

Sheet Harbour and Area Chamber of Commerce and Civic Affairs General Meeting on January 7th 2015

In attendance. -

Regrets from Wayne Malay, Heather and Gary Myers.

Welcome. - Robert opened the meeting at 7.35pm

Approval of Agenda. - Mark approved and seconded by Penny

Minutes of November meeting were read. Approved by Dawn and seconded by Donald.

Larry Horton - It was previously agreed we should recognize Larry Harton for his work with the Sheet Harbour website and had invited him to attend our Christmas social but he was unable to attend. Robert will look into "Live at 5" Maritimer of the week as one possible way to recognize Larry.

Sidewalks. - Wayne and Tom met with Municipality and they agreed this will be the last year for us to take care of sidewalks. They will take care of it next year.

Multi-purpose Centre. - Cathy reported that the site was supposed to be announced prior to the end of 2014 which did not happen. February 2015 is when it will be presented to Council.

Christmas Social - Robert thanked Tom and Brenda for a very nice social at their home.

Wreaths - Robert reported that someone notified HRM that we were not working safely when putting up the wreaths. Discussion has taken place and more secure measures will be put in place.

Art Society. - Sandy mentioned that they have a painting group that meet once a week in the boardroom off the library. She encouraged everyone to check out the website and Facebook page.

Home Page - Sandy reported that over \$600 was raised for the new home page. Sandy is the contact for anyone wanting to place ads etc. Some people have said they have difficulty finding links to news, weather etc. Sandy reminded everyone that this is still work in progress.

Tourism - there will be an important announcement at the Lions Centre on Saturday January 24th. Minister Peter MacKay will be attending. Invitations will be sent out via mail, email etc. There will be a light lunch following the announcement and then a workshop session led by a consultant.

Town Square - Tom reported that there was a meeting with all levels of government about the MacPhee House. HRM own the property. Tom has an original photograph of the house which will be shown to the company that works on this project. The plan is to include the museum, farmers market, flags from all over the world, a gathering place etc. It will be up to the public to agree on what goes there. It is estimated it will cost \$80,000 to \$100,000 to do the design and between one and two million to complete.

Marina. - Cathy reported that the committee is still waiting on information from ERW Holdings.

Taylor Head. - Warren is away but asked Robert to give his report. Taylor Head stayed open until December 8th. They had their general meeting on November 28th to plan their activities for 2015, which was done, with the exception of an employee. The activities will be made public in early Spring. There are no big changes, except they are trying to add an astronomy night and arranging a couple of less challenging hikes. One of their priorities is road improvement. Ruby suggested photography hikes and Robert said one was done a couple of years ago. Randall asked about the use of mountain bikes and Robert said there was not a problem with these.

2015 Membership Fees - these are now due. The different costs were confirmed as \$5 for seniors 65 and older, individuals \$20, Family \$25, Businesses \$50 and non-profit \$50.

Tank removal - Tom reported that the provincial government has chosen a company called Vector to take down the tank in the very near future. Vector is concerned with what may be under the property. When the land is cleaned up Chamber will try and acquire it from DNR. Tom explained that there was a lease arrangement with the Board of Trade, but it was not developed and it is very difficult to acquire provincial property.

East River Bridge - There was a public meeting a few weeks ago which was poorly attended due to lack of communication and advertising. The project is costing close to \$20 million, is on time and on budget. There is a link on the home page for more information and a big drawing of the plans at the cap site.

Nominating Committee - Wayne, Dawn and Ralph make up this committee.

Spring Banquet - this will take place on May 23rd. The Lions Centre is booked. Janice will coordinate the meal. Ruby, Marilyn and Meryl offered to help. A speaker has to be confirmed.

By-laws - These were looked at by our JCP employees and they were out-dated and needed changes. The updated copies were emailed to all Chamber members. There were a few suggestions and at this meeting the following points were discussed -

- Confusion between Directors and General meetings

- When a member resigns, it should be stated that fees are not refunded

- If a Director cannot attend a meeting and something needs to be voted on, that director should be able to vote by email or teleconference

- Under the heading Duties and Responsibilities for Directors, there should be mention that if a Director does not attend, say 3 meetings, then the matter should be dealt with.

- The various membership fees should be listed so there is no misunderstanding.

Tom said he will talk to the Atlantic Chamber and see what they have in their By-laws.

Ruby made the motion that we go ahead with these changes and try to have the amended by-laws ready for the next meeting, which will be our AGM. Seconded by Sandy.

Youth Council - Meryl reported that the Youth Council have been working and plan on attending some Chamber meetings.

Tom reported that he is back on the board for Alderney Landing and he circulated a picture of a Christmas tree they built, with the help of an engineering company, and feels this may be a project we could look at. It is made of wood and you can actually step inside the tree.

Indoor Walking Club - Ruby mentioned that every Monday and Wednesday at the elementary school there will be a walking club. Monday 5.45pm to 6.45pm and Wednesday 3pm till 5pm.

Next meeting. - Wednesday February 4th which is our AGM at 7.30pm

Mark adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Meryl Atkinson