

# Manitoba Urban Forest Council Annual General Meeting Minutes

March 14/2023

MINUTES of the Annual General Meeting of the Manitoba Urban Forest Council Inc. held via Teams on March 14, 2023, at 1:30 PM.

Shawn Dias chaired the meeting, and Kyla Maslaniec acted as secretary of the meeting.

Presentation: Utilization of Urban Wood/Trees

## 1. INTRODUCTION

- Shawn Dias, Board of Directors Chair, called the meeting to order.
- The current Board of Directors introduced themselves to attendees.
- Matt Vinet vacated his position but will continue to support the council as part of the Advisory Committee.
- Previous minutes reviewed and accepted.
- No additions to the agenda were made.

## 2. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

- Sima Feuer, Treasurer, presented MBUFC financial statements.
  - Total expenses - \$9,296.05
  - Total revenue - \$12,237.5
  - Expenses vs revenue - \$2,941.5
  - Current balance - \$7,117.61

## 3. MBUFC YEAR IN REVIEW

- Membership update given by Carla Antonation:
  - Currently, there are 161 members with representation from municipal operations and government, industry (arboriculture and nursery), provincial government, and educational institutions.
  - 20 were added this year.
  - Fifty per cent are from Winnipeg and Brandon
- Fall workshop update provided by Kyla Maslaniec – An overview of the event was presented including attendance and notable, such as the keynote speaker – Toso Bozic

## 4. BY-LAW MOTIONS and AMENDMENTS

### #1 Term of Directors

Current Wording:

#### *5.01 Election and Term*

*The term of office of a Director shall normally be 2 years, expiring at the close of the second annual meeting of members after his or her election. However, the terms of Directors may initially and from time to time be less than 2 years to allow for staggered term expiry dates. A Director may not serve more than 3 consecutive two-year terms, but is eligible for election after a one-year absence from the Board.*

Revised wording:

#### 5.01 Election and Term

*The term of office of a Director shall normally be 2 years, expiring at the close of the second annual meeting of members after his or her election. However, the terms of Directors may initially and from time to time be less than 2 years to allow for staggered term expiry dates.—A Director may not serve more than 3 consecutive two-year terms, but is eligible for election after a one-year absence from the Board.*

Rationale:

To allow for the continuation of directors beyond 3 consecutive terms and to avoid the release of 5 director positions simultaneously.

Motion:

Be it resolved that the 3 consecutive two-year term be removed from the By-law 5.01 – no objections.

#### #2 Number of Director Positions

The MBUFC Certificate of Incorporation declares the minimum 3 and maximum of 9 number of directors.

Rationale:

The board received 3 very strong nominations for 2023 and being that of a “working board” the additional director positions would strengthen the organization.

Motion:

Be it resolved to update the articles of incorporation and increase the maximum number of directors from 9 to 11 directors

No objections

#### 5. MBUFC BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOMINATIONS

- Shawn Dias provided information on the nominations for the Board of Directors.
- There can be up to 11 directors on the board and a minimum of three. Of the current nine directors, one is stepping down (Sima Feuer).
- Three nominations were received making a vote unnecessary.
- Nathan Szuck, Kamni Gill, and Stacey Auld are the new members, and Shawn Dias welcomed them to the board and introduced them to the membership.
- Nathan and Kamni spoke briefly and introduced themselves to the membership.
- Shawn Dias asked them to accept the nomination and to serve a two-year term, and they both accepted.

#### 6. MBUFC NEXT STEPS AND PRIORITIES

- Shawn Dias outlined MBUFC next steps and priorities, which include:
  - Establishing officer positions for the Board of Directors.
  - Chainsaw Safety Training – two locations this spring
  - Red seal for arborists
  - In -person workshops (Fall of 2023)
  - Strategic Planning for 2023/2024
  - Canadian Urban Forest Conference Winnipeg 2024

#### 7. OPEN DISCUSSION

- Shawn Dias opened the meeting for questions.
- Martha Barwinsky raised the issue of worker shortages and how the MBUFC could address that – apprenticeship, job board on website

#### 8. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the meeting, the meeting was adjourned at 3:08 PM.