

## **Sheet Harbour and Area Chamber of Commerce and Civic Affairs General Meeting on April 1st 2015 at Sheet Harbour Lions Centre**

**Present:** Janice Christie, Dawn Howe-Power, Sheila Spicer, Candace MacKean, Bill Armsworthy, Ralph LeBlanc, George Child, Marilyn Munroe, Sue Levy, Randy Levy, Heather Myers, Jamie Briggs, Janet Briggs, Trevor Gammon, Donald Rutledge, Warren Parsons, Ed Empringham, Mickey Shaw, Sandra Shaw, Jack Marshall, Wayne Malay, Terry Dwyer, Sandy Moser, Robert Moser, Meryl Atkinson

The meeting was called to order at 7.35pm

**Welcome** - Robert welcomed everyone and acknowledged the attendance of Terry Dwyer who will be giving a presentation at the end of the meeting.

**Approval of Minutes** - Minutes were read and Jack pointed out a spelling mistake in Larry Horton's name. The minutes were amended and were approved by Ralph and seconded by Jack.

**STEP program** - Sandy reported that there has only been one meeting so far. There will be a community meeting for residents and individual business owners to discuss what they would like to see as part of tourism on the Eastern Shore. When this phase is finished, we will go back to government and ACCOA who are interested in helping us.

Sandy also reported that there will be an open house at the Wildlife Club on April 11th from 10am till 3pm. This is being done by Nova Scotia Nature Trust who are interested in finding out more about the history of the islands. They also want to discuss the duties between the Parks, Natural Resources and the Wildlife management.

**Farmers' Market** - This is posted through Facebook. Sandy stated that they are looking for people who have any kind of fresh produce. The organizers are looking at the possibility of partnering with Middle and Upper Musquodoboit who will deliver fresh produce.

**Spring Banquet** - Janice reported that this will take place on May 23rd. Cocktails at 6.30pm and viewing of auction items. Dinner is at 7pm. Tickets will be on sale after May 2nd, are \$30 each and if you buy them from Scotiabank, they will match the sale. Marilyn is looking after the auction and has prepared a letter to go out to businesses asking for donations. Items can be dropped off at Sears, MacDonald Chisholm Trask Insurance and Peter MacKay's office. Cathy is looking after the desserts. The guest speaker is yet to be determined. Ruby and Meryl will take care of the decorating. Volunteers are needed for the day before to set up, peel vegetables etc.

**DEANS Gala** - Meryl informed the group that there is a DEANS fundraiser to be held on Thursday April 9th at the NSCC Pictou Campus. If anyone is interested in attending please let Meryl know.

**Marina** - Cathy sent her regrets. There is no up-to-date report but the committee is actively working on the development of a Marina in our area.

**Taylor Head** - Warren reported that the Park will be open in 6 weeks, if the snow goes and depending on the road conditions. If it does dry up, the gate may be open for the long weekend in May. Our website will be posted shortly. Information has gone out to members. There is a meeting a week from Saturday regarding the 100 wild islands. If you have any questions or concerns how the park, the management and the whole thing works together, I strongly suggest that you attend the meeting. It is a drop in from 10-3. Local highways department has been spoken to about the condition of the roads and if Natural Resources pay for it, they will fix it. Sometimes it is a private contractor that does the work which can run about \$70 an hour and it could take between 4 and 5 hours. Even though the park is closed, it has been busy with people snowshoeing and cross country skiing.

**Membership Dues** - a reminder that these are due.

**The Tank** - Robert reported that it has been removed. The ground has also been removed and taken to a clean site. When we did our Ekistics plan a few years ago, we included the development of that site. We are in the beginning stages of trying to acquire the land from DNR to use if for the completion of our plans to enhance the area. Candace asked what the plans are and Robert replied “to upgrade the trails, picnic tables, increase the Art Park, interpretive centre for the wild islands..we first need access to it”.

Marilyn introduced Terry Dwyer. Terry lives in Spanish Bay with his wife and children. He has worked in the Canadian recreational, commercial and scientific diving industry for 35 years. He has written a couple of books “Wreck Hunter - The Quest for Lost Shipwrecks” and “Wreck Hunter - Shipwrecks and Sunken Treasure”. Terry gave an informative and positive slide presentation, was available for questions and had one of his books available for purchase.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Meryl Atkinson