

**Sheet Harbour and Area Chamber of Commerce & Community Affairs**  
**Lions Centre, Sheet Harbour, N.S.**  
**Minutes of AGM February 3, 2010**

**Present:** Tom McInnis, Wayne Malay, Janice Malay, Sue Foote, Mark Fitton, Antony Turner, Tom Myers, Elwood Owen, Dawn Howe-Power, Jack MacDonald, John Wood, Wanda Purcell, Brenda McInnis, Anka Beichmanis, Jr. Martin, John and Carol Makinson, Ralph LeBlanc, Tom McNair, Gordie Holman, Kay Boutilier, Helen Miller, Gordon Holman, Patricia Holman, Eugene Holman, Sheila Martin, Ruby Gammon, Sandy Moser, Robert Moser, Jack Marshall, Warren Parsons, Cathy Farris, June McInnis, George Child, Katie Tait

**Regrets:** Jim Burke, Anne Thomas

**Minutes**

- 1.0 **Welcome:** Chair Tom McInnis opened the meeting at 7 p.m. thanking everyone for attending. Tom also took this opportunity to promote the Spring Fling scheduled for March 6, 2010 at the Lions Centre.
- 2.0 **Approval of Agenda: It was moved by Robert Moser and seconded by Ralph LeBlanc that the agenda be approved with the addition by Ruby Gammon of an unsightly and hazardous building.**
- 3.0 **Minutes of AGM January 15, 2009:** Tom apologized to the Chamber that the minutes of 2009 AGM were not available. The minutes will be circulated as soon as they do become available.
- 4.0 **Business Arising from Minutes:** will be deferred until minutes are available.
- 5.0 **Treasurer's Report:** Jack Marshall distributed the financial reports. Jack reported that although we are in a deficit position, our financial position should improve if we maintain our membership and continue with our fund raising efforts. One time expenses have contributed to our deficit position i.e. McPhee House, insurance and website. It was noted by Sheila Martin that we need to step up our fundraising efforts. **Jack Marshall made a motion for adoption of the financial report as presented; seconded by Ralph LeBlanc. Motion carried.**
- 6.0 **President's Report:** Tom McInnis reported that the Chamber has had a busy and productive year. The town hall meeting held on February 28, 2009 at the Lions Hall was productive and well attended with 150 people in attendance. This past year saw the completion of design and engineering for the main street project with tenders being awarded to Strait Engineering and Amber Construction.; the incorporation of Sheet Harbour and Development with Wayne Malay, President and Jack Marshall, Treasurer. Funding of \$500,000 was received from **A**COA conditional with money being spent by March 31, 2011. Tom reported they were successful in having time extended in which to spend the money. Consequently a stop work order has been put in place with \$300,000. being spent over the next year. Tom thanked co-committee members: Wayne Malay, Jack Marshall and Ralph LeBlanc for their tireless work on this project. Conversations have been had with the HRM and Amber Construction regarding the creation of a store front office. Tom was pleased to report that an experienced Project Manager has been

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selected, and they are in the process of preparing to sign a formal agreement with this individual. From the \$3.5 million stimulus money received, \$600,000 to \$700,000 will be used to complete the main street project. Further deliberations will occur on how remaining monies will be spent. Meetings are being led by Robert Moser and George Child in consideration of a Quality of Life building. This project has been brought forward to HRM, and has been selected by HRM as six of six projects that will be considered this coming year. This project is larger than the streetscape, requires an incredible amount of work and community buy in. Our first steps will be to participate in feasibility study (cost of about \$70,000). This study will look at what the community desires, sustainability and costs. Tom concluded by thanking all committee chairs and volunteers who have contributed and continue to contribute to the Chamber. Although present membership is at eighty, Tom reiterated that we continue to need more involvement from our business community. Tom thanked the Chamber for the opportunity to serve.

- 7.0 **Nominating Committee:** Ralph LeBlanc reported that the nominating committee had contacted a number of people to verify their interest in serving on the Executive/Board of Directors. The following names were put forward: President, Tom McInnis, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice, Don McDonald, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice, George Child, Treasurer, Jack Marshall, Secretary, Wendie Russell, Directors: Ralph LeBlanc, Janice Christie, Sheila Martin, Mark Fitton, Wayne Malay, Antony Turner, Ruby Gammon, Sandy Mosher, and Dawn Howe-Power. **Ralph moved that the nominations be adopted. Motion Carried.**
- 8.0 **New President's Remarks:** Tom thanked the Chamber for their vote of confidence and encouraged anyone wishing to put their name forward in the future, to do so, as he would continue to assist in anyway he could. Tom commended Brenda for the work she does to assist he and the Chamber. Tom reiterated there is much work to be done and that community support is needed. He is hopeful, as development continues that the Sheet Harbour Area and Development Incorporation will be the parent organization to several groups within the community. Town Hall meeting is scheduled for February 27<sup>th</sup>. Tom asked that agenda items be forwarded to him as soon as possible as he would like to include these in the community mail out. The Spring Fling, with Darrell Dexter as guest speaker, is scheduled for Saturday, March 6. The working committee is currently looking for business donations for the silent auction. A three course meal is being offered with salad, roast beef and dessert. Desserts will be donated by membership. People are asked to come out to a Regional Community Council meeting on February 24<sup>th</sup>. A number of Councillors have been asked to attend. A committee report will be received "Future Boundaries HRM". A good showing will assist in showing Metro that they are important to us. Ruby Gammon is coordinating the lunch. Tom is encouraged that we will have a first class nursing home built in Sheet Harbour, that the Board of Directors have been very responsible in the handling of this project and that he is prepared to work with them to assist in anyway he can. Tom was not happy on how McPhee House was operated this year and has had conversations regarding this. He is also exploring possibility of hiring summer students. Although this has

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- 9.0 been a busy year, we have much to celebrate as we are on the verge of having the sidewalk completed, a beautiful and safer road, and no drainage problems. The possibilities for the multi-purpose facility are many and could include daycare, seniors group, meeting rooms, youth space, bowling alley, theatre, etc. Foresee that a parent group could oversee this space. RFP will ask that options be explored, show costs and costs to operate
- 10.0 **New Business:** Ruby Gammon expressed concerns about the condition of the building that used to be the old theatre. She feels the building is an eyesore in the community and poses a definite fire threat. Ruby has been in touch with Unsightly Properties regarding this building and if she has not heard back within the next few weeks, encourages people to call HRM to see if something can be done i.e. restoration or demolish. Ruby suggested this would make an ideal down town parking area. Ruby will ensure an update is forwarded for next meeting.
- 11.0 **Valentine's Dance, February 13:** Katie Tait announced that the newly formed Sheet Harbour Music Association is hosting a Valentine's Dance on February 13<sup>th</sup> with proceeds to go to the Families of Schools Music Program.
- 12.0 **Adjournment.** There being no further business to discuss, Junior Martin called for adjournment at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendie Russell  
Secretary