). Moved by Linda, seconded by Dawn. Motion carried.

b. Site Plans/Requirements for 2015 (Linda)

Here is a list of tasks for the 2015 gardening season to be divided amongst gardeners. All gardeners are expected to volunteer some of their time to accomplish these tasks:

- Dirt needs to be redistributed in the plot #6, #7 and #12.
- Leftover gravel should be shovelled between the garden plots
- Compost- make sure all dead veggies goes in the compost not in between the plots
- Clean up site
- Stain the picnic table
- Add sponsors to the pallet sign
- Water trees (Tamaracks) during the summer season
- Solidify plots if they are bowing
- Water set-up

c. Fundraising Commitment (Linda)

The following are suggested fundraising activities for the garden for the 2015 season:

- Spring fundraiser (garage sale/bake sale/seedling sale/BBQ)
- Co-op grocery bagging on March 22, 2015 (see Linda for sign up sheet)

If a gardener does not participate in a fundraising activity, the Board members would like to suggest asking for a financial contribution instead. This is to help us achieve a goal of \$1000 of fundraising every year for the garden. This will help us build a contingency fund in case in the future we need to pay for the water currently being donated, or if damages occur to plots or other unforeseen expense needs to be made for the garden.

It is suggested that in the future, the funds collected specifically for the garden by the Trails End Community Association be clearly identified in the financial report as being allocated to the garden in case the Association develops other activities/projects (garden plot fees/garden fundraising contributions versus general association memberships)

- Motion to require each member who gardens to either contribute 3 hours towards fundraising activities or provide a \$50 cheque to the association. Moved by Myka, seconded by Andrew. Motion carried.

d. Workshops (Isabel)

Members are asked to provide suggestions for this year's workshops:

- Pruning workshop (how to get maximum yield from each plant)
- Mosaic workshop to create numbers for each garden plot
- Garden 101 workshop – what type of seeds are recommended for the North, review soil fertility, etc.

e. Thank you to Bromley and other Sponsors (Linda)

The Board members would like to suggest providing a thank you note and some baked goods to Bromley and Sons who generously donated water for the 2014 season. All agree. It is also suggested that a Board member ask Bromley and Sons if they intend on continuing to donate water.

f. Communications (Dawn)

If members have any ideas for information to post on the website (articles, photos or other ideas) please send them to Dawn via the Association's Gmail address.

Dawn also asked if members are interested in adding a Facebook page in addition to the website page for the Association. All agreed.

8. Questions from Membership

Seeing there is a waiting list for plots, there is a request to ask each current gardener whether they intend to keep their plot for next year. There may be some gardeners who may wish to reduce their plot size, leaving space available for those on the waiting list.

9. Motion to Adjourn

- Motion to adjourn the AGM is moved by Dawn, seconded by Jenn. Motion carried.