

Sheet Harbour and Area Chamber of Commerce & Community Affairs
Lions Centre, Sheet Harbour, N.S.
May 4, 2011

Present: Terrence Rutledge, Gordon Holman, Tom McNair, Art MacKenzie, Helen P. Pinfield, Norma McLeod, Terry McLeod, John Makinson, Carol Makinson, Kim Makinson, Trevor Gammon, Susan Boutilier, John Wood, Erin Boutilier, Anke Beichmanis, Souigue, Mark Krause, Patricia Holman, Eugene Holman, Ruby Gammon, Ralph LeBlanc, Dawn Howe-Power, Jack Marshall, George Child, Robert Moser, Sandy Moser, Warren Parsons, Meryl Atkinson, Cathy Farris, Wayne Malay, Anne Thomas, Kent Smith, Tom McInnis

Regrets: Sheila Martin, Penny Farris, Katie Tait, Brenda McInnis

Scribe: Wendie Russell

Minutes

- 1.0 Chair Tom McInnis called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.
- 2.0 **Approval of Agenda:** The agenda was approved with the addition under Old Business: Tank Update, Fall Banquet, Banners Light Standards, Bingo and Aladdin Reminder.
- 3.0 **Approval of Minutes of April 6, 2011: It was moved by Ralph LeBlanc and seconded by Susan Boutilier that the minutes of April 6 be approved with the following corrections: Sandy's email address is s.moser@sympatico.ca, Dartmouth and 4'CEA misspelled, and under Heritage Society Report, should read "will be able" not "was able" to purchase.**
- 4.0 **Business Arising from Minutes:**
 - 4.1 **Tank:** Tom sent a letter off on April 7th to Deputy Minister Montgomerie regarding removal of the tank. Two companies have approached Tom regarding removal of the tank. Tom unable to provide an update at this time. Government, if agreeable, will send for tender.
 - 4.2 **Crosswalk Light Highway # 7 & Church Point Road:** Communication sent to Department of Transportation indicating concerning existing hazardous situation where the sidewalk ends on the east side of the highway and where the sidewalk commences on the other side of the highway and requesting a light be installed. A feasibility study will need to be conducted. Education is also required about the cross walk.
 - 4.3 **Municipal Planning Strategy:** A question was raised at the last meeting regarding "type" of zoning existing for Pine Falls drive. On reviewing the plan, this area is designated "for mixed use" which could mean building apartments, town houses, or mobile trailer park. Tom suggested that a group should come together to review the municipal planning strategy. Upon review, and in advance of any controversy, this should be opened up to the community to determine where development should happen. This is not meant in any way to discourage new building but to ensure building appropriately and as fits with the community.
 - 4.4 **Aladdin Play:** A reminder that this play is being offered this week from Wednesday to Saturday inclusive.
 - 4.5 **Omniglobe:** Wayne asked if anyone had wireless broadband, and if so, the domain has been suspended. Seaside Communications have been

Sheet Harbour and Area Chamber of Commerce & Community Affairs
Lions Centre, Sheet Harbour, N.S.
May 4, 2011

contracted to maintain towers. Wayne expects that subscribers will be offered a short period of time to clear off their computers.

- 4.6 **Fall Banquet:** Depending on hall availability, October 15th is set as date with a theme of Business Achievement Award Night. An independent committee will determine various categories of awards and will make a selection of who gets what. This is the Chamber's major fundraising event. Ralph offered to sell tickets at his place. Interested in helping: Kent Smith, Dawn Howe-Power, Ruby Gammon, Janice Christie. There may be others involved.
- 4.7 **Banners:** Julie hopes to have banners up this year in June until Thanksgiving. For future years, banners will be hung from May until Thanksgiving. Julie has a plan to ensure a written record will be maintained, perhaps at the McPhee House Museum, that will explain the historical background portrayed on the banners. Anne Thomas explained more about the banner project in that the project is designed to get local stories and pictorially portray these. Anne is involved at Lake Front Consolidated School in Tangier where the students have been asked to speak to the Elders. Training provided to students on how to interview. The project is inclusive of communities from Spry Harbour to Ecum Secum with each school having an opportunity to submit.
- 4.8 **Summer Maintenance Sidewalks:** The tender will soon be going out. This will be advertised on the webpage, and will go out to all businesses from Newcomb Brook to Ecum Secum.
- 4.9 **Cable versus Satellite:** Tom left a message with East Link but has had no response. With rising costs, Tom thought this was an opportune time to investigate costs.
- 5.0 **Committee Reports:**
- **Friends of Taylors Head:** Warren Parsons reported that the park will open on Monday, May 9th two weeks ahead of scheduled opening of May 22. The Friends of Taylors Head will take care of garbage collection and cleaning toilets until scheduled opening date. Road clean up is scheduled for May 15th and will encompass area from Mushaboom to Spry Harbour bridge. No children under 12 are permitted to participate as per provincial program regulations.
 - **Heritage Society:** John Wood reported that there is an opportunity to purchase the alarm system that Elections Canada had installed. A quote has been received, but has not been reviewed or discussed by the Society. John was unsure of quote as he did not have the opportunity to do so. There have been no monies budgeted for this purchase. John will try to pick the quote up and bring to tomorrow's meeting. John asked that he be given a heads up when the boxes moved to make room for Elections Canada are moved back as he would like to be present when that happens.
 - **Multi Purpose Committee:** Robert, Tom and George met two weeks ago with Brian Banks, ACOA, Bill Owens, Economic Development, Rhonda Webb, Greater Halifax, Sandi Davidson, and Charles Clattenburg, Halifax Regional School Board. Economic Development is willing to commit to

Sheet Harbour and Area Chamber of Commerce & Community Affairs
Lions Centre, Sheet Harbour, N.S.
May 4, 2011

covering 50% of the feasibility study costs; the Chamber have committed to 10%. This project is progressing nicely. A similar project started at Porters Lake will realize expected savings of 3 to 4 million. Charles Clattenburg announced that school construction would begin September 2013 with occupancy date set for September 2014. The School Board has made a decision to build a P12 school replacing 4 schools. We must first research exactly what will serve everyone best and collect additional data to that already collected. Charles Clattenburg offered to provide a list of potential companies that could perform study. Feasibility study must go to tender. We still need to come up with the Capital.

- **Port Committee:** Tom reported there will be a requirement for a new property operator with contract expected to be awarded in the fall prior to the present agreement finalizing in 2012. This will allow time to carry out due diligence. Tom reminded group that this is technically not a committee but as standing agenda item, will serve to keep members informed.
- **Tourism:** Cathy Farris reported this project has been on hold during the past 6 weeks as grants have not yet been decided. With visitors already seeking information, a decision was made to open the VIC as quickly as possible. To facilitate this, starting next week, one person will be trained and employed. There is in all likelihood student volunteers from the high school who might be interested in assisting as part of their Exploration and Tourism education. Hopefully will have the grants in place for summer students, and planning for volunteers to operate the centre in the fall. There is a meeting scheduled tomorrow, May 5th with HRM to discuss logistics around landscaping and maintenance at McPhee House. In regards to lands around McPhee House, no decision has been as yet made. There is a meeting at Ralph LeBlanc's on Monday, 9th at 10:00 a.m. Tomorrow's meeting is at the Fire Hall. Cathy extended appreciation to those people who took charge of repairs at the Falls (need mentioned at last Chamber meeting). The day after that meeting, Terry Rutledge took care of having boards replaced on the boardwalk as well as some landscaping. Appreciation also extended to Trevor Gammon for supplying the lumber. Cathy also thanked everyone who volunteered for the committees indicating there is room for more helpers if anyone is willing.

- 6.0 **President's Report:** Tom welcomed Anne Thomas back and extended appreciation to Anne for her participation in Imagine Our Schools. Phase 2 of our plan is to build a multi purpose facility. Contrary to existing rumours, Tom emphasized that the Chamber does not make a decision on where a school is constructed but that decision rests with the School Board. The School Board makes determination on what classes will be housed within the school and school location. A feasibility study will need to be conducted and the company awarded the contract will provide a conceptual drawing of this building. Three levels of government involved with MP facility with Bill Owens, Economic Development offering 50%, Chamber 10% to cover feasibility study costs. Will need to come up with remaining monies for completion. Tom thanked Terry Rutledge and Trevor Gammon who offered services and resources in fixing the boards, parking

Sheet Harbour and Area Chamber of Commerce & Community Affairs
Lions Centre, Sheet Harbour, N.S.
May 4, 2011

and some landscaping. Tom thanked Tom Myers for his quick response in offering to help.

7.0 New Business:

- 7.1 Tom will invite Brian Butts, CEO HRM to meet with the Board Directors.
- 7.2 **Flag Poles:** 12 or 13 flag poles will be set up as you come into the village at the Falls. Flags will represent the provinces, the Territories, United States and England. Trevor is researching price and will sell at cost price.
- 7.3 **Fundraising:** Norma McLeod presented an enlarged photograph done by Kay Boutilier's daughter-in-law Frances, and requested that the Chamber give permission to cover costs of framing as this could be used to raise money. Norma thoughts are that this and other local pictures would make great postcards and generate revenue for the Chamber. Norma suggested a competition could be initiated with artists submitting their photographs for selection. Post cards would be made from winning pictures. Tom asked Sandy for feedback on this idea. Sandy suggested that this be routed through the Art Group as well as on the webpage. Carol Makinson will speak to a colleague regarding possible donation of photographs.
- 7.4 **Reception:** A reception will be held at the Chamber's June meeting. Everyone is asked to bring refreshments i.e. sandwiches, sweets. This will be the last meeting prior to summer break.

- 8.0 **Adjournment:** There being no further business to discuss, Anne Thomas called for adjournment at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendie Russell, Secretary

Please advise Wendie Russell of any errors or omissions within 7 days or if you feel these notes do not appropriately reflect the discussions that took place.