

Sheet Harbour & Area Chamber of Commerce & Civic Affairs
September 5, 2012 - MINUTES
7:30 pm, Lion's Centre

Present: Douglas Keating, John Wood, Norma McLeod, Randall Holman, Ralph LeBlanc, Harold Taylor, Anthony Farris, Cathy Farris, Sandy Moser, Robert Moser, Mark Krause, Myrene Keating-Owen, Andy Wright, Dawn Howe-Power, Glenda Stein, Doug Stein, Wayne Malay, Brenda McInnis, Anthony Turner, Art MacKenzie, Tom McNair, Terry Rutledge, Helen Pinfield, Jeff Hogg, Gordie Holman, Tom McInnis, Janice Christie.

1. Tom called the meeting to order at 7:30. He thanked everyone for coming.

2. The approval of the agenda was moved by Ralph LeBlanc and seconded by Sandy Moser. Motion carried.

3. Brenda McInnis approved the minutes of June 6, 2012 as circulated and they were seconded by Tom McNair.

4. There was no new business arising from the minutes.

Committee Newsflash Reports:

- ART SOCIETY: Sandy Moser reported that a very successful Art Exhibition and Sale was held the end of July. The Artist of the Year who was featured was the late Dawn McCourt. Another interested in joining to paint or chat, contact Sandy. At the sale they sold tickets and raised \$500 to donate a bursary to a local student. Any one interested in quilting on Tuesday afternoons, contact Rosalie Parsons at 772-2207. Would an Open House be worthwhile....or perhaps would an art demonstration be beneficial to the community? They meet the second Wednesday of every month.
- FRIENDS OF TAYLOR'S HEAD BEACH: Warren Parsons absent. Sandy reported they had a successful year. Jim Cameron organized bird activities , an astronomy night and a geological walk. In September there will be a Botany walk.

The gates will be open until the first weekend in December. Contact president Warren Parson for more information.

- HERITAGE SOCIETY: John Wood announced they had an active summer but the donations were half of last year. They are launching a website re: MacPhee House . There are new exhibits which are bricks from the Red Cross Hospital and they have a 'story' from Ab Murphy. They meet the 4th Wednesday of the month in the Board Room of the ESMH. Tom has a photo of the first sulphite mill in Canada which he offered to MacPhee House.
- TOURISM: Cathy Farris acknowledged Terry Rutledge , Doug Stein and Tom McNair for putting up the bird houses within the business district. As of the end of July 2318 visitors. Above last year. There was no cost re: employees as they were funded by NS Economic Renewal and local tourism association. The manager was May 14 - Sept 28 and students were May 28 - August 31 and 16 days in September. She reviewed the work that had been done on site by staff and volunteers. There was a Seaside Festival float, a scavenger hunt, games day, children's day and tours conducted by staff. Closing October 1. Ralph inquired about report and Cathy said she is required to send a report re: use of funds and what was achieved.
- SHAD: Wayne Malay said the committee had taken the summer off and the Board of Directors had not met for 3-4 months. Halifax Port Authority is now managing the Sheet Harbour Port. This committee (SHAD) is indirectly involved with the Multi-Purpose Centre being connected to the school. He commented how good a job Scott Sharpe had done throughout the summer with the upkeep of the sidewalks.
- RURAL TRANSPORTATION: Harold Taylor announced that as of July 30 a \$30,000 grant has been approved for a feasibility study for rural transportation. With the assistance of Lucy Quigley, this will be conducted before December and an application will be submitted for a Pilot Plan.
- PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Tom reported it had been a busy summer and thanks to **all the volunteers** who work behind the scenes!

- He introduced Doug Keating who has returned to be Mine Manager at the Port Dufferin mines.
- He spoke of the Port Authority and marketing the Port of Sheet Harbour. There will be a steering committee with whom the Chamber will have direct input.
- A committee will need to be struck to discuss the location for the school.
- The Multi-purpose facility has been part of the Ekistics Plan, of which there are several more phases. He reminded of the original meeting held several years ago with all the local groups discussing such a facility that would enable groups to share the overhead.
- He noted upcoming Christmas season with a parade and tree lighting .
- He would like to see a group come together to plan a forum to discuss the economy of rural Nova Scotia and in particular, the Eastern Shore.
- The Halifax Port Authority will advertise for a person in the community re Marketing. \$75,000 salary, solely dedicated to Sheet Harbour marketing. He would like to see a 'Local' person get the position.
- He encourages us to build the infrastructure here and be proactive and be prepared.
- The fall banquet will be Saturday, October 13. Currently looking for a guest speaker. Also a Silent Auction to be held.

New Business:

- Doug Stein inquired about local businesses staying open later than 9:00 pm.
- Helen Pinfield inquired as to when The Tank would be removed. Tom explained the removal process was with due diligence. Natural resources has to determine what is underneath it.

5. NEXT MEETING: October 3, 2012 , 7:30 pm

6. ADJOURNMENT: Norma McLeod called for adjournment.

Respectively Submitted
 Janice C. Christie
 Secretary