

**Sheet Harbour and Area Chamber of Commerce & Community Affairs**  
**Lions Centre, Sheet Harbour, N.S.**  
**September 7, 2011**

**Present:** Anthony Farris, Jason Muis, Anne Thomas, Barry Thomas, Anke and Seigfried Beichmanis, Kay Boutilier, John Wood, Eugene Holman, Clark R. Mortimer, Tom McNair, Tom McInnis, Terry Rutledge, Gordie Holman, Tom Myers, Art MacKenzie, Jack MacDonald, Jack Marshall, Cathy Farris, Sandy Moser, Anthony Turner, Brenda McInnis, Ruby Gammon, Ralph LeBlanc, Wayne Malay

**Minutes**

- 1.0 **Call to Order:** Chair Tom McInnis called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.
- 2.0 **Approval of Agenda:** It was moved by Ralph LeBlanc and seconded by Tom McNair that the agenda be approved as circulated.
- 3.0 **Approval of Minutes:** It was moved by Tom Myers and seconded by Junior Martin that the minutes of June 1, 2011 be approved with change of wording under Heritage Society Newsflash changing “travelling” students to “VIC staff” Carried.
- 4.0 **Business Arising from Minutes:** There was no business arising from minutes.
- 5.0 **Committee Reports:**
  - **Art Society:** Sandy reported that the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Art Sale and Exhibition was held in August with 21 exhibitors. Attendance and sales were down from previous years. Local people are tending not to come out. Sandy encouraged everyone to come out to these events.
  - **Friends of Taylors Head:** Sandy Moser reported for Warren Parsons. Approximately \$350 was raised at the yard sale. Family Day not well attended. All encouraged to participate in the walks around Spry Bay Trail.
  - **Heritage Society:** John Wood reported that visits to the Heritage Museum were affected by tourism this year. The funding for 5 students allowed for the Heritage Society to work in collaboration with the Art Society in featuring local artists. It was suggested that it would be interesting to do a history of the mill and perhaps interview some former workers. It was generally agreed that we should be capturing stories from our community elders. Ruby offered her store as a place where folks could come in and tell their stories. Ruby will head up a committee to work on this.
  - **Multi Purpose Facility:** Gorge Childs and Robert Moser unable to be here. Tom will offer an update as part of the President’s report.
  - **Tourism McPhee House:** Cathy Farris reported various activities occurred at the Centre over the summer months. Funding of 5 students and a manager meant that more activities could be arranged such as concerts, artist of the week displays, and tours of McPhee House and Museum. From the end of May to the end of August, there were 3,357 visits. Conversations had with the tourists, enticed many to stay to explore the community. The manager will be in place until Thanksgiving weekend. Cathy thanked Norma McLeod for her contributions to gardening and beautification around McPhee House grounds and Hawes’ Trucking for providing loom. Continue to work on a leasing agreement with HRM. Cathy thanked everyone for making this year a success.
  - **President’s Report:** Tom thanked Janice Christie, Wanda Purcell and Betty Jean Daye for coordinating the Chamber Bingo with over \$500 being raised.

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This bingo will become an annual event. Tom also thanked Cathy Farris, Judith Hare and John Wood for the tremendous job they did in ensuring the VIC and McPhee House succeeded. Tom indicated that the Chamber is working on a lease agreement with HRM, and although have not yet come to a mutual agreement, will continue to work on this. Tom thanked Tanya Malay for her dedication in ensuring Seaside Festival was successful. Tom also thanked Julie Adamson Miller for her work on the beautiful banners and Wayne Malay for his continued work with the sidewalks/main street. The Chamber is planning a fall banquet for October 15<sup>th</sup> featuring Peter McKay as guest speaker. A roast beef dinner is planned with desserts being supplied by Chamber members. A silent auction is planned. The cost of the tickets is \$30.00.

- We are nearing conclusion on drawing up a draft Request for Tender for the Multi Purpose facility feasibility study. This study will cost approximately \$50,000 to \$70,000 of which 10% will be paid by the Chamber. The Tank will be torn down possibly in 2012 but we first must exercise due diligence in ensuring correct processes are followed. Paving will soon occur on Main Street with bike lanes marked. We are having discussions with Eastlink regarding cable services to our area. The crosswalk at Church Point remains a challenge. Tom welcomed Inspector Darcy and Staff Sgt. Steve Merrick to the meeting. Tom wished Staff Sgt. Merrick well on his upcoming retirement.

**New Business:**

- 5.1 **Neighbourhood Watch:** Wayne reported 3 cases of vandalism including a globe being broken, removal of stakes from trees and control panel lock cut off and breaker turned off. Wayne asked that everyone keep a watchful eye for such activities.
  - 5.2 **Municipal Boundary Review. Proposal:** Tom encouraged all to go on line and vote. Deadline Sept 9<sup>th</sup>.
  - 5.3 Anne Thomas expressed concern that the sand was not swept off sidewalks after last winter. Tom will follow up to ensure this is done next spring.
  - 5.4 **Hospital:** Concerns expressed that we are losing nurses, and there is a fear that we will eventually lose services and our hospital. This is seen as a problem as more people choose to retire in this community. Anne Thomas suggested that we write a letter to CDHA requesting a public meeting as is now happening in the Musquodoboit Harbour area. There is concern with Sheila Martin retiring, that we will not have an advocate for our community.
  - 5.5 **Volunteer of Year HRM:** A suggestion was put forward for submission. Tom will follow up.
  - 5.6 **Rick Hanson Relay:** Presentation at School September 15<sup>th</sup>.
- 6.0 **Adjournment:** Anthony Turner moved for adjournment at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendie Russell, Secretary