

FIRA General Meeting June 21, 2024

Minutes

President's Message *(14 Members Present)*

Cindy Woodrow opened the meeting.

- * She stated that FIRA has had a busy last few months. The 5 o'clock Somewhere Dance & Games Happy Hour with DJ Dave Bright and Verberg's Wine & Beer Tasting events were well attended and a lot of fun!
- * The Wednesday ladies remain very active with their many projects and weekly game nights are still active.
- * Thank you again and again to all the volunteers.
- * Fitness groups are canceled at this time but internet allows for YouTube programs to be downloaded if anyone wants to lead a class.
- * New member, Margaret Henry is present so a welcome to Margaret.
- * Cindy keeps our website calendar updated, please continue to check it out.

Approval of Minutes

- * The February General Meeting minutes were approved with a motion by Graham Newton and a second by Dianne Kelly. All approved and the motion was carried.

Previous Business

~ Hall Improvements:

- * **Remaining for Phase 1:** Carrie reported that we are waiting for the Marina to get us another print that depicts Haliburton Lake to add to the group on the wall to the right of the TV. They will all then be labeled. Old photos from the past will be put in collages at some point.
- * **Phase 2: Improvement Committee:** Carrie explained that since there is nothing pressing for the clubhouse at this point, we are taking a break from improvements. We will be looking for fresh ideas eventually. If anyone would like to join with new ideas the committee, let us know..

~ Outdoor sign upgrade update: Jeff wasn't able to attend this meeting but he asked that thanks be expressed to his two sign install experts Dave and Cindy Woodrow for all their help and effort. By installing the new sign parts ourselves, we saved on an installation cost. We have had a lot of positive comments on the new look. New words printed and we can have

more made. Painting the wood white that holds the sign instead was a great idea - thank you Duncan Watt.

~ Grants: Cindy:

- * Two grants were applied for:
- * 1. Resilience Community funds - this grant was based on hall improvements. We asked for funds to purchase new windows, dishwasher, generator as well as insulating the floor. There were many applicants and we did not receive this grant.
- * 2. Seniors Community grant Program - This grant is for activities that can keep seniors active and it is still pending.

Financial Update

~ Dues collections:

- * We have collected \$8,410 in dues. We expect about \$9,300 total in 2024

~ Operating expenses.

- * Operating expenses were \$2,997. We expect about \$9,600 total in 2024 depending on insurance renewal costs.
- * Starlink internet is the biggest increase. In November, we will start paying \$20/month for the website after our 2 year free introduction fee.
- * Dues, GIC interest and hall rentals should cover our operating expenses.
- * Fundraising was \$472 YTD. We expect to raise about \$4,000 in 2024 to go toward hall improvements and reserves for major expenses/donations.

~ Major Improvements/Expenses:

- * We donated \$1,000 to the hospital foundation and the cost of the new sign was \$1,000.
- * The Board approved purchasing a 10'x10' pop-up tent for outdoor events.

Fundraising

~ Macgregor Meat Sale -

- * Graham Newton explained that this was a quieter meat sale than previous years as he was away and things ran late.
- * However, almost \$500 was raised for FIRA - Thanks Graham!

~ Pancake Breakfast -

- * Jeff & Jenn Vanderkuur met with Lynn and they inventoried supplies and they will be shopping for what is needed.
- * Possible vendors have been contacted. Laurie Hillaby will be setting up a nail booth, **Lakers Nail It!** **Dugout Designs** will be bringing their wood cutouts and products. **Delancey Sport** cannot make that date but was going to send a donation for the draw. **Rowan and Candle** didn't want to

make the journey up to Fort Irwin as we are out of their area. **Hidden Gem** cannot make it. If anyone can think of anyone else feel free to reach out to them.

- * A volunteer letter will be sent out for sign up duties the week of July 9th,
- * The Health permit has been filled out and will be dropped off at the appropriate time.
- * Pancake Breakfast flyers should be posted at the Regatta.

~ Pig Roast

- * Our Annual General Meeting (AGM) will accompany the Pig Roast on Sunday, October 6th with the AGM 4-5pm, Social Hour from 5-6pm and dinner at 6pm.
- * Many thanks to Garth Krieger for his years of pig roasting. This year, Mark Smith has volunteered to take Garth's place and Wayne MacKenzie will continue on as the other roaster volunteer. Thanks Wayne & Mark!

~ Club 200:

- * Graham reported that he will be getting together with Bill shortly and volunteer ticket sellers will be contacted.
- * Tickets will get printed soon.

~ Others: Wednesday Ladies Coffee & Crafts:

- * Dianne Kelly reported that the Wednesday ladies held a Bread Fest for \$5 per participant. Bread, pizza, pampered chef breads and bundt cakes were made by various volunteer presenters.
- * A total of \$254 was raised to donate to the hospital that day plus an additional \$300 was donated during the week. This was a spur of the moment decision to raise the money for the hospital.
- * They are planning another event, wine & hors d'oeuvres, on a Wednesday afternoon to raise money for another charity.

Activities/other committee updates

~ Board Activity Coordinator - Carrie

- * Fitness groups: Cindy: All fitness canceled (*Outdoor walking / Line Dancing, Zumba (still on hold), Walking DVD, Indoor walking, Low impact Cardio, Yoga*). Gwen Manning started a yoga group but attendance dwindled. **All fitness canceled unless someone wants to take the lead on a class.**
- * Games - Euchre, Cribbage and Mahjong: Cindy reported that game nights are still well represented. New folks always welcome and you will be taught how to play
- * Darts - Still well attended and the it varies weekly on how many show up. The games are led by whoever volunteers that week.

- * Crafts - Dianne reported that they had several fun craft days and they continue sewing projects to sell this year. On August 11th, the Wednesday Ladies will be at the Marina's Artisan Show then at Pancake Breakfast on August 17th. The ladies are also attending the 25th Annual Spelling Bee at the Haliburton Northern Lights Theatre on July 11th at 7:30 and attending dinner at Hook, Line & Sinker before the show. Cindy thanked Dianne for all the work as they are becoming a popular group.

~ Social Event Coordinator -

- * Summer Happy hours: Lynn - all spots may be filled.
- * Bonfire / Corn Hole Tourney: Bishops hosting this Fall.
- * Sand Bay HH in August (with theme), on a weekday and the date will be determined based on weather.

~ Special Events

- * Monthly Winter Happy Hours
- * Harvest Lunch takes place annually around Thanksgiving. There is a Potluck with soups and other goodies.
- * Defibrillator / CPR course - Another refresher class may be planned. There is a new DeFibrillator at Public Beach. Carrie will ask Brent if they HLCA will provide a course?
- * Sir Sams Spa / Lunch day is being planned for October or November. Cindy said 18 attended last year and Sir Sam's offers a reduced price for the water spa and lunch.

New Business

- * Remember that Lynn Yake sends out greeting cards to FIRA members for illness, condolences, moving - feel to reach out when you know of someone.
- * At the AGM in October, we need a Vice President, the Director positions are open and for 2026: Secretary & Finance positions will be open.
- * Patti Lou Robinson, the Director of Community Relations at Gardens of Haliburton request wrote and requested that we allow her to bring some brochures to our clubhouse. She also relayed information to be presented to our members:
 - There is an increase in cottagers moving permanently to their cottages who may have senior parents move to Haliburton to be closer. The current population in the Gardens of Haliburton Retirement Residence is 25% out of town residents and 75% local residents.

- Some cottage owners who may not feel able to continue to take care of and maintain their cottages but wish to stay in the area. The GOH may be the perfect fit.
- Respite care for seniors is also offered for those who are leaving the hospital but cannot return to their homes until fully recovered. GOH's respite suites can also be for seniors whose care givers may require a break from their responsibilities for a day, two days, a week...up to a month. The respite suite could also be used by cottagers who want their aged parents to come up for a visit but feel they need to stay overnight in a place where assisted living services are available throughout the day and night. The Gardens of Haliburton offers all these services.

Adjourn: Wayne MacKenzie made the motion and it was seconded by Duncan Watt with full approval to adjourn.