

Sheet Harbour and Area Chamber of Commerce and Civic Affairs
Minutes of Meeting held on October 7th 2015

In attendance: Robert Moser, Sandy Moser, Meryl Atkinson, Ed Empringham, Anthony Turner, Cathy Farris, Anthony Farris, Marilyn Munroe, Warren Parsons, Penny Farris, Mark Krause, Candace MacKean, Susan Levy, Deanna Currie, Rebecca Atkinson, Sheila Spicer, Susan Boutillier, Doug Stein, Mickey Shaw, Sandra Shaw, Heather Myers, Marilyn Murphy, Brian Murphy, Dawn Howe-Power, Denise Somers, Andy Wright, Christopher Snow
Regrets received from Wayne Malay, George Child, Katie Tate and Trevor Gammon

Welcome - Robert welcomed everyone and the meeting commenced at 7.30pm.

Agenda - Robert added 2 items (1) Bridge Walk and (2) work associated with the MacPhee House. Agenda was moved by Susan, seconded by Mark.

Minutes of September meeting - The typing error of RCMP Mike Flannigan's name was noted and changed.

Business arising from the minutes :

Committee Reports:

STEP Program - Sandy reported that the group have met and an Open House will take place at the Wildlife Club on October 27th. There will be 2 sessions, an afternoon and evening. There will be members from DNR, Environment, Nature Trust etc.

Farmers Market - The next market is October 17th. The Christmas one is on November 21st.

Marina - Cathy reported that in 2016 we will see moorings in the harbour where boats will be able to tie up. The group is discussing areas, signs on the wharfs etc.

MacPhee House - Cathy stated that we received 2,274 visitors this year. A thank you to Terry Rutledge for the bird houses in the community. Terry also looks after putting up and taking down planters. There are a couple of repairs needed on the boardwalk. Robert was on it since the last storm and it really needs to be fixed. Mark and Warren volunteered to take a look at it. Cathy has been looking after the MacPhee House for several years and asked if someone would like to take it over. There was no response on this occasion.

Friends of Taylors Head - Warren reported that they had a busy summer. There will be a Fall clean-up, a Christmas Bird Count so check out the website. The park is open until December 7th.

Multi-Purpose Centre/School - Robert stated that Council have met. During September and October meetings were held by HRM Education Department to get input. HRM has said no to an enhancement to the new school. David Hendsbee wrote a letter which Robert read (a copy is attached).

SHADC - Robert spoke with Wayne recently and there is nothing new to report.

Sheet Harbour Port Authority - Candace reported that they have not met recently so there is nothing new to report.

DNR - Susan asked Robert to explain the notes in last month's minutes regarding Lloyd Hines

and land at the head of the harbour. Robert explained that the land on both sides of the river, across from the church is owned by DNR and the Chamber is hoping to use it for various projects.

Nova Scotia Transit Research Incentive Program - The agreed amount of \$250 was given to help with the feasibility study and business plan. The MusGo Rider is active and busing people from Ship Harbour into Metro, at different hours from Monday to Saturday. There is a pilot project for Musquodoboit Valley and Sheet Harbour. We will have a vehicle on a part time basis which will be shared. This will be a great help to seniors and families with no transportation.

New Business:

Power Outages - Cathy mentioned the recent loss of power and asked if the Chamber could contact Nova Scotia Power about improving the situation, for example, poor communication about outage, no linesmen on the Eastern Shore, safety issues etc.

Seaweed Harvesting Business - The Directors were approached by someone wanting to start a business in this area. It was agreed that while we want to support and encourage new business, we do not have a committee to deal with any questions etc. Marilyn offered to chair a committee and Susan Levy and Becky Atkinson volunteered to join her. They will prepare a list of contacts, such as Halifax Partnership, to help new businesses get the assistance they need.

Christmas Parade - This usually takes the first weekend in December. There is local entertainment, tree lighting, hot chocolate etc. Meryl mentioned that she had difficulty in "finding Santa" last year. Ruby is usually involved, but Meryl believes she is not available this year. Sandy and Meryl will discuss this event.

Eastern Shore Wildlife Association - The installation and running of the liming plant has been going for 10 years. It is the only one in North America. The group is having difficulty in getting volunteers to allow the project to continue and needs more community support. There is a meeting tomorrow night at 7pm.

Bridge Walk - When our new bridge is complete and open for traffic, we are going to arrange a community walk. This walk will be the last one on the old bridge and the first on the new one. Susan Boutilier offered to chair a group to organize this event.

MacPhee House enhancement - Robert explained that a year or more ago, Senator Tom McInnis talked about changes and enhancements to the MacPhee House and these plans are still being worked on. Sandy and Cathy are looking for volunteers to join them on this project. When the house was moved from its original site, part of the house was left. Therefore, one of the ideas is to restore the house to its original size which will make it a better visitors centre. The museum is currently upstairs which is not accessible for disabled people. Improvements are needed to the grounds, more parking, better drainage, the possibility of an amphitheatre, etc. Sheila asked about the kiosks and Robert explained they were originally built for the artist community but are now only used for storage. HRM restrict their use.

Susan Boutilier adjourned the meeting at 8.40pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by Meryl Atkinson, Secretary.