

## FIRA Member Meeting February 9, 2024

### Minutes

#### **President's Message:**

Cindy Woodrow welcomed everyone to the meeting. She reminded us that we are always looking for more activities / Happy Hours as well as volunteers. Many thanks to all of our current volunteers!!

**Approval of Minutes:** Dianne Kelly made a motion to approve the Minutes from our last meeting, the AGM on October 1, 2023. The motion was seconded by Bill Odell and the motion carried.

#### **Previous Business**

##### ~ **Hall Improvements:**

- \* **Remaining for Phase 1: Wall decor:** Carrie DiFrancesco explained that the 4 new lake contour maps on the wall to the right of the TV are there to represent that FIRA members are from various area lakes. Carrie & Laura Golbeck are still trying to come up with a sign to identify the pictured lakes. We are looking to add a Haliburton Lake map in that style as well and are planning to purchase it from the Marina this spring. Also, Carrie is working on photo collages from older and current FIRA photos for the bathrooms.
- \* **Phase 2: What is next?** The committee plans to meet and discuss what is next for hall improvements. Since what we may obtain from any grants we have applied for would factor in, a meeting will be held after that is known.
- \* Carrie purchased recycle bins & liners for inside the utility closet (old bins are in shed). The closet still needs hooks and re-arranging.

~ **Grant Applications:** Jeff Vanderkuur: The Trillium grant has been submitted. If we aren't awarded, we will try for Capital and other grants. There are grants for programming and construction.

~ **Outdoor sign upgrade update:** Jeff. The sign has been ordered so we are just waiting for County Sign to complete the job.

~ **ONCA update:** Cindy: ONCA, the Ontario Not-for-profit Corporation Act aims to standardize all non-profit organizations. Our committee is meeting in March to review ONCA's various standards.

~ **Starlink:** The internet was installed and working well. Several activities use it.

~ **Bylaw changes:** Proposed changes discussed at the AGM have been made and updated on our website to reduce minimum required meetings to 3 per year and provide for retaining the current Board if no new Board nominations are received.

### **Financial Update: 2023 results and 2024 forecast: Joe DiFrancesco:**

~ **Dues & Fundraising revenue:** Joe reviewed the finance report.

\* Our dues continue to cover basic expenses.

\* This was a great year for fundraising and those funds were used for clubhouse improvements and to increase our fund balance.

~ **Operating expenses:**

\* Starlink was added & the Bell phone line was upgraded with new lower cost contract.

~ **Major Improvements:**

• In 2023, we had 2 trees of concern taken down on the property, purchased various frames for the hall, installed Starlink, and made a donation to the hospital.

\* Irene Odell inquired if we wanted to make another \$1,000 donation to the hospital for CT & mammography scanners. Donna Smith made a motion for us to make this donation and asked that we do another 50/50 or something at an event later in the year for another donation. Many folks in our community can't get these tests done because they can't afford to travel to other hospitals. Drew Bishop seconded the motion and it carried. The Board will announce the donation after it is made.

~ **Two member volunteers needed:** The 2023 financial records need to be reviewed by two members. Peter & Gail Connelly volunteered.

~ **Propane Program:** The 2024-25 program is open for active dues paying members as of July 31 when the list is prepared and sent to the propane companies (Budget & Kellys).

### **Fundraising**

~ **MacGregor Meat Sale** - Graham Newton told Cindy that he is willing to run the meat sale again this year. Members remain interested.

~ **Pancake Breakfast** - Carrie is handing over the reins to Jeff & Jenn Vanderkuur for this year's August breakfast but will remain on the committee, as will Lynn Yake.

~ **Pig Roast** - We would like to again combine the pig roast with our AGM. Wayne MacKenzie will find out if Garth Krieger is open to roasting again this year. We are planning on early October.

~ **Club 200: Bill Odell:** Club 200 is very dependent on the volunteer selling tickets and we are thankful that Graham makes the tickets.

Everyone involved did very well last year! Most of the winners were from the lake. Bill will approach those who sold last year in hopes they'll do it again.

~ **Ladies Crafts:** Dianne reported that the craft sales continue throughout the summer thanks to our Wednesday Ladies Group.

### **Activities/other committee updates**

~ **Board Activity Coordinator** - Carrie

\* **Fitness groups:** Cindy: Outdoor walking, Walking DVD & Line Dancing - Are being canceled & taken off the website. Zumba - Carrie will look at Youtube or other free classes, Low impact Cardio (Cindy) & Yoga (Gwen) are currently meeting right now. All mornings are available except Wednesdays if anyone would like to start up a new class.

\* **Games** - Bid Euchre, Criss Cross Cribbage, Game Night and Mahjong are still being attended: Cindy reminds everyone that anyone can join the games despite skill level.

\* **Darts:** Carrie: Friday night darts remain popular and skill level does not matter!

\* **Crafts:** Dianne:

- Many ladies show up on Wednesday mornings. A variety of activities are ongoing. The group continues to make items to sell this summer. Some quilts are being created.

- Lap blankets are being made and donated to the Youth Hub. The kids currently fight over the 6 that are there. The Youth Hub provides snacks and some meals and are always in need of food donations. Socks, hats, knits, toiletries and sanitary materials are needed. There are boxes set up in the clubhouse entry for donation collection.

### **~ Social Events**

\* **Summer Happy hours:** Lynn Yake & Irene Odell will coordinate getting folks to host and we will continue with a Happy Hour every other week.

\* **Bonfires** - We are hoping to have 1 or 2 bonfires in March but they are weather depending

\* **Corn Hole Tournament:** Drew & Kristin Bishop have agreed to run this fun event again in the Fall!

\* **FIRA Happy Hour at Sand Bay:** A Randy Hague suggestion and great idea. Hoping it can happen later in the summer.

### **~ Special Events**

\* **Monthly Winter Happy Hours** - We are looking for members to help come up with themes / ideas and assist in organizing.

- \* **Harvest Lunch** - Dianne explained that this Ladies luncheon is held around Thanksgiving and is well attended.
- \* **Christmas Cookie Exchange**: Another fun and well attended event in December.
- \* **Sir Sams Lunch & Water Spa** - Cindy is organizing this trip to Sir Sams for February 22nd and there are three lunch options.
- \* **Chainsaw safety session** - Cindy reported that this workshop occurred in January with 16 folks in attendance. It was very informative.
  - If anyone has any ideas for speakers, let us know. It looks like we have someone to speak on estate planning. Also, someone may teach how to make bread - but we need machines with dough hooks.
- \* **Defibrillator / CPR course** - Donna Smith & Randy Hague: This will be a demonstration type class with CPR and DeFib information. A certification class cannot be offered as it is more involved than but maybe down the road. The Haliburton EMS has been asked by Donna for 18 months now but they do not have the manpower and can't give the time & money to do it right now. The date has been set for March 22nd.

## **New Business**

- ~ **Health Department Inspection** - We had a Health Department inspection and we passed with 1 low risk item noting that the utility drawers should be finished so raw wood does not leave shavings or retain moisture. Subsequent to the meeting this was completed by Dave and Dianne Chevrefils who finished them with polyurethane. Thanks Dave and Dianne!
  - \* Their report also noted that only disposable single use items should be used for serving the public and that we are fully compliant with that at our Pancake Breakfast.
  - \* It also noted as a reminder that all surfaces and sinks should be cleaned and sanitized after daily activities. Any non-members that rent the facility must use single use items.
- ~ **FIRA Clubhouse**: Private use by members
  - \* An agreement for insurance and Health Department requirements has been drafted
  - \* To rent the hall, we require a minimum donation of \$50. A larger amount may be requested for longer/larger events at Board discretion based on degree of use. Kristin brought up the point that we may need to charge a cleaning fee or a security deposit if there are concerns with the size of the gathering and that will be considered by the Board going forward.
- ~ **Clubhouse Cleaning**: Courtney Berre-Davis took over for Kendra Goddard

**Adjourn:** Joe motioned for the adjournment of this meeting , Kristin seconded and the motion carried.