

Sheet Harbour and Area Chamber of Commerce & Community Affairs
Lions Centre, Sheet Harbour, N.S.
January 6, 2010

Present: Tom McInnis, Wayne Malay, Warren Parsons, Sheila Martin, Kay Boutilier, Helen Miller, Norma McLeod, Terry McLeod, Eugene Holman, Sue Levy, Don McDonald, Tom McNair, Helen Pinfield, George Child, Mark Krause, Robert Moser, Sandy Moser, Jack Marshall, Anthony Farris, Cathy Farris, Anne Thomas, Gordon Holman, Mark Fitton, Dawn Howe-Power, Elwood Owen, Jack MacDonald, Jr. Martin, Katie Tait, Ralph LeBlanc, Anka & Seigfried Beichmanis.

Minutes

1. The meeting was called to order by Chair Tom McInnis at 7:30 p.m. Tom thanked everyone for coming and welcomed Wendie Russell in her role as secretary.
2. **Agenda:** The agenda was approved with the addition under New Business: Webpage sub committee reports - Sandy Moser and Fund Raising Committee, Education Committee - Tom McInnis.
3. **Approval of Minutes from November 4, 2009:** It was moved by Jack Marshall and seconded by Dawn Howe-Power that the minutes of November 4th be approved as circulated. Tom apologized that the minutes were not posted on the webpage; these will be posted in the future.
4. **Business Arising from Minutes:** No business arising from minutes of November 4th.

5. Committee News Flash:

Art Society – Sandy Moser - We had a successful Seaside Festival; however the Society is planning on increasing their marketing next year. The brochure will be posted on the website.

Broadband - Wayne Malay - Most of work will be completed by end of January with final completion mid-February. Towers are operational in Mooseland, Beaver Harbour. Because test showed a weak transmission in Malay Falls/Lochaber Mines area, there will be a small tower installed in that area.

Economic Development and Transportation Committee - Tom McInnis reported that this is back on track and invitations to participate will be extended to members and appropriate political persons.

Friends of Taylor Head Park - Warren Parsons - Concerned about the damage done from previous storm to the road, and possible further damage. Warren has passed along these concerns to both Parks and Natural Resources. The Bird count was successful with about 20 to 25 people in attendance.

Watershed Committee - Warren Parsons - Nothing to report.

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Fundraising - Tom McInnis reported for Sharon McDonald. Tom commended Sharon for a job well done, and notably Junior Martin for his role in selling tickets. This group is in need of volunteers; Tom encouraged members to come forward.

Heritage Society - John Wood - The Society continues to meet monthly on the 2nd Tuesday at ESMH Multi-Purpose Room beginning at 7 p.m. John reported that 3 initiatives are currently underway. John will have more to report next month.

Port Committee - Don MacDonald - Met with management from Border Group, Dalhousie. The study has been completed with three recommendations being made. Meeting is scheduled tentatively for 14th to review and discuss. Outcome dependent on NSBI and Committee review and approval.

Quality of Life Committee - Robert Moser - meeting held on November 30th. Additional members have been recruited for this committee. The necessary steps have been taken to ensure this project is on grid for prioritization. When this is complete, we will be able to act on recommendations from study. Time is of the essence as monies will need to be spent prior to March end.

Waterfront Development and Main Street - Wayne Malay - Work did start on this project in December with some digging be done however change in weather conditions as well as compaction testing needing to be performed, to ensure standards are met, necessitates delaying further work until spring. The start time for this project was not great but this was dictated by the need to spend the money within timeframe. Wayne estimates completion date to be about mid-July to mid-august. When the sidewalk is completed, Department of Transportation will be paving Main Street from bridge to bridge but probably not until October. Tom will be interviewing for a project manager relatively soon. Tom has been working through Job Search as the plan is to hire a local contractor and to employ locally. A traffic control course will be offered in Sheet Harbour (fee of \$45.00 per person). In excess of 20 applications have been received.

- 6. President's Report:** The past few months have been very busy with processes being put in place to ensure stimulus money is being spent as mandated while ensuring work moves forward on main street project. With \$500,000 needing to be spent prior to March end, we have managed to shelve \$300,000 of that until next year. A stop work order has gone out to contractor. Above funds of \$2.37 million allocated, the Department of Transportation will be building cross sessions which should eliminate all drainage problems. It has been a difficult and lengthy process but once completed, but will greatly enhance and beautify Main Street. A streetscape meeting will be called within a week to ten days. Tom also commended Chamber members for their dedication and commitment to this community. As a member of the Nova Scotia Chamber of Commerce, he has not seen this level of commitment across the province, and thanked members for a job well done. Tom also is pleased to see the Education Committee on track.

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7. New Business:

- 7.1. **Town Hall Meeting Date:** February 27th set. Tom asked that members forward possible topics for agenda to him. Coastal erosion might be a topic.
- 7.2. **HRM Community Council Meeting in Sheet Harbour:** Tom has made a request of the Mayor's office that HRM Council come to Sheet Harbour for a council meeting. At the least, we should have a community council meeting here perhaps in March.
- 7.3. **Fund-raising:** Planning a Chamber Awards night sometime in March. Volunteers are needed with additional efforts being put into selling tickets.
- 7.4. **Murals:** Sandy Moser has volunteered to take to Art Group re feasibility of creating murals in Sheet Harbour, particularly the tank.
- 7.5. **HRM Volunteers Recognition:** Letter received from HRM regarding Volunteer Recognition Award. Deadline for nomination is 4 p.m. on January 28th. Members are asked to submit names to Wendie Russell with a brief explanation as to why they are nominating an individual.
- 7.6. **Website:** Sandy Moser reported that members may email their reports to Sandy and she will have posted on the website as well as any upcoming or current events. Wendie will send out Sandy's email address to members.
- 7.7. **Fundraising Committee:** Volunteering: Sandy Moser, Junior Martin, Sheila Martin, Dawn Howe, Kay Boutilier, Norma McLeod, Helen Miller, Wanda Purcell, and Cathy Farris (after July). Tom will forward names to Sharon McDonald.

8. Other Agenda Items:

- 8.1. **Cable:** Tom inquired as to why we do not champion our cause for cable. We will pursue inviting East Link and Alliant to future meeting.

9. **Adjournment:** There being no further business, it was moved by Jack Marshall and seconded by Sue Levy that the meeting be adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Wendie Russell, Secretary