

MORDEN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Annual General Meeting

May 13, 2025

Morden Community Association Annual General Meeting was held in the community hall on May 13, 2025 at 7 pm. Approximately thirty (30) community residents and six (6) Board members were in attendance.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Stephanie Stevens, Board President. She stated that Donna Sabean had been appointed Recording Secretary for this meeting.

Additions to Agenda: Stephanie also noted an addition to the agenda, regarding the accessibility grant, which will be included under “bathrooms”. Forms were made available to be used when making a motion and given to Recording Secretary for reading.

Introduction of Board Members: Board members are as follows - Stephanie Stevens, Annette Iannaccone, Muriel Thompson, MC Pace, Dick Thomas, and Peter Matthews. Paul Iannaccone has been appointed Grants Manager.

President’s Message: Stephanie expressed thanks to the previous board for their work, especially during the difficult years of the pandemic. We were able to continue where many other small communities experienced great difficulty. Our community has grown and prospered through the years.

Treasurer’s Report: Muriel presented the financial statement. Discussion followed regarding the annual audit. It was moved by Nadine Stevens that the AGM financial report be tabled until financial review is completed. At which time, the financial report will be made available at least one week prior to a special community meeting held to complete approval of financial report; seconded by Roddy VanWyck. Motion carried.

Minutes: Minutes of the AGM, May 15, 2024, were read by Peter and approved with amendment which states, the letter by Gayle Walford was only “partially read”, not “read”, before termination of the meeting due to Board resignation. Peter also read minutes from the AGM completion held on September 4, 2024. Peter moved for the adoption of the May and September minutes as amended, seconded by Carmen Clem. Motion carried.

Grant Manager's Report:

Completed grants

1. 2024/25 New Horizons (bathroom) grant \$25,000. Completed.
2. 2024 Rotary (bathroom) grant for \$3,100. Completed.
3. 2024/25 PPT (Parks) grant for \$3,693. Completed and final report submitted.
4. 2024/25 CHAP (Hall) grant for \$3,100. Completed and final report submitted.

Current grants

1. 2024/25 CIP (Kitchen) grant for \$44,000. 6-month grant extension to approved to July 15. \$35,200 received to date, \$8,800 pending completion
2. 2024/25 Generator grant for \$10,000. \$8,000 received to date, \$2,000 pending completion. Generator and transfer panel purchased. Installation expected by end of May.

New grants applied for/pending

1. 2025/26 PPT (Parks) grant for \$5,809.00 applied/pending.
2. 2025/26 CHAP (Hall) grant for \$7,500 applied/pending.

New grants applied for/not funded

2025/26 Community Access-bility (wheelchair ramp) grant for \$13,464 applied for/declined.

Building Manager's Report: Peter reported that he and Eric Finley have installed new cabinets in the kitchen. He extended thanks to Eric for his assistance. Reg Clem was also thanked for snow removal at the hall during the winter months. The comfort center is underway with the installing of a generator. Replacing kitchen countertops was also discussed.

Business Arising:

Library – Annette reported that the library is still not ready to go; however, books are available by request. Books may be selected from the Morden website by contacting Annette and setting up an account.

Breakfasts – Dick reported the breakfasts are our biggest fund raiser and require a lot of volunteer support. There are seven (7) breakfasts during the season from April to September with each requiring a co-ordinator. A sign-up sheet is available at the back of the room for those who wish to help out.

Community Facilities – Improvement Grant – Paul stated that the Provincial grant for the suppression/extraction system was \$41,000. Due to finding a supplier for a lesser amount, there are still funds remaining which may be used for kitchen improvements, ie stainless steel counter tops. It was moved by Carmen Clem and seconded by Dick Thomas that we replace the existing countertops with stainless steel provided funding remains available. Motion carried.

New Business:

Summer Employment – Application for funding has been made to Kings County but has not yet been received. This municipal grant is required for parks maintenance which includes summer employment.

Newsletter – A newsletter has been sent out, detailing information on happenings in Morden during the year. A review will be conducted before continuing with this venture.
Grants Policy and Procedure – Request for Adoption by Community – The Finance Committee has prepared guidelines for requesting grants. Prior to beginning the grant process, there must be a two-third (2/3) approval by the Board. All major projects must be brought before the MCA for approval. If not approved by MCA, their concerns will be discussed. Three bids will be required. Paul Iannacone moved for approval of the MCA Grants Policy and Procedures, seconded by Dick Thomas. Motion carried.

Financial Policy and Procedure – Information on Board-adopted Policy – The Finance Committee's recommendations have been set up by MC as a five-page document available on our website. Scotia Connect is being used for financial transactions which require two signatures.

By-Law Amendments – Annual Audit – Wording of the by-law stating “the finances shall be audited annually by an unrelated party” has been revised to “an internal audit committee of MCA will review financials annually”.
Director Positions – For the position of president, the word “consecutive” will be removed, therefore reading “must have served two years prior to election”. It was moved by Paul and seconded by Mike Pace that we waive the one year requirement for vice president, secretary, and treasurer for 2025”. Motion carried. Stephanie moved to adopt the by-law amendments as presented, seconded by Gayle Walford. Motion carried.

Work Completed by Volunteers – Stephanie asked that all volunteer hours of work completed be noted as “in kind” as they may be included with grants.

Committees – Volunteers are needed for the following committees:

- a. Breakfasts
- b. Catering
- c. Gardening
- d. Fundraising
- e. Historical (museum)
- f. By-laws.

Sign-up sheets are available at back of room.

Website – MC informed attendees that documents and events of MCA are posted at www.mordenns.ca

Shoreline Yard Sale, which includes communities along the shore from Morden to Halls Harbour, will be held on July 12 with breakfast taking place in Morden.

Upcoming Planned Functions are as follows:

- a. Volunteer Recognition – provides a thank-you to the many volunteers who contribute so much to our community. Details are presently being worked on.
- b. Remembrance Day – organized by Tim McLean and has been very well attended in the past.
- c. Christmas Tea – Karen Atwater co-ordinates this very successful event.

Ramp Replacement – The ramp for wheelchair accessibility requires replacement. It was moved by Nadine Stevens, and seconded by Karen Atwater, to pursue funding for the installation of a galvanized ramp as soon as possible. Motion carried.

Bathrooms – Further renovations are required to increase accessibility to bathroom. \$8,000 remains in the grant. Carmen Clem moved the proposed renovations to the washrooms be implemented, seconded by Mike Pace. Motion carried.

Donations – VON \$400, St. Mary's Elementary School \$200, Morden Anglican Church \$200. Murray Graves moved to continue with these annual donations, seconded by Annette Iannacone. Motion carried.

Directors – The Nominating Committee: Carmen Clem, Annette Iannacone, and Peter Matthews put forward three names for nomination to the Board: Jane Buntain, Reg Clem, Roddy VanWyck. An addition to this list of nominees is Muriel Thompson who had been appointed Treasurer. Nominations accepted and approved.

From the Floor - Richard Bastock expressed concern regarding human waste on the beach area. He moved that a second portable toilet be installed on the beach by David's Road from May to September, seconded by Nadine Stevens. The Board will investigate the possibility as this location is private property as well as concerns of liability.

Next MCA meeting will held upon completion of financial audit. A community forum will follow.

There being no further business, Penny Lowe moved for adjournment, seconded by Annette Iannacone.

Recorded by

Donna Sabeau,
Acting Recording Secretary

