

**FRIENDS OF WABAKIMI
MINUTES
of the
ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERS**

Date: Sunday, March 12, 2022 at 9:00AM CST

Location: Superior Room, Clarion Hotel
Alliant Energy Center
2110 Rimrock Road
Madison, Wisconsin USA

Also conducted online via ZOOM

Present in Person (20): Vern Fish (President), Dave McTeague (Chair), William Pyle, Doug Blount, Dan Otto, Dan Baumgartner, Andy Boddy, Scott Pirsag, Tom Mertens, Beth Rausch, Berlin Nelson Jr, Bill Conner, Vince Fiorito, Terry DeFraties, Jim Kerler, Liesa Kerler, Hank Ostwald, Jeff Schimpff, Scott Spink, John Rodthe

Present on ZOOM meeting (16): J Holmes (Sec/Treasurer), K Babinchak, Ray Tallent, Mary Jean Blaisdell, Debbie Doyle, V Steeves, M Poulin, Tetsy De Boer, A Gorman, Travis Williams, Heather and Peter, Chris Mayberry, Jeff White, Mhairi McFarlane, Brent Sinclair,

Present by Proxy and Represented by the President (64):

The President, having determined a quorum of one-fifth (20%) of the 253 members in good standing and eligible to vote was present in person or represented by proxy, called the meeting to order at 9:02 PM CST.

FOW Overview.

Vern Fish (president) gave an overview of the organization.

Adoption of Agenda

Resolved That: The Agenda proposed in the *Notice of 2022 Annual Meeting* be adopted.

Moved by: Dave McTeague

Seconded by: Doug Blount

Carried

Adoption of 2021 Annual Meeting of Members Minutes

Resolved That: The Minutes of the 2021 Annual Meeting of members be adopted.

Moved by: Berlin Nelson Jr.

Seconded by: Scott Pirsag

Carried

Election of Directors

Resolved That: The following persons be elected to serve as Directors of Friends of Wabakimi for the 2022 to 2025 term; Doug Blount, Ray Tallent, Mhairi McFarlane

*Moved by: Maurice Poulin
Seconded by: Bill Pyle
Carried*

Approval of 2021 Financial Statement

Resolved That: The Financial Statement prepared by John Holmes, FOW Secretary Treasurer for the period ending December 31, 2021 be approved.

*Moved by: Andy Boddy
Seconded by: Hank Ostwald
Carried*

Updates

The FOW fund raising campaign of 2020 was to allow parks staff to fly out large debris and garbage from 4 lakes in Wabakimi Park. This work was partially completed this summer (2022) and will be completed in 2023. The FOW raised approximately \$7000 for this initiative.

The FOW fundraising campaign of 2021 was to pay for the construction of a Wabakimi Park kiosk(s) at park entrances or other appropriate locations. A cheque for \$5330 was sent to Ontario Parks for this initiative. We plan to contract a local indigenous artist to help with the design of the kiosk and have approximately \$1800 for this.

The Conservation Committee continues to work with the LCC, MNRF, Wabakimi Park and other stakeholders to monitor Crown land activity with a view to protecting Crown land canoe routes and campsites. Our preferred roading route for forestry access into the Armstrong Forest has been adopted.

A Rendezvous committee has been established in order to organise a get together in Thunder Bay and Armstrong for paddlers and friends of the Wabakimi Area. The rendezvous is scheduled for September 8 to 11, 2022.

An Expedition Committee has been established to encourage and support expeditions into the Wabakimi area in order to verify and update our map information, provide information on the condition of portages and campsites, and to demonstrate that these canoe routes are being used.

Strategic Plan. The FOW continues to pursue its Strategic Plan through involvement with the Park Management Plan, collaborating with Park management on specific park projects, fundraising for Park projects, helping paddlers plan and conduct trips in the Wabakimi Area and being a voice for the protection of Crown Land.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:02 am CST.

Signed: _____ **Dated: March 12, 2022.**
Vern Fish, President