

## Sheet Harbour & Area Chamber of Commerce & Civic Affairs

May 2, 2012

7:30 p.m., Lion's Centre

Presentation: Volunteer Fire Department: David Josey, Chief Volunteer Fire Department gave a presentation on our Volunteer Fire Service. The Fire Department was formed in 1936 under the Board of Trade. With an increasing aging population, increased risks and declining membership, a drive is currently underway to recruit new volunteer fire fighters from Moser River to East Ship Harbour. A flyer will be mailed out. David asked that all business members promote membership. Tom McInnis thanked David for coming out to present to the Chamber.

### Minutes

1. Chair Tom McInnis called the meeting to order at 8:10 p.m. Tom thanked everyone for coming out.
2. **Agenda:** It was moved by Ralph LeBlanc and seconded by Janice Christie that the agenda be approved with the following addition under New Business: Registry of Motor Vehicles, Sheet Harbour. Motion Carried.
3. Business Arising: No business arising.
4. Committee Newsflash Reports:
  - Art Society: deferred. A clean up is scheduled for Sunday, May 6 with folks meeting at Taylor's Head at 8:00 a.m.
  - Heritage Society: John Wood reported that the McPhee House was visited by Fleet Guiding Unit since our last meeting to verify various munitions are safe. Documentation was held up in Ottawa on dealing with these. Heritage Society continues to meet monthly on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday at the Hospital. John thanked Tom for writing letter regarding needed membership.
  - McPhee House: Cathy Farris reported that they have hired one employee for 20 weeks beginning May 14<sup>th</sup>. As we have not heard back regarding the federal grant, we are not anticipating receiving funding. Hopeful that the Tourism Association will fill in gaps with summer students to assist in operating McPhee House. Terry Rutledge has been replacing siding, priming the kiosks. A work party will be organized on the May long weekend.
  - SHAD: Deferred as Wayne Malay is away on business. Tom reported that summer maintenance is ready to go.
5. Open Pen Fishing: A moratorium is being requested until all concerns are addressed and more information is known. The Chamber has communicated with the Premier and copied the Minister of Fisheries outlining their concerns. No response to date has been received. We have requested a meeting.
6. Community Transportation: Harold Taylor reported that he; Myrene Keating-Owen, Sheila Martin and Luci Quigley have met to work on this. 25% of money must come from the community. The feasibility study will cost \$10,000. More community support is needed. Four letters of support have been received so far and asking business leaders for letters to commit to

some monies. Some of this support can come “in kind” i.e. accountant hours, community space, etc. Luci has donated her hours. The deadline has been extended to May 15<sup>th</sup>. If anyone is interested, please leave contact number with Harold before leaving.

7. President’s Report: Tom reported there is a busy schedule leading into the summer months. We received a commitment last year from the Minister of Natural Resources regarding taking down the tank. Tom has written a second letter. Department of Transportation has been written several times regarding the cleaning up of sand along the road. There is a concern with perpetual long waiting time at the Registry of Motor Vehicles office. We will petition to have a local person trained and increased hours for the community. Tom congratulated the School working group on their presentation to the School Board as we are now number 1 on the list for a new P12 school. The School Board has agreed with the associated Multi Purpose facility. There are upcoming meetings with the HRM/School Board. We will need to conduct a feasibility study (\$50-\$70K). The Chamber is currently looking at funding and sustainability of a new multi purpose facility. Wendie Russell is giving up her duties on the Chamber as her job role has changed and she will be travelling. Janice Christie has agreed to assume the secretarial role.
8. Other Items:
  - Wilderness Area: Moser River – Proposal put forth to make areas from Moser River to Lochaber Mines protected preservation area. There is concern that there has been no public consultation on this.
  - Heritage House: 2 fluorescent fixtures need replacing – passage way upstairs. Cathy will check with HRM.
  - Open Pen: Sandy Moser is attending a meeting this evening.
  - RCMP: Cpl Flannigan reported the RCMP are at full strength. The office support position is reduced. The detachment is working closely with Department of Fisheries office during the lobster season.
9. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Wendie Russell