

SHEET HARBOUR & AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & CIVIC AFFAIRS

(CCA)

November 9, 2013

In Attendance: Art MacKenzie, Helen Penfield, Vernon Best, Chris Snow, Anthony Farris, Marilyn Munroe, Eugene Holman, Patricia Holman, John Jellymore, Dolly Boutilier, Shirley Boutilier, Deanna Currie, Andy Wright, Terry McLeod, Robert Moser, Sandy Moser, Wayne Malay, Doug Stein

President Tom McInnis called the meeting to order at 10 am, welcoming everyone.

2) Approval of the agenda: moved by Art MacKenzie, seconded by Jimmy Lowe.

3) Approval of the minutes of last meeting Oct5, 2013: moved by Robert Moser, seconded by Doug Stein. There were a couple of typos which have been corrected.

4) No new business arising from the minutes

5) COMMITTEE REPORTS

Art Society:

Sandy Moser reported that they are looking for new members.

Taylor Head Park will be open to Dec8, 2013 this year.

Also, Sandy and Meryl Atkinson are starting a Tourism and Marketing committee and looking for new members.

Heritage Society:

Tom advised that Judy Smiley is no longer involved in the Heritage Society and there is a need for someone to volunteer since both John Wood and Judy Smiley are no longer involved.

Janice Malay (acting secretary) suggested that perhaps The Tourism and Marketing Committee could take over some of the responsibilities of John Wood since most involved contacts with partners.

MacPhee House: Tourism and Waterfrong Development Report

*PN report from Cathy Farris at the end of the minutes

Tom McInnis added a few comments regarding MacPhee House.

- successful meeting with Mayor Mike Savage on Nov22, 2013
- pointed out the cost to run Macphee House since there is no further financial support from HRM
- over the past few years the total number of visitors to MH was 11,500.
- Tom stressed the importance of having a VIC in our community.
- Noting the report from Cathy, she will not be available to run the VIC next year.
- She will submit grant applications for the 2014 season

MacPhee House cont'd

It cost \$13,000 for the Chamber to run MH VIC for the past 3 years. Next year there will be only a federal grant, no provincial grant.

SHADC (Sheet Harbour Area Development Corp):

Tom reported for Wayne Malay. He explained that this was set up to handle major projects in our community, an example being the sidewalks through Sheet Harbour.

Port Steering Committee:

Tom also reported on this committee.

Our port is being managed by the Halifax Port Authority. Our community is being kept informed annually, regarding port activity, via the Port Steering Committee. The Steering committee is kept updated by the Halifax Port Authority. It is estimated at this time that there will be a profit next year.

Economic Development:

Tom explained briefly that this committee includes representation from ACOA, Economic Development, NSBI and Greater Halifax Partnership.

Treasurer's Report:

Jeff Hogg not available.

President's Report:

Meeting with MLA Lloyd Hines:

The following issues were discussed with Mr. Hines at a recent meeting with Chamber directors and Mr Hines.

- 2 projects about to be announced, one being construction of a new East River Bridge and the other being the building of a new school (P -12) which will include a multi purpose facility and theatre for the community.
- The multi purpose facility/theatre were included in the original Ekistics plan which also included a marina.
- Mr Hines is aware of these projects and has prior experience with similar projects as warden of Guysborough County

Paving

- final 10km of Hwy 374 need to be paved
- road to the Sheet Harbour wharf also needs to be paved

Government Employee

- We need a government office/employee in Sheet Harbour
- This employee could handle both government and Chamber work/issues
- Will be discussing with the mayor when he comes down

Wildlife Association

- The current family is relinquishing operation of the Wildlife property
- The Chamber is considering taken it over rather than losing the benefits of the property to the community
- Tom feels that it is important to the economy of the area
- This was also included in the Ekistics Plan

6) Additional Items

Art Mackenzie suggested that our council member should set up an office in Sheet Harbour. One is planned for Musquodobit Harbour.

Tom commented that we are helping Lloyd Hines set up an office in Sheet Harbour which will be open a couple of days ago

There was a brief discussion regarding the following topics

- encourage more businesses to join the Chamber
- Helen Penfield requested a bowling alley (something to do in the evening)
- Cleaning up derelict buildings
- Street Beautification
 - Ruby Gammon volunteered to have a mural on their building
 - Also noted was the placement of banners along the street initiated by Julie Adamson Miller
- It was proposed to take an inventory of potential sites in Sheet Harbour that require improvement and the Chamber consider possible further action to make the necessary improvements.
- Issues re lack of tv stations available at the senior's home

Meeting adjourned at 11:15

December meeting will be

Respectfully Submitted

Janice Malay for Janice Christie (Recording Secretary)

Tourism & Waterfront Development Report
Nov9, 2013

- 1) Marina- No Report. We are still waiting for decisions to be made on facility
- 2) Tourism- Judith Hare and Cathy Farris
 - a) Roger Brooks' Report- Oct22,2013, Liscombe Lodge
The following attended- Sandy, Meryl, Anthony, Brian, Marilyn, Scott, Dave.
Mr Brooks was hired to assess the marketing effectiveness and make on-site assessments of the Eastern Shore. Funding was provided by ACOA and NS TIR and Tourism. His report was informative, entertaining and, sometimes, uncomfortable. In summary, he says that we need to market the Eastern Shore as one, stressing our best attractions! We must set ourselves apart from the rest of the shores of NS (de-emphasize the seafood, coastline and Drive). He has many suggestions and marketing strategies that were explained and are in his report that will be available to DEANS.
By the way, the Henley House was given distinction. The MH VIC recd a good rept (except staff would not make restaurant recommendations.)
 - b) VIC Finale
A meeting of the regional VICs was led by Kara Allen of DEANS. Stats were reviewed and a more efficient reporting process suggested. The Senior Volunteer program was discussed and advertising suggested. In Mid June DEANS will host a Regional Fam Tour (familiarity). At this time, local brochures can be shared with the other VICs. Any business that has brochures should have them at our VIC when it opens (June 1?)
We were given homework to review the Eastern Shore Travel Guide, My additions and changes were sent on to Holly Quick. Kara gave me a beautiful starfish picture, which I passed onto Judy for her work and her desire to rtn to VIC next year. We will hang it in the VIC. Walkway in front of MH is being replaced. Thanks to Terry Rutledge for taking down the bird houses and putting away the flower boxes at MH. Safe for another year.

Pls consider assuming command of the MH as I will not be taking on this responsibility next year.

Presented by Cathy Farris