

Sheet Harbour & Area Chamber of Commerce & Civic Affairs (CCA)

Minutes of Meeting on Sunday, March 03, 2013. 1:30 PM
Upstairs of Lion's Centre

Present: Kay Boutilier, George Child, Cathy Farris, Eugene Holman, Patricia Holman, Karen Holman, Leonard Holman, Randall Holman, Gordie Holman, Dawn Howe-Power, Ralph LeBlanc, Wayne Malay, Jack Marshall, Brenda McInnis, Tom McInnis, Norma McLeod, Terry McLeod, Tom McNair, Helen Miller, Robert Moser, Sandy Moser, Helen Pennefeld, Anthony Turner, Bill Williams, Andy Wright

Regrets: Janice Christie, Jeff Hogg, Warren Parsons, Terry Rutledge, Kent Smith, John Wood

Meeting Called to Order at 1:30 PM

Welcome

President Tom McInnis welcomed everyone and also apologized to all those who showed up at the Lion's Centre on Saturday morning for a meeting that had been rescheduled for today.

Approval of Minutes

Rescheduled for the next meeting as many in attendance did not receive a copy of January's minutes and there were no extra's at this meeting to share.

Additions to Agenda

New items announced were Recycling Depot – HRM eliminating, Committee reports for Taylor Head, The Art Society, Finance Report, Marina Committee, #7 Highway, Port Dufferin to Ecum Secum and APES Vice President, Bill Williams, Gordon Hammond, Bay of Islands Destination.

A motion was made by Randall Holman and seconded by George Child to accept the additions to the agenda. Motion was carried.

Committee Reports:

1. MacPhee House Information Centre – Cathy Farris

A meeting has been scheduled for Monday, March 4th for this committee to review results of the grants that have been applied for under the Federal and Provincial Summer Works Programs. This committee also has a meeting scheduled to meet with the New Horizon's Club to discuss the volunteer program that MacPhee House is offering the seniors to fill in at the MacPhee House Information Centre when there is a shortage of summer students. The Committee also has sent a letter to St. Peter's Church Women's Group outlining the volunteer program and to ask if they might be interested in assisting.

2. Marina Committee – Cathy Farris

The new Marina Committee consists of the following seven members, Anthony Farris, Cathy Farris, Marika Finlay, Wayne Malay, Neil Parnell, Doug Stein with an eighth Mark Krause once he returns back from the USA. Any new members are welcome to sign on to this committee. They are in the process of raising monies to have a marketing/feasibility study completed. The Committee is looking at different locations to determine the best site for the Marina. Anthony and Cathy Farris attended the Boat Show and made many contacts with people who operate other marinas in the Province. The Bridgewater Marina members were extremely supportive and will remain mentors for this Committee whenever the need arises. Our Marina Committee have been collecting statistics on boat traffic and have started their own database. They have created an e-mail address easternshoreboating@gmail.com. Also the Committee would like to put an ad out in the local paper.

A motion was made by Cathy Farris and seconded by Wayne Malay for the Chamber of Commerce to pay for the \$25.00 advertisement. Motion was carried.

3. Heritage Society – John Wood

John Wood left notes on the activities of the Heritage Society via letter with President Tom McInnis read to the membership as follows: Next meetings of the Heritage Society are March 27th, April 24th in the Hospital Boardroom. The Heritage Society Open House will be held May 18th at the MacPhee House and there will be a

visit to Lewiston, the former clothespin factory on June 15th. He also expressed his concern over HRM eliminating the Recycling depots, job losses this would mean etc.

3. Friends of Taylor Head Beach – Sandy Moser

Sandy Moser sent regrets from Warren Parsons and gave the Committee report on his behalf. Presently there are 13 scheduled activities for the membership of the Taylor Head Beach Society and anyone is welcome to participate. The listing of these activities will be displayed on the Taylor Head web site, the Sheet Harbour Chamber web site and they will also be sent via e-mail to the Chamber membership. The Park will open early May if weather permits and will not be closing until after the first Saturday in December.

4. Art Society – Sandy Moser

The Art Exhibition will be held the third weekend in July this year. Everyone is encouraged to drop in and view all displays to see for themselves the talent here on the Eastern Shore.

5. Sheet Harbour & Area Chamber Web Site – Sandy Moser

Sandy is the administrator of the Web Site for the Chamber and she would encourage all businesses to go and have a look at their advertisement on this Web site and let her know of any changes, additions/omissions that need to be carried out.

6. Finance Committee – George Child

The new Finance Committee has had a meeting and have completed a listing of recommendations. They would like to meet with the Board of Director's at their next meeting to get first approval of these recommendations before bringing them forth to the whole membership for discussion and final approval. The President agreed that the Finance Committee would be on the Board of Director's agenda at the next meeting.

7. Multipurpose Facility – Tom McInnis

He explained that meetings were held on the Eastern Shore and the School Board would be filing their report to the Provincial Department of Education in early April. He explained that Councillor David Hendsbee attended all meetings and gave

him a full briefing. Tom urged the Committee to be the ones to determine the site of the new P – 12 School before it's taken out of the community's hands. He suggested looking at 3 sites between the bridges so that when the multipurpose facility is constructed in conjunction with the new school, it will be in a location convenient to users.

New Agenda Items:

- Highway #7 Bridge Repairs Moser River – Andy Wright, Manager of Northern Fibre who expressed his desire to have the Chamber of Commerce write a letter to the Province to get the appropriate repairs to the Ecum Secum bridge at the County line carried out so road classification can be changed to include b-train vehicles over the Highway #7 between Port Dufferin and Ecum Secum.

A motion was made by Andy Wright and seconded by Ralph LeBlanc to have the Chamber of Commerce President write a letter supporting repairs to the bridge to be carried out as soon as possible. Motion was carried.

- HRM Recycling Depots being eliminated – John Wood brought up his concerns in his letter, other members also expressed their concerns i.e. fundraising bottle drives, Cadets, many residents use the depot. There was a consensus from the floor that the President Tom McInnis draft a letter to the Mayor voicing our concerns.

- APES Update – Bill Williams, Vice President – For the past two weeks Mr. Williams has been at the Owls Head site of the Aquaculture Farms taking pictures and asking questions. He and his Association has grave concerns regarding the number of dead fish, the oil slick on the surface of the water, the fact that the dead fish are being trucked to a rendering site where they have to be frozen first before processing takes place, which he's never heard of. He feels this incident is a mirrored image of what happened at Owls Head in 2009. The Provincial Veterinarian has been called in and has taken samples of the dead fish. He is hoping they will share the results of the testing.

President Tom McInnis added that as a Senator on the Fisheries and Oceans Committee they were able to get approval for an Aquaculture Study and that the Terms of Reference for this study are being completed. There will be many witnesses from private property owners, marine biologists etc. He has drafted a letter

to go to the Premier of Nova Scotia asking him to delay any future approval of fish farms until this study is completed.

- Proposal Bay of Islands – Gordon Hammond, Lake Charlotte Heritage Society sent his proposal via e-mail asking to be brought forth to Chamber membership. President Tom McInnis discussed at length, protected areas should be much greater and this proposal should be part of something larger. National Parks employ many people. Liscombe Game Sanctuary, Taylor Head Beach, all the Islands, etc. Sandy Moser suggested that the Economic Development Committee should look at this proposal also. Discussions were held around the Provincial Government freezing 18 hectares of land in the Moser River area. Randall Holman told the membership that there will be a public meeting on this subject at the Lion's Centre in April if anyone was interested in attending.

A motion was made by Ralph LeBlanc and seconded by Robert Moser that President Tom McInnis consult with Gordon Hammond about a larger project re: National Park. Motion was carried.

The President asked the membership for permission to carry on with the meeting even though it would go beyond the 1 hour. Consensus was yes.

President's Report

A letter was received and read to the Chamber Membership from Charlie Parker, Minister of Natural Resources regarding the removal of "The Tank". Legal obligations involving the previous occupier have been completed. Work assessments have been completed and presently they are seeking the necessary funding to complete the removal.

The SHCOC Banquet scheduled for May 25, 2013 was discussed. The question of combined resources with the Lion's and Lionesses has not been answered and a conversation will be held at a later date with Janice Christie who was negotiating this. A question of a guest speaker was raised; one suggestion was the new Mayor.

An email was received from Kent Smith, Acting President of the Chamber attaching an email he had received from MLA Boudreau and Kent's response to it. The President had a file with many e-mails received from MLA Boudreau, as far back as 2010, most of which condemned the Chamber movement. The President will not welcome MLA Boudreau to the Board of Director's meetings and will not be

putting this MLA on any future agendas of the general membership meetings. Those in attendance all agreed that the Chamber would not be used as a political arena.

Next Meeting Date

Saturday, April 6th at 10:00 am and will continue to be the first Saturday of each month except for July and August.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 PM on a motion called by Wayne Malay.