



The Meccawe Club

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May 19, 2022

MINUTES

Board members in attendance: John Coco, President; Douglas Harp, Secretary; Don Neely; Forrest Hammond, Vice President; Bill Copeland; Laurel Tobiason (Zoom); Chef Joe Slakas

Approval of April 14, 2022 minutes...

D/O insurance: Application submitted, need P+L and balance sheet

JC submitted application that JH filled out to Woodstock Agency. They will not come to do a presentation because that would be “after hours.” (Poor them.) Hopefully something concrete by next week.

Treasurer’s report and membership update

56 paid members. Mortgage balance: \$17,232.48, interest 5.58%; \$403.93/mo. Interest for the year: \$1,186.24. Checking account: beginning balance \$47,584.81, ending balance \$87,537.33.

Junior membership: stock certificate or no? Bookkeeping issues

\$300 for under-thirty plus one-time \$250 stock option — this is what JC has been putting in under-thirty invoices. The question still remains whether or not they should be charged for the stock. TBD at the June Board meeting.

IRS hearing outcome, Erik

We owe a little over \$3,000. Erik sent a letter of appeal to the IRS. Most of this is penalty money related to changes in bookkeepers, letters not going to the right place, etc. The tax return was not submitted at all in 2019.

New bookkeeper hired. Long-term plan for continuity

Continuity is key. Erik has hired a new bookkeeper, has worked with this accountant for many years. The QuickBooks can be online and doesn’t have to be on a particular computer; up to three Board members can access this.

News Flash: Joe has made some of the best burgers one could ever eat. Inspired by Shake Shack. (This just HAD to be included in the minutes.)

Boat maintenance update, Bill Copeland

Great turnout over about a month's span. Three coats on the exterior and interior of the rowboats — marine grade polyurethane. Delayed the urethaning of the larger boats till October 1st. Bill thought it was very successful.

Wooden boat, long-term plan. Weather protection

JC suggested a boathouse. Best long-term solution, protection from rain and sun; hang PFDs on the walls, etc. Can discuss over the fall, need a lot of talk. Is everyone on board with this? Walk the waterfront to review location options. Discussion will be ongoing. Jerry Robinson will be a great resource on the subject.

Pine tree discussion. Arborist inspection or remove, regardless?

JH has some serious concerns about the big pine above the caretaker's cottage. Frost suggests we have Markus Bradley, our forester, come to look at future logging *and* the health of the big pine tree.

Boathouse steps installed

They are done, and JC says they're really professionally done. They look great. Bill suggests spreading our pile of pine chips to the right of the steps.

Solar update...any issues heard?

Bill hasn't heard of anyone running out of power. We're balancing things out

Honda generator EU3000 is in place

Ready to go; the manual is in the caretaker's cabin.

John Deere mower... for sale

Bill will wash it and get an estimate of what it's worth. And photograph it.

Vetting of applicants...?

The most recent applicant had two referrals none of us knew. But John will send a letter of approval. We'll consult with JH on this, re: potential liabilities if we formally accept the applicants and something goes awry.

Firewood — Buy log lengths and chainsaw party? Splitter for rounds already on hand.

We don't even have a full row of split firewood. Frost suggests asking Glen from whom, locally, we might be able to buy a cord or two. Laurel also has the name of someone. (Paul and Lindy Johnson, Barnard.) JC will call Glen, and Bill suggests a quote from Colton Enterprises, Pittsfield. Paul and Lindy can deliver 1.5 cords dry firewood next week for \$300. For the 2 woodstoves, up to 12", split fine; fireplace, 16" – 18". They will deliver 1.5 cords of 16" next week, to be dumped as close to the shed as possible

“Fishing and General Rules” review

Do we need to make some changes? Laurel: she went through JH's proposed changes. Section 9 in the bylaws needs to reflect that we need a super majority on all governing decisions. Laurel does not want any ambiguity regarding making special exceptions to “extended payment plans” for members. Wants the Board to determine any special exceptions (or set it in the bylaws).

Other business.

Sue Copeland would like to plant bee balm, rudbeckia and phlox to clean up the look outside the tool shed. Remove the herb garden fence. Bill and Sue are offering a late 19th century sign that says “Fish Inn.”

Don says he’s confirmed that the tool shed, which is double walled, was the old ice shed.

Re: disposal of fish guts—spread randomly in the pond instead of the woods.

Next meeting date

Thursday, June 16

For purposes of getting Markus Bradley here, July 14

Adjourn

Respectfully, Douglas Harp

P.S. Thanks to Chef Joe for making his Fake Shack burgers for the Board that were pretty much indistinguishable from their inspiration, Shake Shack’s.