

Annual General Meeting

March 24th, 2012 1:00pm

Glencairn Neighbourhood Centre

1. Welcome and Greetings from President Teresa Thrun
2. Election of a Chair and Secretary

MOTION: Move that Ray Hamilton be chair of the meeting (Joanne

Pelletier/Lorri Melnechenko). Move Teresa Thrun be chair of the

meeting (Morley Watson/Carrie Bourassa)

VOTE: Teresa Thrun was elected chair of this meeting

MOTION: Move that Wilfred Burton be secretary for this meeting

(Russell Fayant/JoAnn Episkinew). CARRIED

1. Approval of Agenda
   1. Add news from MNS to the agenda. It was added as 6 (viii)

MOTION: To approve agenda with addition. (Christina Johns/Marilyn Belhumeur) CARRIED.

1. Approval of AGM 2011 Minutes
   1. The 2011 minutes were taken by Tracy Chatsis and put on the RMC computer. The RMC computer has not be returned to the council from a previous president therefore there are no minutes to share.
   2. Joanne Episkinew suggested we place our meeting minutes , annual reports, etc. on a public forum such as google docs.

MOTION: Table the 2011 minutes until next AGM-if recovered. (Russell Fayant/Lorri Melnechenko) CARRIED

1. Issues Arising from Minutes

Tabled

1. New Business
2. PowerPoint Outlining Local Activities: Report from RMC committees done in powerpoint format. Russell Fayant showed a timeline of what has happened with RMC since the last AGM.
   1. The last AGM there were 40 people and the RMC web page was launched. We continue to have increased recognition and currently have 197 members. Most new members are people seeking recognition for educational programs (DTI, GDI, SUNTEP, SIAST, etc).
   2. RMC hosted another Riel Day Vigil. We are happy to have established a relationship with RCMP depot. They have asked us to partner with them to erect a Riel memorial. Half the funding may come from Heritage Canada and RMC will have to fundraise the remainder.
   3. There seems to some community apathy within Regina. Our local is trying to maintain solidarity.
   4. We have a quarterly newsletter.
   5. Our pancake breakfast was well attended and the fundraisers of silent auctions and garage sale were successful.
   6. The Sk. Culture grant allowed us to have two junior jigging groups headed up by Dallas Montpetit and Jenel Markwart with Nicole Morrow as coordinator.
   7. The City of Regina partnered with RMC in the raising of the Metis flag. Over 350 people packed council chambers. This is the first time a Metis flag will hang permanently at a municipal building in Canada. Diane Adams made a video of the flag raising.
   8. Wilfred Burton hosted an adult Fun Metis Dance class at the Pasqua Hospital on Sundays.
   9. There are six committed RMC executive
   10. We are in good standing with the Corporation’s Branch

DISCUSSION: There should be some goal setting done with the council membership where a focus on solidarity, partnerships and asserting our place in this city is developed.

1. Financial Report
   1. Jessica Parr presented the report showing that we currently make enough money to pay for our bills thoughout the year. The grant from Sk. Culture allowed us to do some programming with youth. Morley Norton volunteered to assist with filing to the Corp. Branch. Since we are good until March 2013, we will call at that time. Joanne Episkinew informed us of changes in how non-profits report. The spreadsheet indicates total income as $10,206.11 and total expenses as $4,795.13. The remainder, $5,410.98 is to pay outstanding expenses for the junior jigging group as outlined in the conditions for the Sk. Culture grant.

MOTION: To accept the financial report as presented by Jessica Parr. (Morley Norton/Carrie Bourassa) CARRIED.

1. Merger with QC Local Discussion

MOTION: RMC begin merge with Queen City local. (Russell Fayant/Carrie Bourassa) CARRIED

Presentation by…

Ray Hamilton, our guest to RMC AGM, spoke to the benefits of merging the two locals. The QCL executive approve of the merger but will vote on it at the QCL meeting at the end of the month. Ray spoke of the history of the Old Riel local #33 and how over time the council fragmented because of provincial and local dysfunction. We need one local, one voice in the City of Regina. QCL wants to be the “political” part of the RMC and the current RMC will be the “cultural” part. It would be advantageous to merge to attract new members, and have a stronger voice provincially.

1. Local Elections
   1. Russell Fayant spoke of the importance of postponing elections one more year so we can consider the merge and perhaps combine executive with QCL.
   2. Morley Norton agreed that one local in the city would have a stronger voice. We need a voice provincially for education, hunting & gathering funding.
   3. Carrie Bourassa likes the idea of a merger and retaining the initial intent of RMC which was to support Metis culture in the city. She worries that with a political focus, it will pull us apart again. Jessica Parr agreed with Carrie that we need to promote our culture and not get caught up in provincial politics.
   4. Joanne Episkinew agrees in principle with the merger but cautions us about splintering off of groups. We need to bring together the community in consultation to see what should happen. Community dinners could be a way of bringing people together to discuss merger and future plans. The important part is to make a PLAN.

MOTION: Postpone elections for one year. (Joanne Pelletier/Lorri Melnechenko) CARRIED

Discussion to support this motion centred around the potential merger and how elections put a financial strain on the organization. There has been little interest in people running in the election. Our last election had few people put their names forward.

1. Proposed Bylaw Amendments
   1. Council has no changes to recommend
   2. No recommendations from the floor.
2. Ideas for Future Focus:
   1. Reapply to Sk. Culture to continue jigging program for youth
   2. Carrie Bourassa volunteered to put together a Survey Monkey for people to suggest what they would like to enhance their cultural awareness that would then inform programming.
   3. Need a more permanent place to host events
   4. Morley Norton volunteered in assisting in the development of rewriting bylaws, etc.
   5. Need to reach out to other Metis organizations such as Gabriel Housing, etc. to look at community priorities, etc.
3. Recognition of Partners and Allies

* SUNTEP Regina
* DTI Regina
* Gabriel Dumont Institute
* University of Regina, Faculty of Education
* City of Regina
* Sask Culture
* First Nations University of Canada
* RCMP Depot Division
* Institute francaise/L’Association Fransaskoise

1. Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn: (Tracy Chatsis)